

**The Second Sunday in Lent**  
St. John's Episcopal Church, Ithaca NY  
5 March 2023 Year A  
**10:30 AM**

\* Indicates please stand

**Prelude** Folk Song

Percy Whitlock (1903-46)

**\*Processional Hymn** Now let us all with accord (*Bourbon*)

**Hymnal #147**

**\*Opening Acclamation**

**BCP 355**

**\*Collect for Purity**

**\*Kyrie**

**S-96**

**The Collect of the Day**

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.*

**The First Lesson**

**Genesis 12:1-4a**

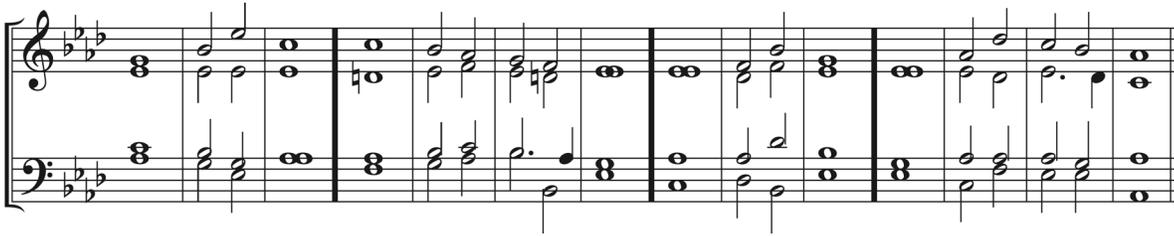
The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will 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.

The Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

Trent



- 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 a- | sleep.
- 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 | ever- | more.

**The Epistle Reading****Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

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.

The Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

**\*Sequence** O love, how deep, how broad, how high (*Deus tuorum militum*)

**Hymnal #448**

**\*The Gospel Reading**

**John 3:1-17**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**The Sermon**

**Matthew Sanakar**

**\*The Nicene Creed**

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.  
With the Father and the Son he is

worshiped and glorified.

He 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**

O gracious and compassionate God, help us to stand firm in the faith, despite our sins and weaknesses, and to pray in hope despite our fears, as we offer up to you the deepest needs of the world, responding, "Lord, have mercy."

+ For the Church, the people of God, that we may not fear the voice of the prophet, the one who makes us uncomfortable, who shakes us up in order to turn us to God; let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

+ That the leaders of the nations may fear injustice more than any adversary, may see through the lies that keep our sisters and brothers in bondage, not heeding the liars, may respond to the cries of hungry children, not the voices of the powerful; let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

+ That we may follow the ways and words of Jesus, dispelling the false promises of this world, to embrace our citizenship in heaven; let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

+ That we may care for the young adults in our church, calling them by name, honoring their intelligence, sitting down and listening to their concerns and ideas; let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

+ For Congress to support a Farm Bill that builds healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

*Lord, have mercy.*

+ For those preparing for rites of initiation, and those who are sponsoring them, may they take seriously the promises and vows that they will make, and experience Jesus' constant love on their journey of faith; let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

+ For those who have died with the love of Christ on their hearts, that eternal life may be their reward; let us pray to the Lord.

*Lord, have mercy.*

The Lord is our light and our salvation; in his strength we continue our prayers, either silently or aloud.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, and especially for

Joan	Rebecca	Deb	Lorraine	Julianne	Daniel
Richard	Strater	Allison	Edith	Faicia	
Shirley	Penny	Elizabeth	Kathryn	Eleanor	
Wes	Peter	Katie	Ruth	Bob	
Charles	Dave	Theodore	Frank	Judy	
Dick	Cece	Carol	Jack	Virginia	

For those celebrating the anniversary of their birth this week:

Brian Richardson, Mary Yapple, Shannon Dortch, John Jackson, Gabriel Miller, Nancy Ives,  
Sherry Smart

### Confession Of Sin

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.*

### \*The Peace

*Please remain in your pews. Wave!*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*And also with you.*

### Announcements & Welcome

### Offertory Sentence

**Anthem** God so loved the world

John Stainer (1840–1901)

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

God so loved the world...

**\*Presentation Hymn** My faith looks up to thee (*Olivet*)

**Hymnal #691**

**\*The Great Thanksgiving**

Expanded Language 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 our thanks and praise.

**Celebrant:** *continuing:* Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy** (*Sanctus*)

**Hymnal #S-130**

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and became 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 maker of all.

Jesus 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 Savior 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, Jesus 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."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died**

**Christ is risen**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's 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 Christ.

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.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Fraction Anthem** Lamb of God (*Agnus Dei*)

**Hymnal #S-164**

## The Communion of the People

*All people are invited to the Lord's Table.*

*Eucharist will be distributed in the center aisle. Please come forward in a single line to receive.*

*You may either intinct your wafer in the small chalice, or you may drink from the larger common chalice after consuming the wafer.*

*Please replace your mask after receiving the sacrament.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

**Communion Music**    When Christ is lifted from the earth (*St. Botolph*)

**Hymnal #603**

## Post Communion Prayer

*Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## Blessing

**\*Recessional**    The great Creator of the worlds (*Tallis' Ordinal*)

**Hymnal #489**

## Dismissal

**Postlude**    Elegy

Samuel Coleridge Taylor (1875–1912)

**Liturgical Ministers:** Josette Garrison, Michael Roman, Pamela Talbott

**Acolyte:**

**Virtual Vergers:** Michael Roman, Virginia McGhee

The Eucharistic and Aumbry candles this month are Given to the Glory of God in memory of Edith N. Arlin and Irene Noss by Mary Arlin.

