

**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024**

**LEARN: REFLECT ON SCRIPTURE EACH DAY,  
ESPECIALLY THE LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF JESUS**

## LENT IS A SEASON SET APART . . .

**Liturgy:** There are several significant liturgical changes. We open with the Kyrie (see the song on the facing page to learn what this means), the Penitential Order and confession. This emphasizes that Lent is a time for turning and re-turning to God. There is no Gloria and no speaking of the word “alleluia!” in Lent. We will hear these words on Easter Day! Finally, after the Post-communion prayer, the priest will offer a Solemn Prayer, instead of the usual blessing. This prayer changes with each week of Lent.

**Colors:** We replace the green of Epiphany with purple and burlap. Purple is the color of humility, penance, and wisdom that comes from inward discernment. It is also the color of royalty. The extreme differences between the two (humility and royalty) express one of the great lessons of Lent: Christ as the servant-king and our attempt to be as such to the world as well. In penitential theology, purple is the color of inward reflection, which is one of the important things we are called to do each Lent in preparation for Easter. Burlap is a rough and simple cloth. It signifies the fasting, doing without, of Lent. (Attribution: <https://doers.org/liturgical-colors-of-the-church/>)

**Seating:** Our chairs are turned to face one another. This stark contrast from our usual forward facing chair arrangement wakes us up to the Lent as a season of penitence. In Lent, we seek to turn to God more fully. We face one another to confess our need for God and the ways in which we have not loved God and our neighbors with our whole hearts.

**Baptismal Font:** The baptismal bowl is removed and Christ’s cross replaces it. This serves as a reminder that “the spiritual grace of our baptism is union with Christ in his death and resurrection” (Book of Common Prayer, Catechism, p. 858).

**Music:** Several musical changes mark the lenten season. We do not open with a rousing gathering hymn, but with the Kyrie, asking God for mercy. Each offertory hymn in Lent speaks to the Way of Love practice highlighted in Forum, in the bulletin, and in preaching. Finally, musical selections tend to be more solemn and meditative in Lent.

**The Way of Love In Lent:** The journey through Lent into Easter is a journey with Jesus. Each week in our lenten liturgy, we will focus on one of the seven ancient practices for a Jesus-centered life: Turn, Pray, Learn, Bless, Rest, Go and Worship.

This week, we focus on LEARN: reflect on scripture each day, especially the life and teachings of Jesus .

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*We love pictures and videos, and we love sharing what we do on social media. When attending our events or services, you agree to our using pictures of you and any children in your charge on social media and elsewhere. If you prefer not to be included in photos or video, please inform a staff member or usher.*

**SUNG BY ST. FRANCIS' SINGERS**

Jesus Christ, my Savior lived for me, and died,  
source of my salvation, yet was crucified.  
Peace that knows no measure; this by faith I see.  
Love that knows no ending; Jesus died for me.

Lord, we renew our commitment these forty nights and days,  
And Lord, by your grace help us change our sinful ways.

Hear me know, Lord Jesus; I will never stray.  
I will never wander. Hear me, as I pray;  
Free me now from darkness. Cleanse me now from sin.  
Pardon my transgressions, make me pure within.

Lord, we renew our commitment these forty nights and days,  
And Lord, by your grace help us change our sinful ways. Amen.

*The congregation stands.*

**A PENITENTIAL ORDER**

*The congregation joins in singing "Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison," which is Greek for "Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy." Cantor sings the verses. The altar party enters.*




**OPENING ACCLAMATION**

Presider	Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People	<b>God's mercy endures forever.</b>

**THE DECALOGUE** At 8am, the antiphon is spoken. At 10:30, congregation sings the antiphon.


*The people stand or kneel.*

Presider            Hear the commandments of God to the people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

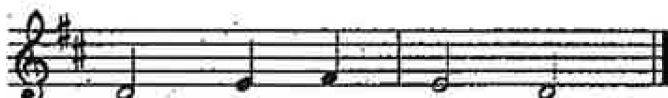
Antiphon:  *People*  
Lord, have mer-cy up-on us, and in-cline our hearts to keep this law.

