

*Celebrating Christ's Presence
In a Changing World*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church



February 28, 2021

10:30 am

(The words to the hymns are printed at the end of the bulletin.)

Prelude: "OLD 124th"

Kevin Hildebrand (1973-)

Silent Processional

Welcome by the Rev. Sarah Hurlbert, Rector

Opening Hymn: The Hymnal 1982 #149
Eternal Lord of Love

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
People **God's mercy endures for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

KYRIE (all together sing)

The Hymnal 1982 #S91

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Setting: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you

People **And also with you**

Celebrant 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.**

A Reading from the Book of Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

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."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People
People **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 22:22-30

- 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.

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.”

The Sermon

The Reverend Sarah Hurlbert

Nicene Creed

**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.

Prayers of the People

(The people may continue to stand or kneel)

Intercessor Let us pray for the church and the world:

Intercessor Have mercy on us, O God, according to your loving kindness; in your great compassion, hear our prayers. We pray for the whole church, all leaders and ministers, and all the holy people of God.

(Silence is kept...)

Intercessor Wash us through and through,
People **And cleanse us from our sin.**

Intercessor We pray for our nation, for all the nations of the earth, and for all who govern and judge.
(*Silence is kept...*)

Intercessor Purge us from our sin,
People **And we shall be pure.**

Intercessor We pray for those who hunger, those who thirst, those who cry out for justice, those who live under the threat of terror, and those without a place to lay their head.
(*Silence is kept...*)

Intercessor Make them hear of joy and gladness,
People **that those who are broken may rejoice.**

Intercessor We pray for those who are ill, those in pain, those under stress, and those who are lonely, especially... (*Silence is kept...*)

Intercessor Give them the joy of your saving help,
People **and sustain them with your bountiful Spirit.**

Intercessor In this season of Lent we pray for those who prepare for confirmation, and we pray that we all might be given the grace and strength to repent and grow closer to you, O God.
(*Silence is kept...*)

Intercessor Create in us clean hearts, O God,
People **and renew a right spirit within us.**

Intercessor We pray for those who have died and who have entered into the land of eternal Light and your abiding peace.
(*Silence is kept...*)

Intercessor Be near to those who mourn for them,
People **and may their memory be a blessing.**

Concluding prayer led by the Celebrant:

Lord Jesus, you proclaimed the Good News in Galilee, saying that the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; grant us the strength and wisdom to repent and believe in the Good News, this day and always. Amen.

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
(*silence is kept*)

All **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.**

Celebrant: 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.

Announcements:

Please remember to call or email Pastor Sarah with news of anyone who is sick in our congregation and reach out for help when you need it. Diana Sinclair is gathering our prayer requests each week so make sure you email or call her with your requests.

Thanks to all who are helping make this worship happen and thank you all for being here!

The Peace

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Meditation: “Were You There” *(Arr. Burton Isaac)*
-Christy Randall, violin

The Holy Communion

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory:
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: *(all)*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant,

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

All Say,

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:

Grant us peace.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take Them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with Thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn: **The Hymnal 1982 #597**
 O Day of Peace

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

We pray with those worshipping with us online and here with us:

Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Blessing:

Life is short...

Closing Hymn: **The Hymnal 1982 #675**
 Take Up Your Cross

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: **“OLD 124th”**

Robert Powell (1932-)



Resources for education and personal devotions during Lent can be found on these websites:

<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/>
<https://www.edomi.org/event/lenten-book-study/2021-02-24/>
<https://www.livingcompass.org/lent>

*Worship Ministers: The Reverend Sarah Hurlbert; The Rev. Dcn. Melissa Congleton
Julie Baglien, Organist; Christy Randall, vocalist & violin
Joe Lathrop, 1st Reader & Acolyte; Sandra Kilian, 2nd Reader;
Sue Hammett, Intercessor
Special thanks again go to our tech team for their faithfulness & expertise!*

The hymns for today are from *The Hymnal 1982*

Opening Hymn: #149 *Eternal Lord of Love*

1 Eternal Lord of love, behold your church
walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent,
led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
moved by your love and toward your presence
bent:
far off yet here--the goal of all desire.

2 So daily dying to the way of self,
so daily living in your way of love,
we walk the road, Lord Jesus, that you trod,
knowing ourselves baptized into your death:
so we are dead and live with you in God.

3 If dead in you, so in you we arise,
you the firstborn of all the faithful dead;
and as through stony ground the green shoots
break,
glorious in springtime dress of leaf and
flower,
so into life and glory shall we wake.

