

The Church of St. Paul, Cambria

Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist

• Second Sunday in Lent • Year B • February 25, 2024 •

Opening Hymn 324

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.**

God of all goodness, you did not spare your only-begotten son but gave him up for the sake of us sinners. Strengthen within us the gift of obedient faith, that, in all things, we may follow faithfully in Christ's footsteps. Renewing our resolve to walk with Christ, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 your 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.

Lord, open our lips
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceived ourselves, and the truth is not in us, but if confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *(1 John 1:8,9)*

Deus, Deus meus Psalm 63:1-8

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; * my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
* that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; * my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live * and lift up my hands in your Name.

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, * and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

When I remember you upon my bed, * and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper, * and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My soul clings to you; * your right hand holds me fast.

Psalm 22:22-30

22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; * stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither does he hide his face from them; * but when they cry to him he hears them.

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; * I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: * "May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; * he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that he has done.

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.**

First Lesson Book of 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 moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle H: A Song of Hosea *Hosea 6:1-3*

Come, let us return to our God, * who has torn us and will heal us.

God has struck us and will bind up our wounds, * after two days revive us,

On the third day restore us, * that in God's presence we may live.

Let us humble ourselves, let us strive to know the Lord, * whose justice dawns like morning light, its dawning as sure as the sunrise.

God's justice will come to us like a shower, * like spring rains that water the earth.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now and ever will be. Amen.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen

The second lesson is from the 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. 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. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous 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), or when he considered 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 his faith "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 to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 19: The Song of the Redeemed

O ruler of the universe, Lord God, great deeds are they that you have done, * surpassing human understanding.

Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, * O King of all the ages.

Who can fail to do you homage, Lord, and sing the praises of your Name? * for you only are the Holy One.

All nations will draw near and fall down before you, * because your just and holy works have been revealed.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: * as it was in the beginning, is now and ever will be. Amen.

The Holy **Gospel** of our Lord according to St. Mark St. Mark (8:31-38)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. 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 want to become my followers, 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." This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Special Music-

Marylyn Villeneuve and Lorient Schwenk

Here follows An affirmation of faith,

We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth.

Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Jesus Christ intercedes for us at all times. Together let us remember and pray to God through Christ, saying: Have mercy, O Lord.

(Please take turns reading one or more of these petitions, as the Spirit moves you.)

For the church, that the fasting of these forty days may clear away much that is needless and so open

our eyes to the bright glory of the cross, (silence) we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For the church, that all the baptized will learn to read and ponder and cherish the scriptures, (silence) we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For us, and all the children of Abraham, including our brothers and sisters of Jewish and Islamic traditions, may we find blessing and a zeal for justice in our covenant with God, (silence) we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For deliverance, that in the wastelands made by our greed and indifference we may fast from evil and grow hungry for justice, (silence) we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For all who suffer want, that God in mercy may turn our hearts toward one another and bring us to end our faithless reliance on weapons, war, and the threat of war, (silence) we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For all who live in uncertainty and danger, especially those serving overseas in the military, and those who guard our communities and the quality of our lives, (silence) we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For prisoners, that all who are bound in body may find such a strength of spirit to lift up all of us, (silence) we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

For ourselves, that this church community may walk both as burdened and as free as Jesus, (silence) we pray: **Have mercy, O Lord.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

God, whose ways are beyond our knowing or approving, place the world's troubles ever in our plain sight, and be yourself in our seeing and in our praying. We ask this always through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Offertory

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Hymn 792 WLP (Not well known, play through twice)

Prayer over the gifts: God of wisdom, may the light of the eternal Word, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, guide us to your glory. We ask this in his name. Amen..

The Great Thanksgiving A

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel as they are able.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love . . . Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, . .

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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. **AMEN.**

Let us pray for the coming of the kingdom as Jesus taught us:

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. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Behold the Righteous One, who was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit. Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lamb.

Communion of the People

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Faithful God, help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you. Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living 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 your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we commit ourselves to this deep bond of the Spirit in union with Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessings

May God keep you in all your days.

May Christ shield you in all your ways. May the Spirit bring you healing and peace. May God the Holy Trinity drive all darkness from you and pour upon you blessing and light. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Anniversary/Thanksgiving Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful people. Amen.

Closing hymn 707

Dismissal

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**



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Parish Hall and Sanctuary****