You shall not make for yourself any idol. (a)  
You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God. (a)  
Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy. (a)  
Honor your parents. (a)  
You shall not commit murder. (a)  
You shall not commit adultery. (a)  
You shall not steal. (a)  
You shall not be a false witness. (a)  
You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

*After the 10th Commandment*



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us, and write all these thy laws in our



hearts, we be-seech thee.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon            Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

*Silence is kept.*

People            **Almighty and most merciful God,  
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep,  
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our  
                 own hearts,  
we have offended against your holy laws,  
we have left undone those things which we ought to  
                 have done,  
and we have done those things which we ought not to  
                 have done.  
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
spare those who confess their faults,  
restore those who are penitent,  
according to your promises declared unto humankind  
in Christ Jesus our Lord;  
and grant, O most merciful Creator, for his sake,  
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.**

Presider           The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.

People            **Amen.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider            The Lord be with you.

People             **And also with you.**

Presider            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

People             **Amen.**

## WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES *Seated*

### THE FIRST LESSON

Reader            A reading from the Book of Genesis. 17:1-7, 15-16

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

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her 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 give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

The Word of the Lord.

People             **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALM OF THE DAY *At 8am, spoken.* 22

*The congregation sings the antiphon one time through before the spoken verses.*



- 22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him;  
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;  
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;  
neither does he hide his face from them;  
but when they cry to him he hears them. **ANTIPHON**
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him:  
"May your heart live for ever!" **ANTIPHON**
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord;  
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust fall before him. **ANTIPHON**
- 29 My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him;  
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn  
the saving deeds that he has done. **ANTIPHON**

## THE SECOND LESSON

Reader

A reading from the letter to the Romans.

4:13-25

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. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Word of the Lord.

People

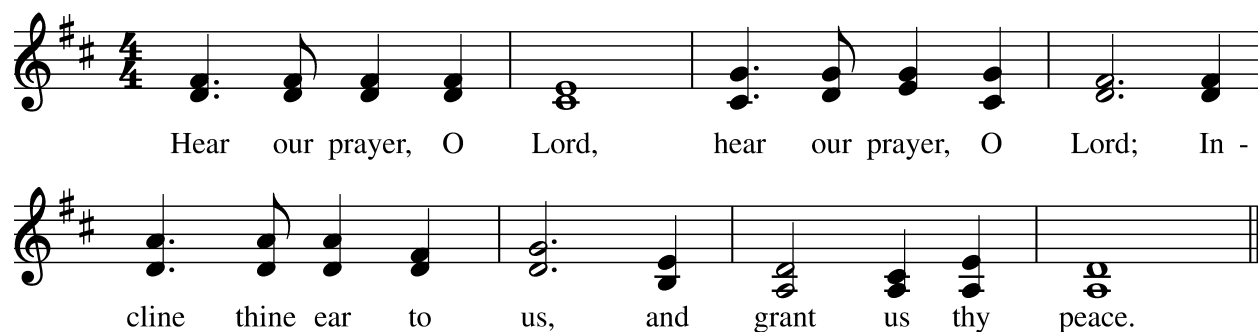
**Thanks be to God.**

#### **GOSPEL ANTIPHON** *Stand*

#### **HEAR OUR PRAYER, O LORD**

**LEVAS 249**

*Sung twice.*



#### **THE GOSPEL**

Deacon

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

8:31-38

People

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."



He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People                    **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **GOSPEL ANTIPHON**

## **HEAR OUR PRAYER, O LORD**

*Sung once. See previous page for music and lyrics.*

## **SERMON**

**DR. MICHAEL BOOKER**

*After the sermon, silence is kept for a time.*

## **THE NICENE CREED** *Stand*

Deacon                    We affirm our faith in the One, Holy and Living God.

