



SERVICE ORDER
Sunday, 25 February
Second Sunday in Lent



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Lord God,
you know that by ourselves we have no strength.
Defend us from all calamities that may happen to the body,
and cleanse us from all evil thoughts that may attack the soul.
We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Welcome this day to the second step on our Lenten Journey.
We come with great hope and expectation as we walk the way of Christ.
Today's journey will demand much of us.
Lord, make us ready to offer ourselves to you.
Come, let us begin again the wondrous excursion.
Let us place our lives in God's abiding love.

INVOCATION

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

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made
I see the stars I hear the mighty thunder
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed

Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art
Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze**

**Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art
Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art**

**And when I think that God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die I scarce can take it in
That on the Cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin**

**Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art
Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art**

**When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home what joy shall fill my heart
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim my God how great Thou art**

**Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art
Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art how great Thou art**

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CONFESSION OF SINS

*Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins,
and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.*

**Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor helpless sinner, confess to You all my sins,
and repent of all the evil I have done. I have deeply displeased You and deserve Your
punishment in time and in eternity. But I am sorry for my sins, and I ask You, for the**

**sake of the holy innocent sufferings and death of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, to be
gracious and merciful to me. Amen.**

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to
die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He
has given the right to become children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit.
Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.*

GOD FORGIVES

..... peace be with you.
Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

LORD HAVE MERCY

(spoken)

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

SONG OF ADORATION -PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost
Amen**

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The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of Abraham and Sarah, we remember with gratitude your covenant that undergirds our lives with certainty and gives us peace. Through the gift of your Son you freed us from sin and death. Bless us with your Spirit so that our lives may reflect the same commitment, faithfulness and sacrificial love you show to us. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

PSALM 22:23-31

*23 You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you descendants of Jacob, honour him!*
Revere him, all you descendants of Israel!

*24 For he has not despised or scorned
the suffering of the afflicted one;
he has not hidden his face from him
but has listened to his cry for help.*

25 From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly;
before those who fear you I will fulfil my vows.

*26 The poor will eat and be satisfied;
those who seek the LORD will praise him –*
may your hearts live for ever!

*27 All the ends of the earth
will remember and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
will bow down before him,*

*28 for dominion belongs to the LORD
and he rules over the nations.*

*29 All the rich of the earth will feast and worship;
all who go down to the dust will kneel before him –*
those who cannot keep themselves alive.

30 Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord.

*31 They will proclaim his righteousness,
declaring to a people yet unborn:
He has done it!*

**Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever.**

Amen.

BIBLE READING

FIRST READING: Genesis 17:1-7,15,16 God's promise to Abraham and Sarah

17 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. ²Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.' ³Abram fell face down, and God said to him, ⁴'As for me, this is my covenant with you: you will be the father of many nations. ⁵No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. ⁶I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

After the reading

This is the Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25 Abraham received God's promise through faith

¹³ It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. ¹⁴ For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, ¹⁵ because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶ Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring – not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. ¹⁷ As it is written: 'I have made you a father of many nations.' He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed – the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not. ¹⁸ Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, 'So shall your offspring be.' ¹⁹ Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead – since he was about a hundred years old – and that Sarah's womb was also dead. ²⁰ Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. ²² This is why 'it was credited to him as righteousness.' ²³ The words 'it was credited to him' were written not for him alone, ²⁴ but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness – for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. ²⁵ He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38 The cost of discipleship

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. 'Get behind me, Satan!' he said. 'You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.' ³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save their life^[a] will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? ³⁷ Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels.'

After the reading
This is the gospel of the LORD.
Praise be to You, O Christ.

How Great is our God

**The splendour of the King, clothed in majesty;
let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.**

**How great is our God! Sing with me: how great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

**And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.
The God-head, Three-in-One, Father, Spirit, Son,
the Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.**

**How great is our God! Sing with me: how great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

**Name above all names, worthy of all praise.
My heart will sing: how great is our God!**

**How great is our God! Sing with me: how great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves
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MESSAGE

At this point you may wish to watch the Sermon.
For Church YouTube Channel ([click here](#))
For LCA Worship Resources ([click here](#))

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,
from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

STANDING ON THE PROMISES

**Standing on the promises of Christ my King
Through eternal ages let His praises ring
Glory in the highest I will shout and sing
Standing on the promises of God**

**Standing standing Standing on the promises of God my Savior
Standing standing I'm standing on the promises of God**

**Standing on the promises that cannot fail
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail
By the living Word of God I shall prevail
Standing on the promises of God**

**Standing standing Standing on the promises of God my Savior
Standing standing I'm standing on the promises of God**

**Standing on the promises I now can see
Perfect present cleansing in the blood for me
Standing in the liberty where Christ makes free
Standing on the promises of God**

