

Welcome to St. Augustine's The Episcopal Center at URI

A House of Prayer for all People in the Episcopal Tradition.



Lent 2

St. Augustine's Church
February 28, 2021

1 How lovely is thy dwelling-place,
O Lord of hosts, to me!
My thirsty soul desires and longs
within thy courts to be;
my very heart and flesh cry out,
O living God, for thee.

2 Beside thine altars, gracious Lord,
the swallows find a nest;
how happy they who dwell with thee
and praise thee without rest,
and happy they whose hearts are set
upon the pilgrim's quest.

3 They who go through the desert vale
will find it filled with springs,
and they shall climb from height to height
till Zion's temple rings
with praise to thee, in glory throned,
Lord God, great King of kings.

4 One day within thy courts excels
a thousand spent away;
how happy they who keep thy laws
nor from thy precepts stray,
for thou shalt surely bless all those
who live they words they pray.

Celebrant Blessed be the God of our salvation.

People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

Confession of Sin

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

People **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only in your will. Amen.**

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

Celebrant Kyrie eleison

People **Christe eleison**

Celebrant Kyrie eleison

Celebrant May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray together.

The Collect of the Day

God of Sarah and Abraham, long ago you embraced your people in covenant and promised them your blessing. Strengthen us in faith, that, with your disciples of every age, we may proclaim your deliverance in Jesus Christ to generations yet unborn. **Amen.**

First Lesson 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.”

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:22-30

22 May all who fear you, O God, give praise; *
may the offspring of Israel stand in awe, and all of
Jacob’s line give glory.

- 23 For you do not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty, neither do you hide your face from them, * but when they cry to you, you hear them.
- 24 My praise is of you in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship you.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek you shall praise you: *
“May your heart live for ever!”
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to you, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before you.
- 27 For yours is the royal power, O God; *
you rule over the nations.
- 28 To you alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before you.
- 29 My soul shall live for you;
my descendants shall serve you; *
they shall be known as yours for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that you have done.

Second Lesson 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.

At the conclusion of the reading:

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

People **Glory to you O Christ.**

The Holy Gospel Mark 8:31-38

Jesus began to teach his disciples 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.”

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

The Sermon

Lenten Prayers of the People

We invite you to add your intercessions either silently or aloud at each bidding.

For the strength of God’s loving kindness and the joy of community, we raise our voices in thanks and praise, giving thanks especially for.....For this we pray.

Grant us grace and courage to be people of action.

We pray for the Church, that it may fulfill its role as an instrument of peace and justice. We ask that you guide your people into compassion, steadfastness, and hope. We pray especially for the Church, the Body of Christ, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop and Nicholas, our Bishop; for the people of God, gathered from every nation under heaven; may we proclaim in every language, the dawning of a new age. In the **Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for the Iglesia Anglicana de la Region central de America. In the **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for St. David’s on-the Hill, Cranston.... and for all who witness to your presence in the world.For this we pray

Grant us grace and courage to live faithfully.

We live in a world of abundance, where too many go hungry; in a world of possibilities where too many live in despair; and in a world where we often fail to challenge the violence that surrounds us. Help us to right the sin of racism, and to build a just society for all people. We remember especially.... For this we pray

Grant us grace and courage to support one another.

We pray for the afflicted and those whose burdens are heavy, especially....We pray that they may find comfort and healing... For this we pray

Grant us grace and courage to comfort those in need

We pray for all who have died that they may continue to rest in God's love. We pray for...and for those whose lives are taken daily in the violence of war.... For this we pray

Grant us grace and courage to grieve and remember.

We thank you for the beauty of creation. Give us a reverence for the Earth that we may preserve and use its resources wisely, passing them on from generation to generation..... For this we pray

Grant us grace and courage to build a more loving and sustainable world.

We also thank you, O God, for the people in our lives and we remember those with birthdays this week: Jenny Audette, Ernie Wulff, Leah Franklin, Jesse Richardson and Susan Letendre.....For this we pray

Grant that we may serve Christ in all people, loving one another as you love us.

(Together) Gracious and merciful God, your image within us bears witness to your abiding love. You call to us throughout history in the voices of prophets, poets and mystics. May our lives be sources of healing, hope and transformation in your cherished world. Amen

Collects

The Vicar

And now, as Jesus has taught us, we 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. 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, the power, and the
glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Closing Hymn Immortal, invisible, God only wise 423

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish, like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but nought changeth thee.

4 Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

Blessing

“Grant, most merciful God, to your faithful people, pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind: Through Christ our Lord. Amen.”

Announcements

Special envelopes/offerings for fuel are very welcome in February.

Dismissal

Dismissal response: **Thanks be to God.**





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