

Sunday, February 28th, 2021

The Second Sunday In Lent

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: From generation to generation, God names us and claims us.

All: Blessed be the Lord, our God.

One: When we try to tell God what to do, Christ chastens us and leads us back onto the paths of life.

All: Let all who draw breath come back to the Lord.

One: From our earliest steps, the spirit guides our steps and sets before us the ways of life and death.

All: Let the faithful rejoice in the mysteries of our God.

One: From generation to generation, God names us and claims us.

All: Let heaven and earth praise God's holy name.

Hymn: **VU# 405** “New Every Morning”

Lighting the Christ Candle

Prayer of Approach (said together)

Spirit of the ages, name us and claim us according to your purposes, as you once called Abraham and Sarah long ago. Train our ears to hear your call, and tune our hearts to open at the sound of your voice.

As we pick up our cross to follow you, raise us to newness of life. For you call us to be children of your covenant and disciples of your grace. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

Gospel Reading: Mark 8: 31-38

Hymn **VU# -** “And Can It Be?”

The Lord's Prayer

Good News Time

Prayer of Confession

Name above all names, visit us in our dreams and shake us from our waking nightmares. For we are tired of stumbling in the dark, blindly following human teachings and placidly heeding human advice.

When we lose our way and wander from your path, we need your love to heal us and your grace to complete us. When the forces of destruction close around us, grant us the strength to follow Christ.

Love us back onto the right paths and restore us to life, through your faithful and transforming love. Amen.

(A time of quiet reflection on the prayer we have just shared)

Assurance of Pardon

One: By saying no to ourselves, and picking up our cross, we find ourselves.

All: By saying yes to the good news of Christ's spirit, we find faith and wholeness. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Anthem: Abby and Annalie – *“Be Thou My Vision”*

Sermon: Don't Do It

Hymn **VU# 703** “In The Bulb There Is A Flower”

The Offering

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Hymn **VU# 675** “Will Your Anchor Hold”

The Blessing and Benediction

Go now in peace, never be afraid;
God will go with you each hour of every day;
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true;
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe;
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above!
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

Words: Don Besig and Nancy Price, Music: Don Besig © 1999

Postlude: Peter Hollens and Tim Foust – “Bridge Over Troubled Water”