

Sunday March 13th, 2022
The Second Sunday in Lent

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship

One: God desires to gather us

Many: She gathers us together

One: Her wings spread out before us

Many: Her presence, all around us

One: To nurture is her nature

Many: To mother is her gift

One: For our safety, she reaches

Many: For our good, she moves

One: Sheltering over us

Many: She is our fortress

One: Deep in her underwing

Many: She is our strength

One: Because of us, she is wounded

Many: By her wounds we are saved

One: Until all fear is gone

Many: Until the work is finished

One: In her, we find our justice

Opening Prayer

One: God decides to gather us

Many: Open the gates of justice

One: The hen gathers her brood

Many; Open the gates of peace

Hymn #207: Just As I Am

Hymn Leader: GCC Choir

1) Just as I am, without one plea
but that your blood was shed for me,
and that you called inviting me,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

2) Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

3) Just as I am, you will receive,
will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because your promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

4) Just as I am, your love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
Now to be yours, and yours alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Praise **Unison**

O God of unfathomable promises, you came to Abram and Sarai in the late afternoon of life, and promised them their children, yet unborn, would be more numerous than the stars. You promised them an answer for their people, an answer so unexpected it left them speechless. We praise you for your power of creation. We thank you for the unexpected bounty of your love, the way you bring us in, like peeping chicks, to find the safety of your widespread, brooding wings. O God, hear now our prayers of praise and thanks, our words, our sighs, even the silent groaning of our hearts as we continue in our worship this morning.

Passing of the Peace

**Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you
People: And also with you!**

Reading

Carol Griffith

Psalm 27:1-7

1 The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

2 When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—
my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.

3 Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,

yet I will be confident.
4 One thing I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in his temple.
5 For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.
6 Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.
7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud,
be gracious to me and answer me!

Special Music

Liisa Granfors-Hunt

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:31–35

31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” 32 He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. 33 Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ 34 Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 35 See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

Musical Interlude

Sermon: The Fox and the Hen

Music for Meditation

Prayers of the People

Hymn # 204: "Take Up Your Cross," the Savior Said

Hymn Leader: GCC Choir

- 1) "Take up your cross," the Savior said,
"if you would my disciple be;
Take up your cross with willing heart
and humbly follow after me."
- 2) Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill your weak spirit with alarm;
Christ's strength will bear your spirit up
and brace your heart, support your arm.
- 3) Take up your cross, heed not the shame,
and let your foolish pride be still;
For Christ did not refuse to die
upon a cross on Calvary's hill.
- 4) Take up your cross and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down,
For only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer **Unison**

Offering Invitation

The hungry are invited to feast at God's table, where our mourning turns to dancing, our affliction is met with comfort, and our rejection turns to belonging. Out of God's gift of abundance, we offer gratitude. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in praise.

Offering and Dedication **Unison**

Ever Present, Life Giving God, may these gifts be used to pass on your peace, justice, and healing. Amen.

Benediction **Unison**

Now, may the grace of God go with us. May God's face shine upon us. May we carry God's peace into the world, offering the wholeness and healing we have received. May we never cease to love and endure until the work is finished. Amen.