

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.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Pastor: We have come together to worship in response to our Lord's purposeful giving of Himself for us on the cross. In the first stanza of this hymn, we consecrate to His purpose every gift He imparts.

HYMN "Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service" # 848



1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of
2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the hun - gry
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -
4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear



hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,



Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and



wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your



crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

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INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

GOD'S KIDS [Song: "Come, Follow Me"; Message: "God's Perfect Timing"; Prayer]

1. Whoever you are, what ever your need,
I'm calling you to Me.

Wherever you go, whatever you do,
I'll be a Friend to You.

Come, follow Me.

Come, follow Me.

Come, follow Me.

2. I'm calling you now, I'm calling you near.
There is no need to fear.
I'm calling you loud, I'm calling you clear.
I'll give you ears to hear.
Come, follow Me.
Come, follow Me.
Come, follow Me.

3. I am the Life, the Truth, the Way
Same today as yesterday.
I am the beginning and the end.
I'll be your faithful Friend.
Come, follow Me.
Come, follow Me.
Come, follow Me.

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Incorporating *Genesis 17:7; Psalm 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.**

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT *Psalm 115:11–13; antiphon: Psalm 25:6*

Pastor: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield.

People: **The LORD has remembered us; He will bless us; He will bless the house of Israel; He will bless the house of Aaron;**

Pastor: He will bless those who fear the LORD, both the small and the great.

People: **We will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore.
Praise the LORD!**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace we have with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For peace among the families of the nations and in coming generations, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who rejoice here for our access by faith into this grace in which we stand, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: By Your purposeful suffering, rejection, death, and resurrection—help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

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.)

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 that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.”³ Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him,⁴ “Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations.⁵ 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.⁶ I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you.⁷ 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.

¹⁵ And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name.¹⁶ 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.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

“The God of Abraham Praise”

798 v. 7

7 There dwells the Lord our king,
The Lord our righteousness,
Triumphant o’er the world and sin,
The Prince of Peace.
On Zion’s sacred height
His kingdom He maintains
And glorious with His saints in light
Forever reigns.

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EPISTLE

Romans 5:1–11

(Grace: Christ died for the ungodly.)

5 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God

through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through 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. ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and 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.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For 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. ¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Pastor: 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.**

(The Gospel is read.)

²⁷ 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?" ²⁸And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." ²⁹And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." ³⁰And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

³¹And 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. ³²And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But 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."

³⁴And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? ³⁷For what can a man give in return for his soul? ³⁸For 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 "Church of God, Elect and Glorious" # 646



1 Church	of	God,	e - lect	and	glo - rious,	Ho - ly
2 God	has	called	you out	of	dark - ness	In - to
3 Once	you	were	an al - ien	peo - ple,	Strang - ers	
4 Church	of	God,	e - lect	and	ho - ly,	Be the



na - tion,	cho - sen	race;	Called	as	God's	own
His	most	mar - v'lous	Brought	His	truth	to
to	God's	heart	But	He	brought	you
peo - ple	He	in - tends;	Strong	in	faith	and



spe - cial peo-ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of
 life with - in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to
 home in mer - cy, Cit - i - zens of heav'n a -
 swift to an - swer Each com - mand your Mas - ter



grace: Know the pur - pose of your call - ing,
 sight. Let your light so shine a - round you
 bove. Let His love flow out to oth - ers,
 sends: Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing



Show to all His might - y deeds; Tell of love that
 That God's name is glo - ri - fied And all find fresh
 Let them feel a Fa - ther's care; That they too may
 Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer; Give your lives in



knows no lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.
 hope and pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
 know His wel - come And His count - less bless - ings share.
 joy - ful ser - vice— Sing His praise, His love de - clare.

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SERMON God's Perfect Timing - Romans 5:1-11

CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostle's 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.

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.**

*[Additional petitions may follow. After each petition the pastor prays: Let us pray to the Lord, and the people respond: **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 remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 blessing of God almighty—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—be with you now and forever.

People: Amen.

HYMN “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me” [LSB 722]



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

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DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

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