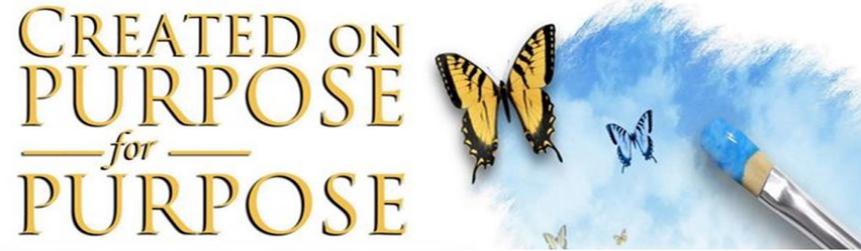


SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT



With Purpose, on Purpose

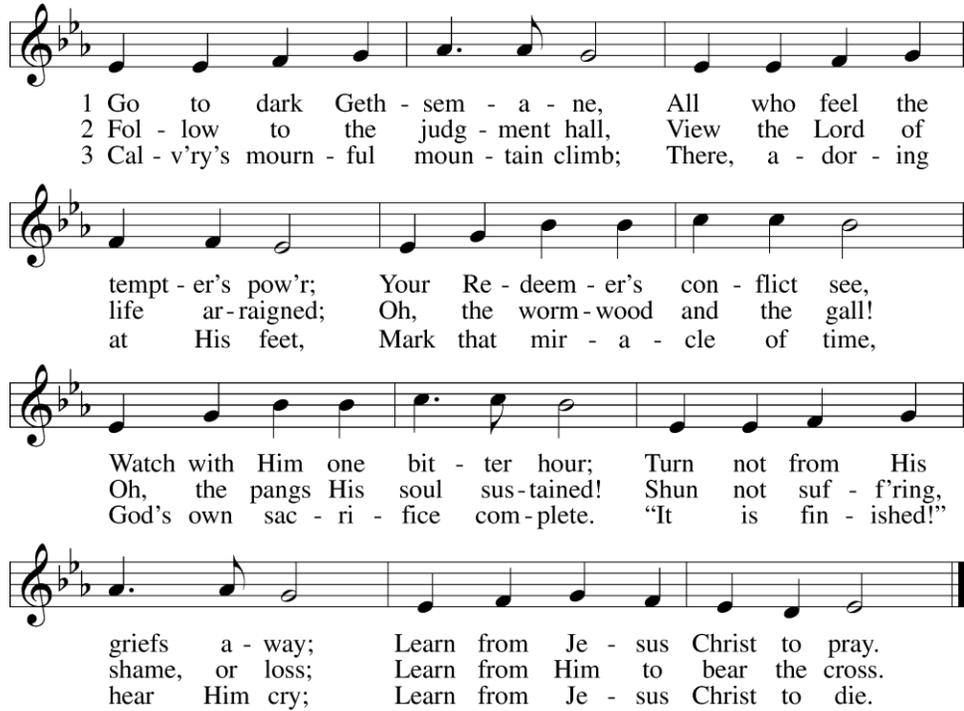
February 28, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Our Lord's whole purpose in becoming one of us in human history was to die for us. As a result, He purposely marched toward Jerusalem and the certain death on the cross He knew would come. For Him, the Scriptures were not forecasts of what might happen but God's immutable will for Him. He had to suffer and die so that we could be saved. And the eternal life He thereby won for us gives us purpose in daily living. We can willingly deny ourselves in service to others; we can take up our cross, knowing that our life with Him will never end.

✘ **Welcome and Announcements** ✘

HYMN "Go to Dark Gethsemane" 436 vs. 1-3



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing

tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar-raigned; Oh, the worm-wood and the gall!
at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,

Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus-tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete. "It is fin - ished!"

griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Incorporating *Genesis 17:7;*
Psalms 22:27; Romans 5:6, 9-10

Pastor: God established an everlasting covenant with Abraham,

**People: but our faith has waxed and waned. O Lord, forgive our forgetfulness of
Your unchanging grace.**

Pastor: David wrote, "All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,"

People: **but we have failed to remind one another of God's mercy and love. O Lord, forgive our hesitancy to share the news of Your gracious presence.**

Pastor: Paul wrote that because Christ died for the ungodly, we are justified by His blood,

People: **but we have tried to hide our sinfulness. O Lord, forgive our blindness to the necessary sacrifice of our Savior.**

Pastor: God sent His Son into the world with one purpose: to save us from the wrath of God.