**St. John's extends a warm welcome to visitors!**

**May you experience the Lord's presence during worship. Please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate and stay for coffee in the parish hall after the service.**

**LARGE PRINT EDITIONS OF THE SERVICE ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX**

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**The Second Sunday in Lent**  
**5 March 2023**  
**Hymns**

**Now let us all with one accord (*Bourbon*)**  
**Hymnal # 147**

1 Now let us all with one accord,  
in company with ages past,  
keep vigil with our heavenly Lord  
in his temptation and his fast.

2 The covenant, so long revealed  
to those of faith in former time,  
Christ by his own example sealed,  
the Lord of love, in love sublime.

3 Your love, O Lord, our sinful race  
has not returned, but falsified;  
author of mercy, turn your face  
and grant repentance for our pride.

4 Remember, Lord, though frail we be,  
in your own image were we made;  
help us, lest in anxiety, we cause  
your Name to be betrayed.

5 Therefore, we pray you, Lord, forgive;  
so when our wanderings here shall cease,  
we may with you for ever live,  
in love and unity and peace.

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**O love, how deep, how broad, how high**  
**(*Deus tuorum militum*)**  
**Hymnal # 448**

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
how passing thought and fantasy,  
that God, the Son of God, should take  
our mortal form for mortals' sake!

2 For us baptized, for us he bore  
his holy fast and hungered sore;

for us temptations sharp he knew;  
for us the tempter overthrew.

3 For us he prayed; for us he taught;  
for us his daily works he wrought:  
by words and signs and actions, thus  
still seeking not himself, but us.

4 For us to wicked hands betrayed,  
scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,  
he bore the shameful cross and death;  
for us gave up his dying breath.

5 For us he rose from death again;  
for us he went on high to reign;  
for us he sent his Spirit here  
to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

6 All glory to our Lord and God  
for love so deep, so high, so broad;  
the Trinity whom we adore  
for ever and for evermore.

**My faith looks up to thee (*Cum Rhondda*)**  
**Hymnal #691**

1 My faith looks up to thee,  
thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine!  
Now hear me while I pray,  
take all my guilt away;  
O let me from this day  
be wholly thine.

2 May thy rich grace impart  
strength to my fainting heart,  
my zeal inspire;  
as thou hast died for me,  
O may my love to thee  
pure, warm, and changeless be,  
a living fire.

3 While life's dark maze I tread,  
and griefs around me spread,

be thou my guide;  
bid darkness turn to day;  
wipe sorrow's tears away,  
nor let me ever stray  
from thee aside.

**When Christ was lifted from the earth (*St. Botolph*)  
Hymnal #603**

1 When Christ was lifted from the earth,  
his arms stretched out above  
through every culture, every birth,  
to draw an answering love.

2 Still east and west his love extends  
and always, near or far,  
he calls and claims us as his friends  
and loves us as we are.

3 Where generation, class, or race  
divide us to our shame,  
he sees not labels but a face,  
a person, and a name.

4 Thus freely loved, though fully known,  
may I in Christ be free  
to welcome and accept his own  
as Christ accepted me.

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**The great creator of the worlds (*Tallis' Ordinal*)  
Hymnal #489**

1 The great Creator of the worlds,  
the sovereign God of heaven,  
his holy and immortal truth  
to all on earth hath given.

2 He sent no angel of his host  
to bear this mighty word,  
but him through whom the worlds were made,  
the everlasting Lord.



St. John's Church

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"Like" us on facebook @ Saint John's Episcopal Church

**Office Hours** Monday thru Thursday 10–3

**The Rev. Megan Castellan, Rector**

Gwen Freeman, Senior Warden  
Parish Administrator, Cathy Wagner  
Director of Music/Organist, Dr. Anna Stepler

Beverly Way, Junior Warden  
Chuck Merrill, Weekday Sexton

If you need pastoral assistance, or just want to reach out to Mtr. Megan, please call her at 315-757-0251, or e-mail [mtrmegan@stjohnsithaca.org](mailto:mtrmegan@stjohnsithaca.org).

If you would like to contribute to our ministries, you may make a secure donation at <https://stjohnsithaca.org/donate/>. Thank you!

Sign up for our weekly newsletter [The Fledgling](#) by contacting the church office.

**Please Join Us:**

Coffee Hour has resumed in the Parish Hall following the service. Please continue to wear your mask when you are not actively eating or drinking.

Morning Prayer Monday – Thursday at 9:30 on Facebook and YouTube.

*Forward Day by Day* for **February**, **March**, and **April** is available on the table in the rear of the church.

**Flowers:** If you wish to give candles or Sunday flowers in memory of a loved one, please call the church office (607-273-6532).