People                    **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 human. 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.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Prayer changes people. Prayer is not about changing God, but about changing us more into the likeness of God. Collectively and individually we offer the hopes and desires of our hearts to God. The Deacon, when present in the liturgy, offers the prayers for those who are sick or have asked our prayers.*

Deacon                We pray to the Eternal One for courage to give up other things and to give ourselves in service to Christ. *Silence is kept for a time.*

*After each petition, intercessor says, "Eternal One, we ask you," to which all respond, **"Give us strength and hear our prayer."***

*Presider offers a collect, a prayer meant to gather the intentions of the people in a succinct prayer.*

*Please see our parish Prayer Lists, which can be found on the blue announcement sheet for additional biddings and concerns. If you would like to make a prayer request, please complete our Prayer Request Form which can be accessed on our website or at the back of the church and placed in the office plate.*

## THE PEACE

Presider            The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People              **And also with you.**

Presider            Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

*We invite you to take a moment and extend the peace of God to the members of your household and then to people in the world that you love and struggle to love.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS *Seated*

THE OFFERTORY    *8:00am only*

**MEDITATION HYMN  
TEACH ME THY WAY, O LORD  
PERFORMED BY BROOKE LAMBKIN**



1. Teach me thy way, O Lord; teach me thy way!
2. When I am sad at heart, teach me thy way!
3. When doubts and fears a - rise, teach me thy way!
4. Long as my life shall last, teach me thy way!



Thy guid - ing grace af - ford; teach me thy way!  
 When earth - ly joys de - part, teach me thy way!  
 When storms o'er - spread the skies, teach me thy way!  
 Wher - e'er my lot be cast, teach me thy way!



Help me to walk a - right, more by faith, less by sight;  
 In hours of lone - li - ness, in times of dire dis - tress,  
 Shine thro' the cloud and rain, thro' sor - row, toil, and pain;  
 Un - til the race is run, un - til the jour - ney's done,



lead me with heav'n - ly light; teach me thy way!  
 in fail - ure or suc - cess, teach me thy way!  
 make thou my path - way plain; teach me thy way!  
 un - til the crown is won, teach me thy way!

*As the ushers bring forth the offering, all stand.*

**1 CHRON. 29:14**

Presider All things come from you , O Lord,

People And we have given you only what comes from your hand.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

*Say at 8am:*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Sing at 10:30am:*

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord,  
God of pow-er, God of might, heav-en and  
earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed the  
one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -  
san - na in the high - est.

Presider

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

*Priest:*  
Let us pro-claim the mys - ter - y of faith:

*All:*  
Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain.

Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain!

Presider

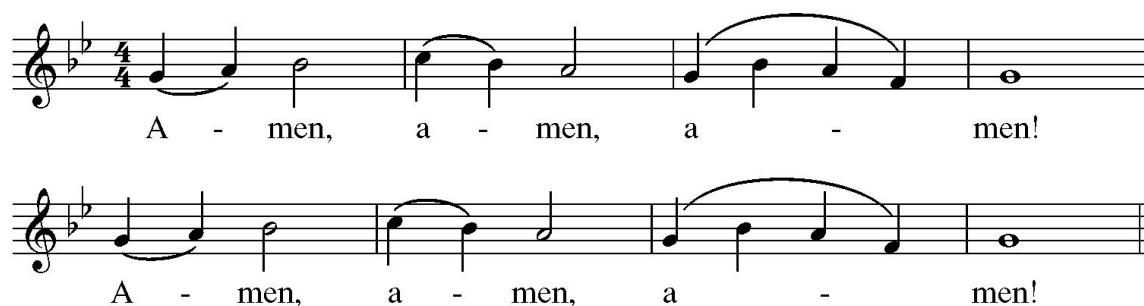
Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled + with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with the Blessed Mary, St. Francis, St. Clare, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

## AMEN



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore, let us keep the feast.**

## FRACTION ANTHEM

At 8am, spoken.

All                    O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

At 10:30am, sung.

