

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 5, 2023



PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION *verses 1,2,3,5* **HYMNAL 637**

OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Grace and peace to you from God.
People **God fill you with truth and joy**

**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 ELEISON

Celebrant Lord have mercy.
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Celebrant Lord have mercy.

THE 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.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated.

**Welcome to Grace,
we're glad you are here!**

*If you have any questions, our
ushers, greeters and members are
here to help, don't hesitate to ask!*

Restrooms are located through
the door to the left of the pulpit at
the top and bottom of the stairs.
There is also a handicap lift in the
narthex (front entrance) if you
need assistance getting to the
lower level.

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on Instagram

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTE	Millie Cendrowski
ALTAR GUILD	Pat Hallett Virginia Danner
CHALICIST	---
FELLOWSHIP	Kathy Brown
GREET/USHER	Pat Zupka Kara DeBord
LECTOR	Brett Brenner Kara DeBord
LIVESTREAM	Julia Byrd
TELLERS	Pat Hallett Pat Zupka



THE LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON

GENESIS 12:1-4A

Lector A reading from the book of Genesis.

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.**

Read responsively by the whole verse

- 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 asleep.
- 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 evermore.**

THE SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 4:1-5, 13-17

Lector A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

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.**

Please stand if you are comfortable doing so for the hymn and the reading of the Gospel

SEQUENCE HYMN

THE GOD OF ABRAHAM PRAISE (*Verses 1,2,4,5*)

HYMNAL 401

Celebrant 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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED

When prompted, please stand if you are able.

People **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.
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, FORM IV

Lector Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth,
live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Lector Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace;
that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Lector Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources
rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Lector Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ
in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Lector Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and
hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Lector We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lector Lord, in your mercy

People **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Hear our prayers, Holy God. Breathe your Spirit over us and all the earth, that barriers would crumble and divisions cease. Make us more fully your co-healers of the broken world. Unite us with all people in bonds of love, that the whole earth and all its peoples may be at peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

People **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 ABSOLUTION

Celebrant 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.

People **Amen.**

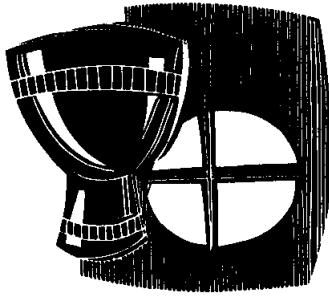
THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. Then all are seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY HYMN

PRAISE OUR GREAT AND GRACIOUS LORD

HYMNAL 393

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING | EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant 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:

People **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. Then the Celebrant continues:

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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."

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Celebrant 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.

People **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

People **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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

May all who share these gifts be found in Christ and may Christ be found in you.



What follows is the Holy Communion, the sacred meal of the Christian faith. The Episcopal Church, as do all other denominations rooted in the historic Christian faith, affirms that the sacrament of Baptism is the ancient and normative entry point for receiving the sacrament of Eucharist, yet no one who comes forward to receive the bread and wine at communion is ever turned away from God's table. Wherever you are in your spiritual journey, the Episcopal Church welcomes you, and we invite you to explore with us what baptism may mean for you. Want to know more? Please see Rev. Edie or Deacon Kathleen following the service.

When receiving the Holy Communion, you may take just the bread if you prefer, or the clergy person can give a gluten-free wafer if you request it. If you are not baptized, or would prefer not to receive communion for any personal or religious reason, you are still invited to come forward at the time of communion to receive a blessing from the priest. (Please place your arms across your chest to indicate your desire to receive a blessing.) Above all, remember that all are welcome here at Grace!



COMMUNION HYMN

LET THY BLOOD IN MERCY POURED

HYMNAL 313

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us Pray.

People **God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE

Celebrant Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

LORD CHRIST, WHEN FIRST THOU CAM’ST TO EARTH

HYMNAL 598

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

**Join us downstairs after the service for fellowship, snacks, and beverages.
All are welcome!**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

THE CHURCH

For the clergy: ++Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; ++Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; +Eugene Taylor Sutton and +Robert Ilhoff, Bishops of the Diocese of Maryland; Edie+ Holton, our Priest; Kathleen+ Smith-Jones, our Deacon.

