

Welcoming all in the name of Christ

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at 8 a.m. February 25, 2024: The Second Sunday in Lent

THE WORD OF GOD

All stand as the Celebrant enters the Chapel.

Penitential Order and Decalogue BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, page 351

Kyrie Book of Common Prayer, page 356

The Collect of the Day All remain standing.

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

The Readings The texts of the Readings are provided inside

The Lesson

The Psalm

The Epistle

The Holy Gospel

Response before the Gospel Glory to you, Lord Christ.
Response after the Gospel Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

The Nicene Creed All standing BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, page 358

The Prayers of the People

The Peace

All may greet one another in the Lord's name.

Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer All stand.

The four Prayer Book forms of the Eucharistic Prayer begin on page 361. Following the proclamation of "Holy, holy, holy," the congregation may stand or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer (traditional form) BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, page 364

The Breaking of the Bread A brief silence is kept.

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the Altar rail. Those not wishing to receive Communion may come forward for a blessing.

Post-Communion Prayer BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, page 365 or 366 All pray together, kneeling.

The Blessing

Dismissal All respond: Thanks be to God.



The Second Sunday in Lent February 25, 2024 9 a.m. The Holy Eucharist, Rite II



Welcoming all in the name of Christ

Prelude

From Homage à Frescobaldi Prélude au Kyrie Elevation Jean Langlais

THE WORD OF GOD

All stand as the ministers enter.

Penitential Order & Decalogue

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, page 351

Trisagion sung three times



Collect of the Day

The Lesson

The Readings All sit for the Lessons and Psalm.

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Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalm 22:22-30 All say together.

The Epistle

Romans 4:13-25

Sequence Hymn

My faith looks up to thee

LIFT EVERY VOICE & SING, 88, stanzas 1–3

The Holy Gospel All standing

Mark 8:31-38

Response before the Gospel Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Response after the Gospel Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Homily

The Rev. Geoffrey S. Royce

The Nicene Creed Congregation standing

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, page 358

The Prayers of the People Congregation standing

Intercessor O Lord, we put our trust in you;

People have mercy on us.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

All may greet one another.

Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn The God of Abr'ham praise HYMNAL, 401, stanzas 1, 4, 5 All stand and sing together.

Eucharistic Prayer A

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, page 361

Sanctus Holy, holy, holy Lord All sing together

HYMNAL, S 129

Hymnal "S"-numbers refer to Service Music, printed at the front of the Hymnal.

The service continues on page 362 of The Book of Common Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer All say together

The Breaking of the Bread (A brief silence is kept.)

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.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Those not wishing to receive Communion may come forward for a blessing. Parents are encouraged to bring children to receive Communion or a blessing.

Postcommunion Prayer All say together

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, page 366

The Blessing

Final Hymn The Christ who died but rose again

HYMNAL, 447

Dismissal All respond Thanks be to God.

Postlude Prelude & Fugue in C minor

Johann Sebastian Bach

All who wish to listen to the postlude from the Choir Stalls are invited to do so.

Classes begin at 10 a.m.:

Christian Formation for children and youth;

Gospel & Breakfast with Young Adult Ministry and Parents of Little Ones in the Evans Room; The Priest and Rabbi Class in McClintic Hall.



Join us at 10 a.m. in McClintic Hall

Rabbi Aaron Bisno and the Rev. Jonathon Jensen continue to teach a class together. We will focus on the great stories of Judaism in the Book of Genesis. Sessions are recorded and posted to Calvary's YouTube page with a link in the Friday email. All are welcome to attend.

Those wishing to make offerings by electronic transfer may use this QR Code to do so:





315 Shady Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15206 412.661.0120 | email: calvary@calvarypgh.org | www.calvarypgh.org Office Hours – 9 A.M. to 4 P.M., Monday through Friday

■ CALVARY'S CLERGY AND STAFF

The Rev. Jonathon W. Jensen, Rector
The Rev. Cameron J. Soulis, Associate Rector
The Rev. Geoffrey S. Royce, Deacon
The Rev. Ruth Bosch Becker, Assisting Pastor
The Rev. Carol Henley, Assisting Priest
Rabbi Aaron Bisno, Rabbi-in-Residence
Ms. Deanna Briody, McNulty Intern
Dr. Alan Lewis, Director of Music
Jon Tyillian, Assistant Organist
Lynda Kennedy, Director of Finance

