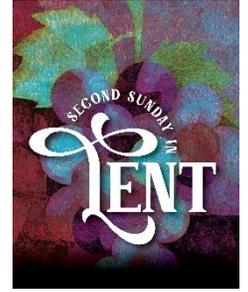




The Second Sunday in Lent

Epiphany Parish

March 1, 2026 – 8:00am
Rite I



We gather with joy in the power of Jesus' name, to care for one another and to include all people through our fellowship, education & outreach.

The Word of God

The Silent Procession

Officiant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People: His mercy endureth for ever.

The Decalogue: Traditional

God spake these words, and said:

I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

*Lord have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

*Lord have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

*Lord have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

*Lord have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Honor thy father and thy mother.

*Lord have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt do no murder.

Lord have mercy upon us,

and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

*Lord have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not steal.

*Lord have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

*Lord have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.*

Thou shalt not covet.

*Lord have mercy upon us,
and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.*

Officiant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

The Celebrant then says:

Let us humbly confess our sins unto almighty God and our neighbor.

Minister and People:

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

p320

Absolution

Kyrie

Kyrie eleison.

p324

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with thy spirit.*

Officiant: Let us pray.

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. Amen.

The First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Psalm 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?

² My help comes from the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.

³ He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

⁴ Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;

⁵ The Lord himself watches over you; *
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

⁶ So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.

⁷ The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.

⁸ The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *

from this time forth for evermore.

The Epistle Reading

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

John 3:1-17

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal

life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Christen H. Mills

The Nicene Creed

p326

The Prayers of the People

p328

The Peace

Welcome & Announcements



Eucharistic Prayer 1

p333

Sanctus - spoken

p334

The Lord's Prayer

p336

The Breaking of the Bread

p337

The Post Communion Prayer

p339

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Birthday and Anniversary Blessing for March

For a Birthday - O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For an Anniversary - O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may continue to love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, and that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

For Thanksgiving and Celebration

(Adapted from the prayer 'For Joy in God's Creation' in the BCP)

O heavenly Father, who has filled the world with beauty:

Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works;

that, by celebrating together with these your servants and rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.