**Standing standing Standing on the promises of God my Savior
Standing standing I'm standing on the promises of God**

**Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord
Bound to Him eternally by love's strong cord
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's Sword
Standing on the promises of God**

**Standing standing Standing on the promises of God my Savior
Standing standing I'm standing on the promises of God**

**Standing on the promises I cannot fall
List'ning ev'ry moment to the Spirit's call
Resting in my Savior as my All in All
Standing on the promises of God**

**Standing standing Standing on the promises of God my Savior
Standing standing I'm standing on the promises of God**

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OFFERING PRAYER

Lord God, help us always rely on your promises to us. Strengthen us for service as your followers. Lead us to forget ourselves for your sake and give of ourselves for others. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God called Abraham to follow him and promised him a son through whom blessing would come to all nations. Let us pray for the people of every nation, that God would bless them through Jesus Christ his Son.

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for sending your Son to speak to us in your holy word. Bring good fruit to the reading and preaching of your word Sunday by Sunday around the globe. Direct all pastors into the truth of Christ, and unite your people in a true hearing of Christ.

*Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer.***

You promised to make Abraham the father of many nations and through Sarah and Hagar your promises came to birth. Bring peace to nations and peoples that are divided. Prevent war in countries where there is unrest. Bring an end to oppressive rule and the use of terror. And direct our Prime Minister *Anthony Albanese* and all world leaders into wise and just courses of action.

*Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer.***

You protected Abraham while he made his home in foreign lands. Protect all who are far from their homes. Watch over our armed forces overseas. And give a new home to those whose home countries are unsafe.

*Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer.***

You blessed the marriage of Abraham and Sarah into old age. Unite all married couples in loyalty and loving service, and give them the blessing of children. And we pray for those who remain childless against their wishes - have mercy on them and hear their prayers.

*Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer.***

When the time was right, you took Abraham and Sarah to be with you in heaven. Comfort those who mourn the loss of loved ones. Keep the eyes of all who suffer loss fixed on Jesus.

*Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer.***

Support all who are sick or suffering in any way. Meet the needs of all we know to be in want, and whom we now name silently in our hearts (*brief silence*).

*Lord in your mercy... **hear our prayer.***

Bless the families, students, and staff at all Grace Learning Places. This week we specially pray for Grace Lutheran Primary School Students Sunny & Valentina in 1B, Emir in 1O, Rebecca in 1C, Eli & Fletcher in 2M, Cemre & Sophia in 3H, Katherine &

Millie in 4C, Christian, Harriett & Oliver in 5B and staff members Sarah P & Christina M. Please provide for all their needs and guide them into your truth and love.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, you justified Abraham because he believed your promise. Grant that all may believe in your Son, Jesus Christ, so that they may not come into judgment, but receive life, forgiveness, and salvation, through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come,
Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours
now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING TO SHARE

May you walk before God faithfully.
May you walk before God faithfully.
May you trust in God's promises with all your heart.
May you trust in God's promises with all your heart.
May God do big things in you and through you, now and always.
May God do big things in you and through you, now and always. Amen.

MIGHTY TO SAVE

**Everyone needs compassion, a love that's never failing:
let mercy fall on me. Everyone needs forgiveness,
the kindness of a Saviour: the hope of nations.**

**Saviour, He can move the mountains, my God is mighty to save,
He is mighty to save. Forever, Author of Salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave.**

**So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures;
fill my life again. I give my life to follow
everything that I believe in; now I surrender.**

**Saviour, He can move the mountains, my God is mighty to save,
He is mighty to save. Forever, Author of Salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave.**

**Shine Your light and let the whole world see
we're singing for the glory of the risen king.
Jesus, shine Your light and let the whole world see
we're singing for the glory of the risen king Jesus.**

**Saviour, He can move the mountains, my God is mighty to save,
He is mighty to save. Forever, Author of Salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave.**

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HYMNS AND SONGS

First reading: Genesis 17:1-7,15,16

LHS

456 The God of Abraham praise G7

AT

403 God of Abraham (selected verses)

Second reading: Romans 4:13-25

LHS

142 We all believe in one true God* G3

322 Dear Christians, one and all rejoice* G3

323 Blessed are the sons of God *G4

324 Salvation unto us has come *

326 O how great is Thy compassion * G3

413 Why should cross and trial grieve me?

AT

130 I am covered over

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

LHS

156 Jesus our Saviour, of true joy the giver* G3

336 'Come follow me', the Saviour spake* G3

351 'Take up thy cross', the Saviour said G9

361 Let us ever walk with Jesus* G5

385 With all my heart I love Thee, Lord* G7

750 When Jesus lived among us G7

AT

261 From heaven you came, helpless babe

401 Follow me

413 Will you come and follow me

495 Come and follow me

506 O let's get up to love and serve