

God gathers us as a
Beachcomber gathers
Every precious piece of glass



PRINCE OF PEACE

“Safe Keeping”

The Second Sunday in Lent

Prelude Welcome

**Vessels, holy and whole, broken, needing the One. Open, body and soul.
Healer, come. (Sung twice, on the second time, all sing)**

Leader: God gathers us as a Beachcomber gathers and marvels at every precious surviving piece of beach glass she finds. We are never alone, we are never lost to the One who seeks to bring us wholeness. We affirm our commitment to be the Body of Christ, a commitment that knows we cannot be personally healed until we see the community, with all of its connections, also in that process of healing. Jesus has the power to re-envision the family of God in which false boundaries are overcome. In a year of devastating loss of livelihood, we pray for the economic health that re-envisions how things are supposed to be.

**Vessels, holy and whole, Broken, needing the One.
Open, body and soul. Healer, come.**

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Let us acknowledge our need to restore, repair, renew your Holy Vessels: ourselves and our health: physical, emotional, and spiritual; the health of our communities, and the health of the beautiful planet on which we live.

Let us pray:

Merciful God,
**we have lived a year of Lent.
In the midst of it all, we have seen love shine through at times.
But as we look back,
it feels like a year of shattered dreams and shattered peace.
We have gotten discouraged.
Even with so much that was out of our control,
we also see the ways our own faults
and failures to love each other fully, to care for the least,
to honor your creation, to stand for what is right and good,
have all contributed to the shattering.**

**And so we come to you in pieces,
fragments, broken pieces of our past selves.
As we walk along the shores of Uncertainty and Pain,
we ask that you meet us here.**

Help us, Healer.

Show us our strength. Forgive our inertia.

Move us to move one step at a time toward greater care for others and for the world you so love.

In this silence, we sense and acknowledge our yearning for wholeness.

Silence

Vessels, holy and whole, Broken, needing the One.

Open, body and soul. Healer, come.

Word of Assurance and Forgiveness:

Throughout the season of Lent, we are contemplating the symbol of broken glass—sea (or beach) glass to be specific. Time and adversity make something beautiful out of what was once seen as ordinary and broken.

It becomes a transformed and precious piece.

Jesus attended to those considered ordinary, broken, even those deemed unworthy.

Jesus attends to us.

Know this: God's love and grace surround you.

No. Matter. What.

You are a precious and holy vessel right now.

Christ's light is a treasure given freely.

For you, for me, for all.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Glory to God. Amen.

Prayer of the day

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

Amen.

Children's Moment

The Word

First Reading: Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16 *(New Revised Standard Edition)*

17 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. ² And I will make my covenant between me and you and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³ Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴ "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵ 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. ⁶ I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷ 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.

Psalm 22.23-31

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,

³¹ **and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.**

Gospel Matthew 8.5-13 *(New Revised Standard Edition)*

When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him⁶ and saying, Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible distress.” And he said to him, I will come and cure him.” The centurion answered, Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, Go, and he goes, and to another, Come, and he comes, and to my slave, Do this, and the slave does it.” When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who followed him, Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” And to the centurion Jesus said, Go; let it be done for you according to your faith.” And the servant was healed in that hour.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Message

Hymn of the Day “Lord Whose Love In Humble Service” 712 Text: Albert Bayly
1901-84; Music The Sacred Harp Philadelphia 1844; Beach Spring 87 87 D

1. Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy’s perfect deed;
We, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;
Consecrating to your purpose every gift which you impart.
2. Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.
3. As we worship, grant us vision, till your love’s revealing light
in it’s height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.
4. Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, goodwill and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

**the holy catholic Church the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

The Peace

Announcements

This Lent

A season of recovery and restoration

Throughout the season of Lent, we will be contemplating the symbol of broken glass—sea (or beach) glass to be specific. Sea glass comes from vessels that have broken, been discarded, and yet time and adversity have transformed into something beautiful.

Time and adversity... making something beautiful out of that which, once seen as ordinary and broken. Broken pieces transformed and precious. This is the journey we are on..

Jesus attended to those considered ordinary, broken, even those deemed unworthy.

Jesus attends to us. We are giving out Lenten bags please let us know if you would like to receive one. Thank you!

Fun Night

It's cold and wet and there's nowhere to go... Must be time for some group fun! We are working on a Zoom fun hour, it might be trivia, it might be a scavenger hunt--but it WILL be a time to see old friends and laugh a little, and in these times that's everything! Ideas? Interested?

Prayers of the Church

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world and all in need.

A brief silence.

Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all the baptized, that they may follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You rule over the nations. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Restore all who are sick or grieving. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Now go with confidence that, though shattered, we are held.

Remember you are what God made you to be:

created in Christ Jesus for good works,

chosen as holy and beloved,

freed to serve your neighbor.

May God bless you to be a blessing.

In the name of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Closing Hymn: “God of Grace and God of Glory” 705 Harry E. Fosdick; John Hughes; CWM RHONDDA 8787877

1. God of grace and God of glory
On your people pour your power
Crown your ancient church’s story
Bring its bud to glorious flower
Grant us wisdom grant us courage
For the facing of this hour
For the facing of this hour.

2. Lo the hosts of evil round us
scorn the Christ assail his ways
from the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise
Grant us wisdom grant us courage
for the living of these days
for the living of these days.

3. Cure your children’s warring madness
Bend our pride to your control
Shame our wanton selfish gladness
Rich in things and poor in soul
Grant us wisdom grant us courage
Lest we miss your kingdoms goal
Lest we miss your kingdoms goal.

4. Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore
Grant us wisdom grant us courage
serving you whom we adore
Serving you whom we adore.

The Dismissal: Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Thanks for joining us!

*“Worship series design and original music ©Worship Design Studio, used with permission. www.worshipdesignstudio.com/vessels”
Liturgical music copyright 1990, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted under One license number A-700164. All rights reserved. Liturgical texts are reprinted from *Sundays and Seasons*, copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress; Scripture quotations are from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved; © Words & Music: Public Domain For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI copyright license #11255979 CCLI streaming license # CSPPL073911*