Words: *Thomas H. Cain, b. 1931*
Music: *Old 24th*

Communion Hymn: #597 *O Day of Peace*

1 O day of peace that dimly shines
through all our hopes and prayers and
dreams,
guide us to justice, truth, and love,
delivered from our selfish schemes.
May swords of hate fall from our hands,
our hearts from envy find release,
till by God's grace our warring world
shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,
nor shall the fierce devour the small;
as beasts and cattle calmly graze,
a little child shall lead them all.
Then enemies shall learn to love,
all creatures find their true accord;
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled,
for all the earth shall know the Lord. ---

Words: *Carl P. Daw, Jr., b. 1944*

Music: *Jerusalem; Charles Hubert Hastings Parry, 1848-1918*



Closing Hymn #675
Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

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;
his strength shall bear your spirit up
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

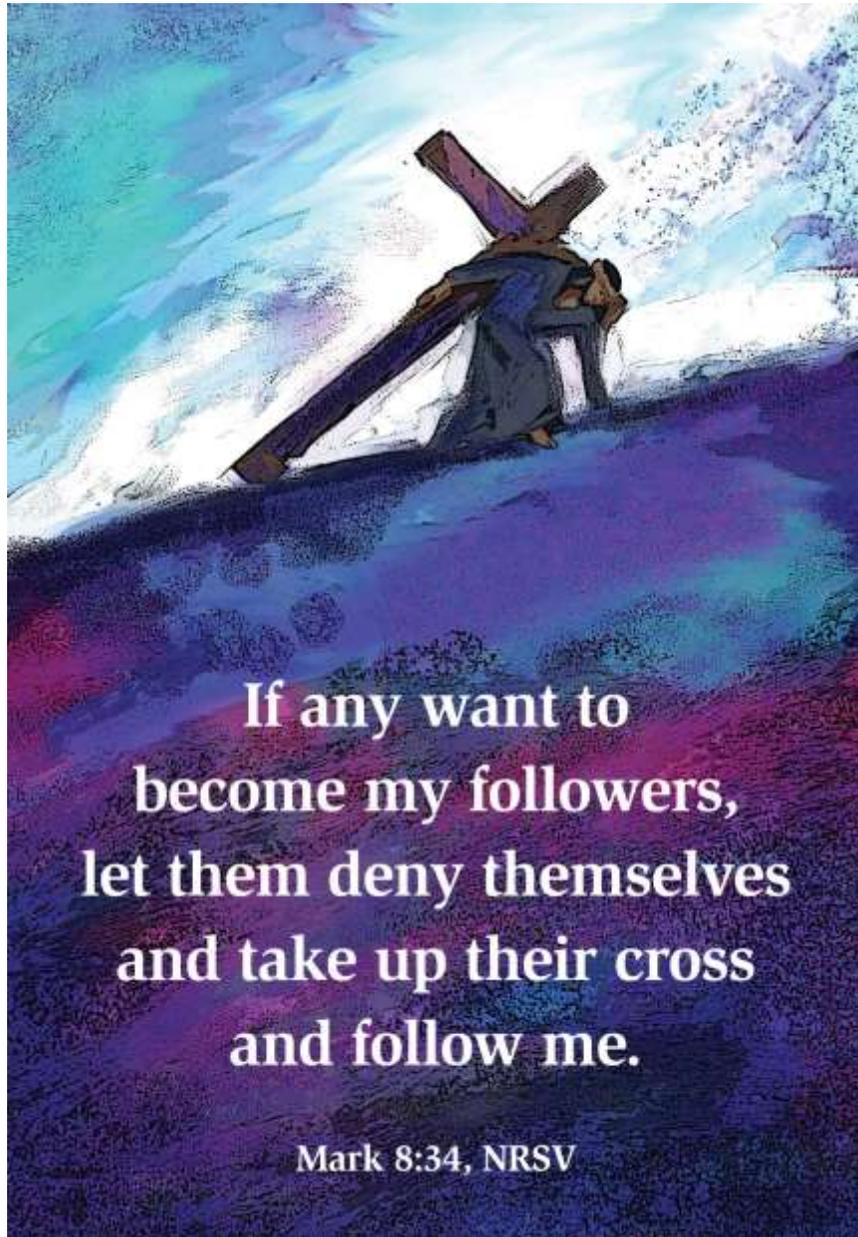
3 Take up your cross, heed not the shame,
and let your foolish heart be still;
the Lord for you accepted death
upon a cross, on Calv'ry's hill.

4 Take up your cross, then, in his strength,
and calmly ev'ry danger brave:
it guides you to abundant life
and leads to vict'ry o'er the grave.

5 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.

Words: *Charles W. Everest (1833)*
Music: *Bourbon*





If any want to
become my followers,
let them deny themselves
and take up their cross
and follow me.

Mark 8:34, NRSV

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
309 S. Jackson St.
Jackson, MI 49201
Phone: 517-787-3370
Email: church@stpauljxmi.org
Website: www.stpauljxmi.org
"Like Us" on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/stpauljxmi