Vicki Rispoli, Director of Children's Formation
Kenneth Smith, Director of Communications
Kim Pieratt, Parish Administrator
Jim Gubash, Head Sexton
Adam Augustine, Ron Johnston,
Mary Ann Packer, Guy Tillman, Sextons
Vivian Rispoli, A/V Technician
David Ieong, Senior Warden
Wendy Lomicka, Junior Warden
Lauren Ernst, Treasurer
Daniel Geroni, Assistant Treasurer

- The Vestry -

2024 Jennifer De Rosa David Ieong Donald MacLeod, Jr. Laura Marchl 2025 Adam Bailey Kate Burroughs Lucy Douglas Peter Lewis

2026 David Riehl Wendy Lomicka James Manning Vanessa Sterling 2027 John Allison Elaine Effort Ian Everhart Lisa Nevola

Sarah Wilson, secretary

The Parish Council –

2024 Jonathan Callard Jean Carr Emma Schauf 2025 Ann Augustine Mary Jane Bent Jeannine Farina 2026 Michele Bender Sue DeWalt, *President* Stanley Nevola 2027 Charles R. Altman Diana Page Ray Richter Anoo Verghis

Clergy Contact Information

Please feel free to contact any of our clergy. We are ready to help.

- The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, jjensen@calvarypgh.org
- The Rev. Cameron Soulis, csoulis@calvarypgh.org
- Deacon Geoffrey Royce, groyce@calvarypgh.org
 - Rabbi Aaron Bisno, rabbi@calvarypgh.org
 - Deanna Briody, dbriody@calvarypgh.org



February 25, 2024 - The Second Sunday in Lent

Our Parish Life

Girl Scout Cookies!

Lily will be fulfilling Girl Scout cookie orders on **TODAY and Sunday, March 3** after the 11 a.m. service. Please bring cash or a check to receive your pre-ordered cookies. Thank you for supporting our Girl Scout Troop!

Evening Prayer

As one of your Lenten disciplines, consider joining with other parishioners at Calvary for the service of Evening Prayer at 6 p.m. in the Lady Chapel each Monday and Thursday of Lent. We'll meet each Monday and Thursday through March 21. Praying at certain points of the day has its origins in Judaism and was practiced in the early church and monastic traditions. Evening Prayer is derived from the monastic prayer services and is one of the Daily Offices found in our *Book of Common Prayer*. The service of Evening Prayer is about 20 minutes long and includes Psalms, Scripture, and Prayers for the day (but no sermon or music). If you have questions or are interested in helping to lead this service, please contact Steve Shandor (steve.shandor@gmail.com) or Michael Salmon (oriolefish@gmail.com).

Christ-Centered Yoga

Christ-Centered Yoga continues on Monday nights **through March 11, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** Every-body and all-bodies are welcome. You may join any week! We meet in the Parish Hall for 20-30 minutes of yoga, followed by journaling. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat or beach towel, and paper and pen for journaling. Optional items to bring are yoga blocks, and/or a bath or beach towel for your knees, hips, etc. on the hard floor.

Christ-Centered Yoga is led by Calvary parishioner, Elizabeth Hepburn Miller. Please contact her with questions or concerns at www.bebyelizabeth.com or email Elizabeth@BeByElizabeth.com.

Prayer and Anointing for Healing on Sundays at 11 a.m.

The ministry of healing prayer is rooted in Jesus' own ministry, a significant portion of which involved healing and caring for those who suffered in body, mind and spirit. Throughout the season of Lent, we will offer healing prayer by anointing with oil and the laying on of hands during communion at the 11 a.m. service. If you would like to receive this healing prayer, please come to the Lady Chapel after you receive communion. The priest who is distributing communion at the station by the pulpit will join you there to offer this healing prayer. In Easter, we will evaluate to see if we want to continue this practice.

Gospel and Breakfast (GAB):

Sundays, 10:00 - 10:45 a.m., the Evans Room

This class is for young adults and parents of young children to meet for fellowship, light breakfast, and a discussion of the Gospel passage appointed for the day. We gather in the Evans Room on Sundays during the Christian Formation hour (10–10:45 a.m.). The nursery will be open at that time, or you can

can bring your little one(s) along if you prefer. Drop in whenever you can. No prior knowledge needed. Questions? Please contact the Rev. Cameron Soulis (csoulis@calvarypgh.org or 412.661.0120, ext. 123).

