

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church  
Liturgy of the Word Rite II  
Sunday, February 28, 2021

You are very welcome to our online service of Liturgy of the Word! The entire service is printed below; you'll need no books or other materials to follow along.

The Priest or Leader will say the items in regular type.

You are invited to say aloud the items printed in boldface.

Prelude

Prelude in A minor

J. L. Krebs

Hymn

The God of Abraham praise

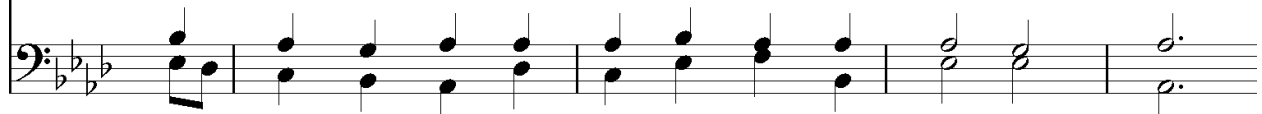
H401



1 The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;  
2 He by him - self hath sworn: we on his oath de - pend;  
3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right - eous - ness,  
4 The God who reigns on high the great arch - an - gels sing,  
5 The whole tri - um - phant host give thanks to God on high;



1 An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love;  
2 we shall, on ea - gle - wings up - borne, to heaven a - scend;  
3 tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;  
4 and "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," cry, "Al - might - y King!  
5 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" they ev - er cry;



1 the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con - fessed:  
 2 we shall be - hold his face, we shall his power a - dore,  
 3 on Zi - on's sa - cred height his king - dom he main - tains,  
 4 Who was, and is, the same, and ev - er - more shall be:  
 5 hail, A - braham's Lord di - vine! With heaven our songs we raise;

we bow and bless the sa - cred Name for ev - er blest.  
 and sing the won - ders of his grace for ev - er - more.  
 and, glo - rious with his saints in light, for ev - er reigns.  
 e - ter - nal Fa - ther, great I AM, we wor - ship thee."  
 all might and ma - jes - ty are thine, and end - less praise.

Words: Thomas Olivers (1725-1799), alt. Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, alt.  
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*Priest* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Priest says*

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your 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 commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

## Confession of Sin

*The Priest then says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Priest and People together say*

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

*The Priest then says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Word of God

*The Priest says to the people*

The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Priest* Let us pray.

*The Collect of the Day*

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 Lessons

*The Lessons, as appointed, are read.*

A Reading from Genesis.

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.

**Thanks be to God.**

### The Psalm

- 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.
- 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!"
- 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.
- 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.

## A Reading from Romans.

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 trespasss and was raised for our justification.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Hymn

### Take up your cross, the Savior said

H675



1 Take up your cross, the Sa - vior said, if  
2 Take up your cross, let not its weight fill  
3 Take up your cross, heed not the shame, and  
4 Take up your cross, then, in his strength, and  
5 Take up your cross, and fol - low Christ, nor



1 you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with  
2 your weak spi - rit with a - larm; his strength shall bear your  
3 let your fool - ish heart be still; the Lord for you ac -  
4 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -  
5 think till death to lay it down; for on - ly those who



1 will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.  
2 spi - rit up, and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.  
3 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.  
4 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.  
5 bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

Words: Charles William Everest (1814-1877), alt. Music: *Bourbon*, melody att. Freeman Lewis (1780-1859);  
harm. John Leon Hooker (b. 1944) Copyright ©1984, John Hooker. All rights reserved. Used with permission.  
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## The Gospel

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

*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."

*After the Gospel, the Priest says*

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## The Sermon

The Reverend Jerry Lasley

## The Nicene Creed

*Priest and People together say,*

**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 man.  
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.

## The Prayers of the People

*In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world;  
for our Bishop(s) \_\_\_\_\_; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.  
Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.  
Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.  
Pray for those in any need or trouble..

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.  
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed [especially \_\_\_\_\_].  
Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.  
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The priest adds a concluding Collect.

## Hymn

### Forty days and forty nights

H150



1 For - ty days and for - ty nights thou wast fast - ing in the wild;  
2 Should not we thy sor - row share and from world - ly joys ab - stain,  
3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Je - sus, Sa - vior, hear our call!  
4 So shall we have peace di - vine: ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;  
5 Keep, O keep us, Sa - vior dear, ev - er con - stant by thy side;



1 for - ty days and for - ty nights tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.  
2 fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, strong with thee to suf - fer pain?  
3 Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, grant we may not faint nor fall!  
4 round us, too, shall an - gels shine, such as min - is - tered to thee.  
5 that with thee we may ap - pear at the e - ter - nal Eas - ter - tide.

Words: George Hunt Smytten (1822-1870), alt.

Music: *Aus der Tiefe rufe ich*, melody att. Martin Herbst (1654-1681), alt.; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)



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## The Grace

*The Priest then says*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all now and evermore. **Amen.**

## Postlude

Fugue in A minor

J. L. Krebs

*Please join us following this service for a Zoom Gathering to meet and greet one another.  
Zoom link and instructions included in your Weekly Cyber Trumpeter emails.*

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Weekly Worship on Facebook  
Sundays: 9:00am  
Thursdays: 5:30pm