

February 28, 2021 ~ Second Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

GATHERING SONG: No. 399 - "God Welcomes All"

God welcomes all, strangers and friends
God's love is strong and it never ends.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING SONG OF PRAISE: No. 403 – "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty "

Open now thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty
waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessed is this place,
filled with solace, light, and grace.

Gracious God, I come before thee;
come thou also unto me;
where we find thee and adore thee,
there a heaven on earth must be;
to my heart O enter thou;
let it be thy temple now.

Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee;
let thy will be done indeed;
may I undisturbed draw near thee,
while thou dost thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows;
here is balm for all our woes.

ADMITTING THE BROKENNESS OF LIFE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON):

Holy God,
you call us to attend to urgent needs in the world,
but we indulge our own desires.
Our ways are not your ways;
our thoughts are not your thoughts.
Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives.
Disturb our complacency and kindle our desire
for a more fruitful life.
Be patient, we pray, as we grow in faith and love,
in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be.
We ask this in the name of our Savior,
your Son, Jesus Christ.

Time for Silent Confession

Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

SONG OF RESPONSE: No. 678 – “Our Darkness is Never Darkness in Your Sight ”

Our darkness is never darkness in your sight:
the deepest night is clear as the daylight.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD IN OUR MIDST

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 122 and Luke 13:1-9, 31- 35

SERMON: “Reckoning”

HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 422 – “Create in Me a Clean Heart ”

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: from a *Declaration of Faith*

Jesus was what we are. He grew up in a family and a society troubled by the common problems of the world. His knowledge was limited by his time and place in history. He felt deeply the joy of friendship and the hurt of being rejected. Jesus prayed, struggled with temptation, knew anger, and was subject to suffering and death. He was like us in every way except sin.

Jesus was what we should be. He served God with complete trust and unwavering obedience. He loved all kinds of people and accepted their love. In constant dependence upon the Holy Spirit, Jesus allowed no temptation or threat to keep him from loving God with his whole being and his neighbor as himself.

We recognize in Jesus what God created us to be. He exposes our failure to live as he lived. He demonstrates the new humanity God promises to give us through him.

RESPONDING IN GRATITUDE AND SERVICE

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

*DOXOLOGY: No. 645 – “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” – v, 1

Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled,
and every faithless murmur stilled:

to God all praise and glory!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*FINAL HYMN: No. 346 - "For the Healing of the Nations"

For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords;
to a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom;
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.

You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness,
bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.

BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION: No. 166 - "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" – v, 3

And through these days of penitence,
and through this Passiontide,

yes, evermore, in life and death,
O Lord, with us abide.

February 28, 2021

Copyright Reproduction and Streaming Permissions

God Welcomes All

Text and Music Transcr. © 2008 GIA Publications

All rights reserved. Used by permission

One License #A-701539.

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Text and Music: Public Domain

Our Darkness is Never Darkness in Your Sight

Text and Music: © 1991 GIA Publications

All rights reserved. Used by permission

One License #A-701539.

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Text: Public Domain

Music © 1993, 1999 Augsburg Fortress

All rights reserved. Used by permission

One License #A-701539.

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Text and Music: Public Domain

For the Healing of the Nations

Music: Public Domain

Text © 1968 Hope Publishing Company

All rights reserved. Used by permission

One License #A-701539.

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

Text and Music: Public Domain

(Credit Roll)

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license One License #A-701539