

Service of Daily Prayer
Second Sunday in Lent
Athens Lutheran Church - Athens, TN
February 28, 2021

As We Gather

The old Latin name for this, the Second Sunday in Lent, is *Reminiscere*, because the Introit pleads, “Remember Your mercy, O Lord.” Confidently, it continues by encouraging us to trust Him because “He has remembered us; He will bless us.” Indeed, God’s promises to Abram in today’s Old Testament Reading were kept as Jesus moved unswervingly toward the cross, as He does in today’s Gospel. As a result, we can be sure, Paul reminds us in the Epistle, that we have peace with God. Even in suffering, we know that hope will not disappoint us, for we remember that “*while we were still sinners, Christ died for us*” (**Romans 5:8**).

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Versicles

In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;
in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for You and watch.
My mouth is filled with Your praise,
and with Your glory all the day.
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare Your praise.
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.

Reading

Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16
God makes a covenant promise to Abram.

Reading

Romans 5:1–11
Grace: Christ died for the ungodly.

Reading

Mark 8:27–38
Truly knowing Christ means following Him.

Final Reading Response

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- P** In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.
- C** But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

The First Article

Creation

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

Koine Worship Song - By Grace I'm Saved

Sermon

Rev. Don Coulter

Lord's Prayer

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- C** **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.

Prayer of the Day

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son,

our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

In the morning

Almighty God, merciful Father, who created and completed all things, on this day when the work of our calling begins anew, we implore You to create its beginning, direct its continuance, and bless its end, that our doings may be preserved from sin, our life sanctified, and our work this day be well pleasing to You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Benedicamus

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Then go joyfully to your work.

Stewardship Sentence

Mark 8:32 – *“And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.”* Anytime we sin we are acting like Peter: thinking we know better than the Lord. But as Jesus says, such acts stem from Satan. So let us repent: let us trust our Lord Jesus and follow Him. For certainly He has earned our trust with His gracious sacrifice for us.

Lectionary Summary for Next Week - March 7, 2021

Exodus 20:1–17; 1 Corinthians 1:18–31; John 2:13–22 (23–25)

The Crucified and Risen Body of Jesus Is the True Temple of the Lord

The Lord rescues His people, Israel, *“out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery”* (**Ex. 20:2**) and makes His gracious covenant with them, defined by the Ten Commandments. Since He has become their God by His grace, they shall be His people, having *“no other gods”* before Him (**Ex. 20:3**). He is *“jealous”* for them as a husband for his wife and as a father for his children. He has named them with His name and called them to rest in Him (**Ex. 20:5–9**). The incarnate Son, Christ Jesus, is likewise jealous for His Father's house, because it is to be a place of divine grace and Sabbath rest for His people, and not *“a house of trade”* (**John 2:16–17**). His

zeal consumes Him as He gives up “*the temple of his body*” to the destruction of the cross, but in three days He raises it up again to be the true temple forever (**John 2:17–21**). By His crucifixion He cleanses the entire household, and in His resurrection He becomes “*wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption*” (**1 Cor. 1:30**).

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