**The Second Sunday in Lent**

**March 8th 2020 at 10:00 am**

**The Holy Eucharist: Rite II**



Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) readings for Lent 2, Year A

Genesis 12:1-4a  The Lord blesses Abram

Psalm 121  *Levavi oculos*

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  The righteousness of faith

John 3:1-17  Jesus and Nicodemus

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**INFORMATION FOR NEWCOMERS: WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH!**



Our motto is true whether you're here for the very first time

or you've been a member for decades –

**There is a place for you at God's Table!**

The worship service has two main parts: the Liturgy of the Word, which includes Scripture readings and a sermon, and the Liturgy of the Table, which is also called Holy Eucharist or Communion. You will notice moments in the service when people stand, kneel, bow, and make the sign of the cross -- all of these are completely optional. You are encouraged to participate in every aspect of worship, according to your comfort level.

Children of all ages are welcome to stay in worship. There is Nursery care available for babies and toddlers downstairs, and Children’s Chapel during the first part of the service for preschoolers through 5th graders.

All who seek Christ are welcome at His Table for Communion. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward and request a blessing. If you wish to receive communion in your pew, please notify the ushers. And if you need a gluten-free wafer, just let Rev. Maggie know.

Most Sundays, Myra Dean Banion provides personal prayers at the station to the right of the communion rail during the distribution of the Sacrament. All prayer concerns are confidential. The clergy are also available for prayer following the worship service, if desired.

If you have not been baptized, or if you have questions about Holy Baptism, please talk to Rev. Maggie and/or Deacon Rick after the service -- the people of Christ Church would love to walk with you to your baptism and beyond!

**THE WORD OF GOD**

(\*please rise as you are comfortable)

PRELUDE: Meditation on “Hamburg” (Lowell Mason/arr.Callahan)

\*THE PENITENTIAL ORDER

#### Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

#### People: **His mercy endures for ever.**

\*THE DECALOGUE

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.  
***Amen. Lord have mercy****.*

You shall not make for yourself any idol.  
***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.   
***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.  
***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

Honor your father and your mother.  
***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not commit murder.  
***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not commit adultery.  
***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not steal.  
***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not be a false witness.  
***Amen. Lord have mercy.***

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.   
***Amen. Lord have mercy****.*

*The Celebrant reads a Gospel sentence.*

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*The Celebrant pronounces the absolution.*

\*SONG OF PRAISE: “The glory of these forty days” Hymnal 143 vs. 1 & 5

**The glory of these forty days  
we celebrate with songs of praise;  
for Christ, through whom all things were made,  
himself has fasted and has prayed.**

**O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,  
to thee be every prayer addressed,  
who art in three-fold Name adored,  
from age to age, the only Lord.**

*(During the song, any children who wish to attend Children’s Chapel may follow the acolyte out.)*

\*COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.***

THE FIRST LESSON Genesis 12:1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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### THE RESPONSE Psalm 121

1 I lift up my eyes to the **hills; \***  
from where is my help to **come?**

2 My help comes from the **Lord, \***  
the maker of heaven and **earth.**

3 He will not let your foot be **moved \***  
and he who watches over you will not fall a**sleep.**

4 Behold, he who keeps watch over **Israel \***  
shall neither slumber nor **sleep;**

5 The Lord himself watches over **you; \***the Lord is your shade at your right **hand,**

6 So that the sun shall not strike you by **day, \***  
nor the moon by **night.**

7 The Lord shall preserve you from all **evil; \***  
it is he who shall keep you **safe.**

8 The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming **in, \***  
from this time forth for ever**more.**

THE SECOND LESSON Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

\*GOSPEL HYMN: “The God of Abraham praise” Hymnal 401 vs. 1-3

\*THE HOLY GOSPEL John 3:1-17

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

\*GOSPEL HYMN: “The God of Abraham praise” Hymnal 401 vs. 4-5

SERMON  The Rev. Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard

\*THE NICENE CREED

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 truly 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,**

**who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

\*THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us offer prayers to God who has made us a new creation in Christ, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For this parish community, that we may grow in holiness together as we prepare for the Paschal season.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Tom, our Diocesan Bishop; Maggie, our priest; Rick, our deacon; and all who minister in Christ, that they may be firmly rooted in your truth and love.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For all the peoples of the earth and for their leaders, that we may move ever closer to your holy reign of peace, dignity, and abundant life for all.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the holy work being done through and around us, in ministries such as [ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_], that fruits of love and mercy may be borne continually.

