

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 18, 2018

Worship Focus

Seriously! – The Struggle Ends at the Beginning



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OPENING HYMN

353 – Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the one who breaks the dark - ness With a
2 Praise the one who blessed the chil - dren With a
3 Let us praise the Word in - car - nate, Christ, who



lib - er - a - ting light; Praise the one who frees the
strong, yet gen - tle, word; Praise the one who drove out
suf - fered in our place; Je - sus died and rose vic -



pris - 'ners, Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
de - mons With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
to - rious That we may know God by grace.



Praise the one who preached the gos - pel, Heal - ing
Praise the one who brings cool wa - ter To the
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, See - ing



ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing storms and feed - ing
des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this well comes liv - ing
what our God has done; Let us praise the true Re -



thou - sands With the Fa - ther's word of peace,
wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
deem - er, Praise the one who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, alt. © 1987 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.
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Tune: BEACH SPRING (87 87 D) alt. Benjamin F. White, 1800-79.

INVOCATION

Minister In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



Congregation A - - men.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M Beloved in the Lord: Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.**

LORD HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)

Musical notation for 'Lord Have Mercy', consisting of two staves in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are: C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

ABSOLUTION

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Musical notation for the Absolution, consisting of a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), Bb4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), ending with a double bar line.

C: A - - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Let us pray. Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - - men.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Genesis 22:1-18

Talk about a struggle! God tested Abraham where Abraham was most vulnerable – the First Commandment... whom did Abraham love more: God or Isaac? God spared Isaac, but God would not spare his own Son.

^{GENESIS 22:1} Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!”
“Here I am,” he replied.

² Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about.”

³ Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, ⁷ Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?”

“Yes, my son?” Abraham replied.

“The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

⁸ Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together.

⁹ When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

¹² “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

¹³ Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.”

¹⁵ The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time ¹⁶ and said, “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸ and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

PSALM – 8:00 service

Psalm 6

Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL,
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Refrain

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Psalm tone

**O LORD, do not rebuke me in your | anger*
or discipline me | in your wrath.**

**Be merciful to me, LORD, for | I am faint;*
O LORD, heal me, for my soul is in | anguish.**

**Turn, O LORD, and de | liver me;*
save me because of your un | failing love.**

Refrain

**I am worn out from | groaning.*
My eyes grow weak with | sorrow.**

**Away from me, all you who do | evil,*
for the LORD has heard my | weeping.**

**The LORD has heard my cry for | mercy;*
the LORD ac | cepts my prayer.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit,
as it was in the be | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Refrain

*Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in his bosom gather;
Nestling bird or star in heaven
Such a refuge ne'er was given.*

*God his own doth tend and nourish;
In his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them;
In his mighty arms he bears them.*

*Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord his children sever;
Unto them his grace he showeth,
And their sorrows all he knoweth.*

*Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.*

SECOND LESSON Romans 8:31-39

Paul lists those things that are real struggles, but with God's assurance that nothing can separate us from his love, the struggles – though real – end even before they begin!

ROMANS 8:31 What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

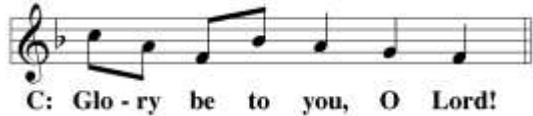
³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

VERSE OF THE DAY

It is written: “Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.” (Matthew 4:10b)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the announcement of the Gospel the congregation responds:



GOSPEL Mark 1:12-15

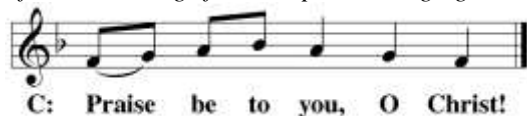
Jesus begins his ministry in desert struggles so severe even angels came to attend him. But the devil is not successful in getting Jesus to fall for temptation... a precursor of Jesus' ultimate victory at the cross. The beginning signals the end!

^{Mark 1:12} At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, ¹³ and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:



CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE NICENE CREED

**C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried,

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

332 – Go My Children with My Blessing

8:00 – all sing; 11:00 – Children sing verses 1-2; cong. sings verses 3-4



1 Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing,
2 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en,
3 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished,
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you



Nev - er a - lone. Wak - ing, sleep - ing,
At peace and pure. Here you learned how
Clos - er to me; Grow in love and
And give you peace; I the Lord will



I am with you; You are my own.
much I love you, What I can cure.
love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free.
smile up - on you And give you peace;



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; Here you
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here his
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior,



made you mine for - ev - er. Go, my chil - dren,
touched him, saw his glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren,
ten - der com - fort stilled you. Go, my chil - dren,
Com - fort - er, and Broth - er. Go, my chil - dren;



with my bless - ing— You are my own.
sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.
I will keep you And give you peace.

SERMON

Mark 1:12-15

The Beginning Signals the End

1. Jesus' ministry begins with a defeat of the devil in the desert
2. Jesus' ministry continues with a victory speech to God's people

PRAISE AND PRAYER

RESPONSE TO THE WORD



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER and GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for He is merciful and full of compassion.

