

**Prelude:** Wayne Seppala

**Processional Hymn:** *(The people stand) #401 (1-3), "The God of Abraham Praise"*

**Opening Salutation**

**Celebrant:** Bless the Lord who forgives our sins.

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

**Collect For Purity**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Kyrie** *(Spoken)*

**Celebrant:** Lord, have mercy.

**People:** *Christ, have mercy*

**Celebrant:** Lord, have mercy.

**Collect of the Day**

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

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

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

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 Lessons** *(The people may be seated)*

**The First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16**

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face, and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her and also give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

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

**Psalm 22:22-30**

22 I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:  
23 *You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!*

24 For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me but heard when I cried to him.

**25 *From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.***

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord. May your hearts live forever!

**27 *All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.***

28 For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations.

**29 *To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.***

30 Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord

**The Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25**

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. For 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 transgression. For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who 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. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore "it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

**Gospel Hymn:** *(The people stand) #707 (1-2), "Take My Life, And Let It Be"*

**The Gospel: Mark 8:31-38**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Celebrant: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon:** Pastor Ronnie

**The Nicene Creed** (*The people stand*)

*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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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** (*Form VI, the people stand*)

*[Opens with prayer for St. Andrew's]*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.  
(*Silence*)

For all people in their daily life and work;  
***For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.***

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
***For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
***For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

For our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and our Bishop Susan Brown-Snook and for all bishops and other ministers;  
***For all who serve God in his Church.***

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.  
(*Silence*)

*(The People may add their own petitions)*

Hear us, Lord;  
***For your mercy is great.***

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.  
(*Silence*)

*(The People may add their own thanksgivings)*

We will exalt you, O God our King;  
***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church:** Second Sunday in Lent / February 25th, 2024

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.  
(Silence)

*(The People may add their own petitions)*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.  
(Silence may be kept)

Leader and People: ***Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Confession of Sin and Absolution** *(The people kneel)*

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

***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.***

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**The Peace** *(The people stand)*

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

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

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

**Announcements** *(The people may be seated)*

**Offertory Anthem:** "The Cross Was His Own" – St. Andrew's Choir

**Doxology** *(The people stand and sing)*

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, you heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

**Dedication/Communion Prayer** *(Celebrant and those at home or not receiving)*

***My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart, as though you have already come. I embrace You, and unite myself with you entirely. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.***

**The Great Thanksgiving** *(Eucharistic Prayer B, remain standing)*

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 him thanks and praise.*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [*Proper Preface*]

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:

**Sanctus** (*S125: Sung*)

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.***

(*The people kneel*) 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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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 Lord 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 he 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, (*spoken*)

***We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;***

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 [ and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. (*sung*) ***Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen.***

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

***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, forever and ever. Amen.***

**Breaking of the Bread**

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church:** Second Sunday in Lent / February 25th, 2024

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**People:** *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**Communion** (*The people may be seated*)

**Post Communion Prayer** (*The people kneel*)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

*Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**The Blessing**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain always. **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn:** (*The people stand*) #675 (1-3), "Take Up Your Cross, The Savior Said"

**Dismissal**

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

**Postlude:** *Wayne Seppala*

**Prayers at the Altar:**

*Prayer Ministers are available in front of the altar every Sunday for anyone seeking additional prayer.*