**Lord, have mercy**.

For all who are sick, afflicted, oppressed, or in need, [especially \_\_\_\_\_\_], that they may be upheld by your Spirit and restored to wholeness.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, [especially \_\_\_\_\_\_\_]that they may rejoice always in you.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have fallen asleep in Christ, for all the departed, [especially \_\_\_\_\_\_\_], and for those who grieve.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*\**THE COLLECT FOR PEACE

**Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*.***

\*SHARING OF THE PEACE

*Celebrant*: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

THE OFFERTORY: “What Wonderous Love Is This” (Appalachian Folk Hymn/Lloyd Larson)

\*PRESENTATION: **Praise God from whom all blessings flow;** Tune: *Old 100th*

**Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God for all that love has done:**

**Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one! Amen.**

\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B (expansive language)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,** Hymnal S124

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.** (front section of the Hymnal)

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the

Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember Christ’s death. We proclaim Christ’s resurrection. We await Christ’s coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Blessed Mother Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. ***AMEN.***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD Hymnal S161

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.** (front section of Hymnal)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN: “Just as I am, without one plea” Hymnal 693

*During the month of March, this will be our communion hymn. Please sing as you feel moved, and*

*through the repetition, allow the hymn to become a prayer.*

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of Christ, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

\*THE BLESSING

*The Celebrant pronounces God’s blessing over the people. The people respond:* ***Amen.***

\*CLOSING HYMN:“How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord” Hymnal 637

\*THE SENDING OF THE EUCHARISTIC MINISTER *(as needed)*

*Deacon:* In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ’s body and blood.

*People:* **We who are many are one body, for we all share one bread, one cup.**

\*THE DISMISSAL *Deacon:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

*Please join us for Coffee Hour fellowship and Christian Education downstairs following the service!*

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**Ministers for March 8th, 2020**

**Altar Guild:** Joanne Harris and Joan Hurley

**Acolytes:** Graham Waggoner, Daphne Trillana, and Silas Brooks Hedstrom

**Chalice Bearers:** The Rev. Rick Incorvati andEd Hasecke

**Lectors:** Anne Strothman andFred Bartenstein

**Prayers:** Amy Zook

**Ushers:** Steve Sharp, David Bingman, Joe Schmitt, and Anne Strothman

**Coffee Hour:** Ron Dowling and John Richardson

**Children’s Chapel:** Lori Swafford and Kelly Zeller

**Greeter:** Myra Dean Banion

**Tellers:** Wayne Southward and Marilyn Howat

**General Information**

**Rector:** The Rev.Maggie Leidheiser-Stoddard

**Deacon**: The Rev. Rick Incorvati

**Senior Warden**: Dawn Ivy

**Junior Warden**: Jim Whipp

**Treasurer**: Ken Bladh

**Vestry at Large**: Bonnie Bingman, Chris Oldstone-Moore, Cathy Hasecke,

Brian Shelburne, Joyce Spangler, Denise Sharp, and Keith Doubt

**Youth Representative:** Sarah Schubert

**Parish Administrator & Program Coordinator**: Kelly Zeller

**Director of Music**: Dr. Christopher Durrenberger

**Youth Teacher:** Abby Glass

**Nursery Attendant**: Jerushia Knox

**Facility Manager**: Paul McAfee

**Bookkeeper:** Tina Knox



**Christ Episcopal Church**

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**Springfield, Ohio 45505**

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**A Message Regarding the Coronavirus/COVID-19 from your Leadership Team**

At this point, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ohio. There's no need to be fearful; but we can always be proactive. Common sense preventative measures are vital (and they'll keep folks safe from the seasonal flu and colds, too). Remember that we have both young children and very elderly people in our parish, along with those who have compromised immune systems. Precautions that may seem "over the top" to healthy adults with robust immune systems can be lifesaving for others! With that in mind:

+ **If you are feeling ill, PLEASE stay home** (even if you are scheduled to do something at church that morning).

+ **Wash your hands frequently, and use hand sanitizer** (especially after shaking hands, touching door handles, etc). We've put new bottles of sanitizer out in the pews this week.

+ **During communion**, if you choose to intinct (i.e. dip the wafer into the wine), **make sure the tips of your fingers do NOT touch the wine**. Remember that it is perfectly acceptable to receive only the bread; so **if you feel at all nervous about receiving the wine, you do not have to**. Simply cross your arms over your chest when the chalice gets to you.

If this epidemic worsens and COVID-19 is diagnosed in our region, your Leadership Team will consider other measures to protect us all. These could include altering our communion procedures, adapting or eliminating the Passing of the Peace, and even canceling services (as a last resort).

*"Lord Jesus Christ, in your mercy you healed those suffering in body, mind or spirit. We cry out to you now on behalf of those infected by the coronavirus. Heal the sick, and bind up the broken-hearted who grieve those felled by this illness.*

*As both infection and fear spread, we ask for courage and protection for healthcare workers risking their own well-being for the sake of others. We pray wisdom for government officials and those in decision-making positions. May they rightly discern what needs to be done to treat those already infected and prevent others from falling sick.*

*We know there are those in quarantine, afraid they might be exposed to illness, wondering when they will return to their normal lives, anxious about what might happen next. Comfort them with your peace that passes understanding and grant them patience during this liminal and frightening season.*

*Lord of all, we are intimately connected to one another no matter where we reside on the earth, and so we plead for healing, good healthcare, relief and wholeness for our siblings in all the places where this virus has made its appearance. May our collective care, effort, resources and love bring an end to this epidemic. Amen."*

Talk to Rev. Maggie (RevMaggieLS@gmail.com) or Senior Warden Dawn Ivy (dvivy0960@yahoo.com) if you have questions or concerns.