### First Invocation

*Cantor:* Je - sus, Lamb of God, *All:* you take a-way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

### Invocations

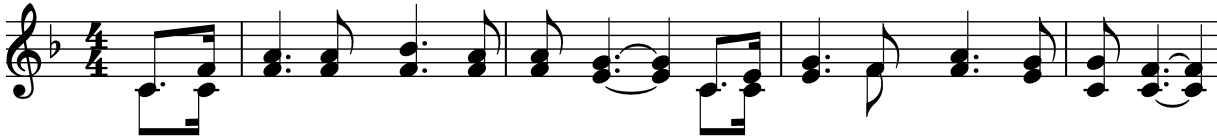
*Cantor:* 1. Bread of life and sav - ing cup,  
2. King of kings and Lord of lords, you take a - way the  
3. Lov - ing Sav - ior, Prince of peace,  
sins of the world: have mer-cy, have mer-cy on us.

### Last Invocation

*Cantor:* Je - sus, Lamb of God, *All:* you take a-way the sins of the world:  
have mer - cy, and grant us your peace.

Presider            God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

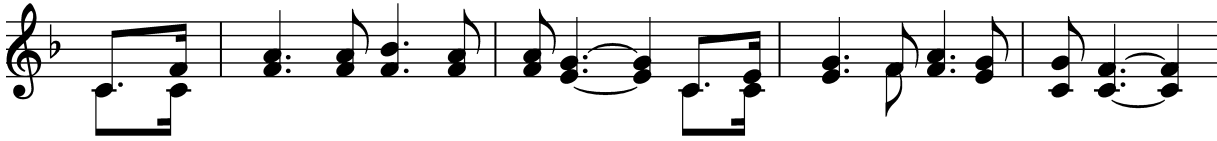
*Our bread is gluten-, dairy- and nut-free. This Eucharistic table does not belong to the Episcopal Church or to St. Francis'. This is God's table, and all are welcome. In the Episcopal Church, we receive both the bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Jesus. If you choose not to receive communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your heart to receive a blessing.*



1. I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing, — I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing, —
2. I'll go with Him through the gar - den, — I'll go with Him through the gar - den, —
3. I'll go with Him through the judge - ment, — I'll go with Him through the judge - ment, —
4. He will give me grace and glo - ry, — He will give me grace and glo - ry, —



1. I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing, — "Take thy cross and fol - low, fol - low me."
2. I'll go with Him through the gar - den, — I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.
3. I'll go with Him through the judge - ment, — I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.
4. He will give me grace and glo - ry, — And go with me, with me all the way.



Where He leads me I will fol - low, — Where He leads me I will fol - low, —



Where He leads me I will fol - low, — I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

## THE GREAT SILENCE

*Once all have received communion and the Holy Table has been cleared, the community observes a moment of silent reflection and prayer.*

Presider Jesus said to his disciples, "Come away to a quiet place and rest for a while." Therefore, let us now rest in Christ's presence in the silence.

*A prolonged silence is kept. At a signal from the Presider, the silence is broken.*



## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER** *Stand*

*After the Great Silence the Presider invites the congregation to stand and pray saying:*

Presider            God is with you.

People             **And also with you.**

Presider            Together, let us pray.

People             **Eternal God, you have renewed us with the living bread from heaven; by it you nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us always to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live lives grounded in service to you and to one another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE**

*The Presider prays over the people as a reminder of God's extravagant love and invites us to go into the world to be God's blessing.*

Deacon             Bow down your hearts before the Lord our God.

*The Presider offers the prayer over the people.*

Presider            Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



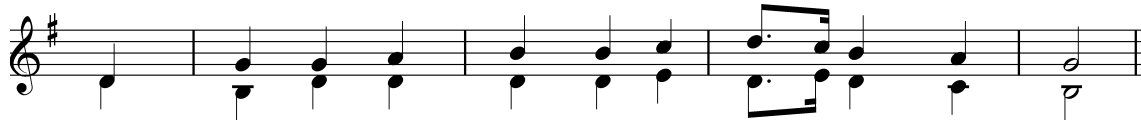
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not. I am with thee: O be not dis - maved!  
 5 "The soul that to Je - sus hath fled for re - pose,



1 is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
 2 For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
 5 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;



1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,



1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.  
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

## DISMISSAL

Deacon Our worship is ended. Our service in the world begins. Go into the world to love what God loves. Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE 10:30am only