Brief silence

Heavenly Father, Your Son knew hunger in the wilderness and yet His reliance on You did not fail. Give to Your baptized people a steady trust in Your promises and hope in Your final deliverance. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lover of mankind, You send Your Gospel into all the world, that people might be delivered from the power of the evil one. Pour out Your Spirit continually upon all pastors and servants of Your Church, that they might proclaim Your Word with grace and boldness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Ruler of the nations, You bid us honor those whom You have set in authority over us. Look in kindness on our president, our public servants and all who serve in our armed forces. Enable them to pursue policies that will bless this nation and make us a blessing to the nations of the world. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fountain of mercy, into Your gracious and loving arms we commend all who are sick or suffering, the hospitalized, the persecuted, the lonely, the afflicted, the grieving and the dying [*especially Your servants _____*]. Bring the comfort of Your Spirit to each broken body, troubled mind or hurting soul. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the angelic hosts, Your angels ministered to Your Son after His time of testing and brought Him refreshment. May Your angels surround us as we partake of the refreshment of His body and blood for our forgiveness, that we might join them eternally in singing His praises. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

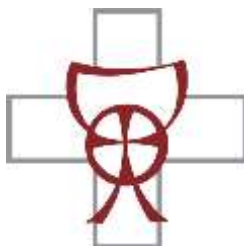
Giver of the life that never ends, we offer today our praise and thanks for all whom You have brought through the many trials and temptations of this life and ushered into Your nearer presence. Bring us to share with them in the joys of the marriage feast of the Lamb. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All of these things, and whatever else Your wisdom knows us to need, grant to us, in Your bountiful love, for the sake of Him who triumphed over the foe and rose in victory, and who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, even Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Our *who art in HEAVEN*
Father *hallowed* **BETHY**
NAME
THY KINGDOM *thy will be done*
COME *Heaven* *on earth as it is in*



THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE and PROPER PREFACES

M The Lord be with you.



M Lift up your hearts.



M Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



M It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*Sanctus*)



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (*Agnus Dei*)

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
 O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 grant us your peace. A - - - men.

DISTRIBUTION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

121 - Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing

1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing In your
 2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion Fas - ci -
 3 If the world my heart en - tic - es With the
 4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me By your
 5 O my God, my Rock and Tow - er, Grant that

ho - ly wounds I find, Ev - 'ry hour that
 nate my sin - ful mind, Let me think a -
 broad and eas - y road, With se - duc - tive,
 wounds, Lord, is made whole; When I'm weak, your
 in your death I trust, Know - ing death has

I am feel - ing Pains of bod - y and of mind.
 bout your pas - sion, And new cour - age I shall find.
 sin - ful vic - es, Let me think a - bout the load
 cross re - vives me, Grant - ing new life to my soul.
 lost his pow - er Since you crushed him in the dust.

Should some e - vil thought with - in Tempt my treach - 'rous
 Or should Sa - tan press me hard, Let me then be
 You were will - ing to en - dure; Then I'll flee all
 Yes, your com - fort ren - ders sweet Ev - 'ry bit - ter
 Sav - ior, let your ag - o - ny Ev - er help and

heart to sin, Show the per - il, and from sin - ning
 on my guard, Say - ing, "Christ for me was wound - ed,"
 thoughts im - pure, Mas - ter - ing each wild temp - ta - tion,
 cup I meet; For your all - a - ton - ing pas - sion
 com - fort me; When I die be my pro - tec - tion,

Keep me from its first be - gin - ning,
 That the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.
 Calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.
 Has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.
 Light and life and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647, abc; tr. composite.
 Tune: DER AM KREUZ (87 87 77 88) Johann B. König, 1691–1758.

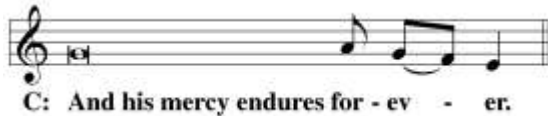
THANKSGIVING

SONG OF SIMEON (*Nunc Dimittis*)



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

PRAYER AND BLESSING

M We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

M The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



*The time has come ...
The **kingdom of God** is near.*



CLOSING HYMN

379 – Amazing Grace



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound—
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me;
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares
4 When we've been there ten thou - sand years,



That saved a wretch like me! I
His Word my hope se - cures. He
I have al - read - y come; 'Tis
Bright shin - ing as the sun, We've



once was lost but now am found,
will my shield and por - tion be
grace has brought me thus far,
no less days to sing God's praise



Was blind but now I see.
As long as life en - dures,
And grace will lead me home.
Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, st. 1–3, abr.; John P. Rees, 19th century, st. 4.
Tune: NEW BRITAIN (CM) *Columbian Harmony*, Cincinnati, 1829, alt.

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.