In the Diocesan prayer cycle, we pray for Christ the King, Woodlawn; St. Andrew's, Glenwood St. Barnabas', Sykesville; and for the Rev.'s Noman D. Crews, Charles O. Shaffer, Henry L. Hammond, and Samuel W. Edleman.

In our Parish prayer cycle, we pray for Susan Mann.

OUR COMMUNITY

The Homebound: Teeny Phillips, Marvin Metzgar.

We pray for the healing, wholeness, comfort, guidance, and safe travel of the following people in our faith community and beyond: Michael Weldon; Shirley Shores; Bo Harris; The Szuberla Family; Reta Mercer; Paul David Moss; Peg Jung; Glenn, Robert, and Gay Eackles; The Killmayer Family; Kathy Brown; Abby & Tom Kahn; The Cendrowski Family; Sandy Cain; Tammy Trimmer; Marilyn Rich; Zoe Huck; Claudia; The Dean Family; William; Barry Slocum; Virginia Danner; Eddie Danner; Jason Harris; Fred Zupka & Family; Barry Stocks; Lisa Cox & Harriet Carr; Betty Ramsay; Steve Foust; Susan Kimble; Meghan Davidson & Family; Charlotte Barnhouse; Susan Mann; David & Mary Alice Thoma; Catherine Thompson; Felicia Watkins-Kimble.

THE WORLD

For elected leaders in this country and around the world, especially President Joseph Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris; Governors Wes Moore (*MD*) and Glenn Youngkin (*VA*); and Mayors Nathan Brown (*Brunswick*) and Christopher Hornbaker (*Lovettsville*). For victims of hunger, human trafficking, substance abuse and natural disasters in the United States and throughout the world.

We pray for the people of Ukraine.

We pray for the victims, family, and communities that have suffered from senseless violence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEET & GREETES WITH CANDIDATES FOR BISHOP COADJUTOR

The candidates to be our Bishop Coadjutor (and the next Bishop Diocesan when Bishop Sutton retires) will be travelling throughout the Diocese to meet parishioners and answer questions. All are welcome and encouraged to attend the Meet & Greets:

Wednesday, 8 March 2023 | Monocacy Hall, Claggett Center | 7:30-9:30 PM

Panel Style Forum with questions submitted by audience members and online.

Thursday, 9 March 2023 | Emmanuel Parish, Cumberland | 5:30-7:30 PM

Candidates will meet individually with small groups for questions.

Friday, 10 March 2023 | St. James', Lothian | 6:30-8:30 PM

Candidates will meet individually with small groups for questions.

Saturday, 11 March 2023 | Church of the Redeemer, Baltimore | 1:00-3:00 PM

Panel Style Forum with questions submitted by the audience.

Any questions you have for the candidates to answer at the meet & greets can be directed to the Transition Committee at transition@episcopalmaryland.org.

"CATCH ME IF YOU CAN" AT MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Our organist, Eric Seebach, will be the accompanist for Middletown High School's production of "Catch Me If You Can" on March 31st at 7pm, April 1st at 7pm and April 2nd at 2pm.

Tickets can be purchased by going to <https://tinyurl.com/MtownCatchMe>

FOURTH SUNDAY POTLUCKS

Our next 4th Sunday Potluck Fellowship Hour will be on March 26, 2023. On each 4th Sunday, we'll have a potluck lunch that will give us the chance to break bread together and have some extra time to socialize. Sign up to bring something to the next potluck by going to

<https://tinyurl.com/Grace4thSunPotluck>

COMING UP AT GRACE

3/14	Tue	5:00pm	Healing Service	<i>Nave</i>
4/6	Thu	7:00pm	Maundy Thursday Service	<i>Nave</i>
4/7	Fri	7:00pm	Good Friday Service	<i>Nave</i>
4/9	Sun	11:00am	Easter Sunday Service	<i>Nave</i>

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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