"For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life." As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, who sent Your Son into the flesh so that He might pay for our sins and open eternal life to us,

People: **grant us strong faith so that we may purposefully take up our crosses and follow where He has led the way;**

Pastor: through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16* (God makes a covenant promise to Abram.)

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, that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, “Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. And 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. . . .

And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name 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 become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Romans 5:1–11* (Grace: Christ died for the ungodly.)

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Mark 8:34b*

Pastor: If anyone would come after Me,

People: **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 8:27–38* (Truly knowing Christ means following Him.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eighth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

And 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 told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

And he called to him the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Renew Me, O Eternal Life” 704 vss 1-3



1 Re - new me, O e - ter - nal Light, And let my
2 Re - move the pow'r of sin from me And cleanse all
3 Cre - ate in me a new heart, Lord, That glad - ly



heart and soul be bright, Il - lu - mined with the
my im - pu - ri - ty That I may have the
I o - bey Your Word. Let what You will be



light of grace That is - sues from Your ho - ly face.
strength and will Temp - ta - tions of the flesh to still.
my de - sire, And with new life my soul in - spire.

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SERMON “With Purpose, On Purpose” Mark 8:27-38

CREED *Apostles Creed*

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the Church here and around the world and for all people in their various circumstances.

For the Church around the world, all people who join Peter in professing that Jesus is the Christ, that they trust God's purpose for their lives, take up their crosses, and follow, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who spend their lives serving the physical, mental, social, and emotional needs of the people around them, that God bless and guide them according to His gracious purpose, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For professional counselors and private confidants who alleviate suffering, enable endurance, support character, and encourage hope, that they serve as conduits for God's purposes in the lives of their patients, family, and friends, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who lead the governments of the world, that they find purpose in their positions, using every means to increase harvests, combat global health crises, minimize conflict between nations, and ensure equal justice for all their citizens, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those near and dear to us, [*especially* . . .], that God bring about the healing, comfort, freedom, and dignity for which they send requests to our gracious Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of the bitter sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

People: Amen.

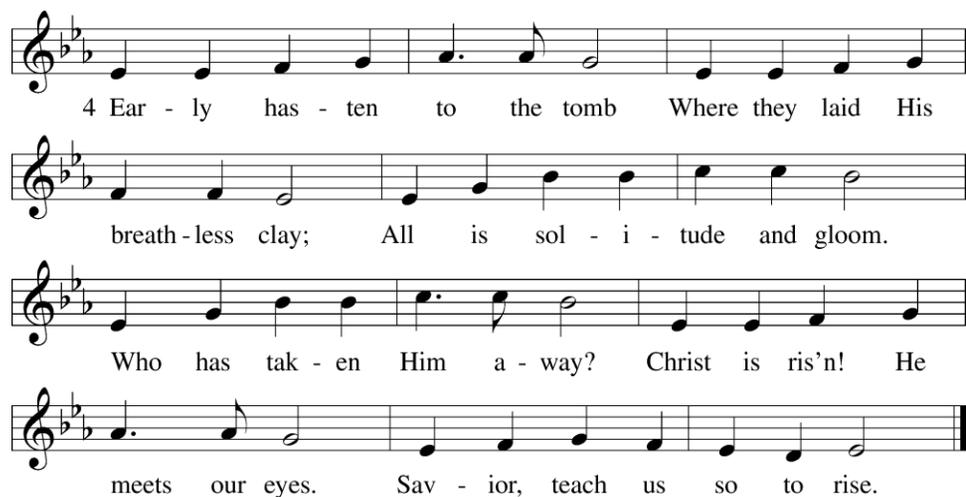
LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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
forever and ever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
People: **Amen.**

HYMN "Go to Dark Gethsemane" 436 vs. 4



4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid His
breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.
Who has tak - en Him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He
meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

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✘ Final Announcements ✘

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

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