The Bookstore at Calvary

The Bookstore has a large selection of books for Lent including *Under the Fig Tree: Visual Prayers and Poems for Lent* by Roger Hutchison, which allows the reader an opportunity to reflect, slow down, and walk with Jesus as a friend and disciple, to sit with Jesus under the fig tree and talk, listen, and glimpse the face and heart of authentic love. Explore reflections of seminary students in *Praises Abound: Hymns and Meditations for Lent & Easter Week from the Seminary of the Southwest.* The collection is of selected works by students of Dr. Schulz-Widmar during his thirty-year teaching career at the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest, Austin, Texas.

The Bookstore is open on Sunday from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call the Bookstore at 412.661.0120 ext. 133 (please leave a message) or email at bookstore@calvarypgh.org and we will contact you. Cash, check, Discover®, MasterCard®, and Visa® along with touch-free payments are accepted.

Downtown Walk-in Ministry

Trinity Cathedral downtown hosts a walk-in ministry that provides the most vulnerable among us food, toiletries, clothing, and referral services. They participate along with four other downtown churches as members of the Downtown Ministerium.

They would appreciate donations of individually packaged shampoo, bar soap, razors, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dish detergent, laundry detergent, rolls of toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, and diapers (especially size 4 and 5). Clothing donations of adult underwear and socks is also in demand.

There is a collection box in the Parish Hall. Thank You!

Lenten Reading and Discussion Group – Julian of Norwich

Are you interested in deepening your Lenten observance, by sharing and reflecting together on a beautiful spiritual classic? Join us on **Thursdays in Lent from 6:30-7:30 p.m. (through March 21)** in the Evans Room (or by Zoom) for a guided discussion of Julian of Norwich's *Revelations of Divine Love*. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Daniel Perett (dperett@gmail.com).

The first book written in English by a woman, Julian's *Revelations* are moving meditations on God's love, compassion, and care for us, based on a vision of Christ's passion that she received when she was thought she was dying. Keenly aware of suffering and human frailty, Julian shares a deeply reassuring message of hope, joy, and peace, centered in God's wondrous, unfailing love, a perfect message for our spiritual growth in Lent.

Food of the Month

East End Cooperative Ministry operates the second largest food pantry in Pittsburgh. On their wish list in February is dry cereal; in March, it's instant mashed potatoes. Of course, you may donate any nonperishable food item. Please leave your items in the shopping cart across from the reception desk. Thank you.

Visit the Calvary website at www.calvarypgh.org

Tuesday Night 2024 Lenten Preaching Series

"Hope – Rooted in Christ"



6 P.M. Dinner • 7 P.M. Holy Eucharist with hymns and sermon

February 27

St. Thomas Preacher: The Rev. Charles Fischer 378 Delaware Ave, Oakmont

March 5

St. Stephen's Preacher: The Rev. Liddy Barlow 600 Pitt Street, Wilkinsburg

March 12

St. Andrew's Preacher: The Rev. Leslie Reimer 5801 Hampton Street, Highland Park

March 19

Redeemer Preacher: The Rev. Carter Hawley 5700 Forbes Avenue, Squirrel Hill

Altar Flowers

Help us keep the church altars in full bloom, including the newest one in the transept narthex, by donating flowers in memory of, or in honor of, someone special. If you would like to place a memorial listing, please contact Kim Pieratt in the church office at 412.661.0120, ext. 111.

Plastic Recycling

Thank you to the many people who are recycling plastic film and bags to the box located in the Parish House lobby across from the reception desk. You are helping to keep thousands of pounds of waste out of landfills. (And, yes, bubble wrap is recyclable!)

Notices for the Sunday service bulletin must be received by the end of the day on Wednesday each week. Please email your notice to calvary@calvarypgh.org

The Calendar

Sunday February 25, 2024

The Second Sunday in Lent

The Holy Eucharist at 8, 9, and 11 a.m.

10:00 A.M. Children/Youth Formation

10:00 A.M. Priest/Rabbi Class

10:00 A.M. Gospel and Breakfast (GAB)

10:00 A.M. Choir Warm-up 11:00 A.M. Children's Liturgy 12:00 P.M. Coffee Hour

12:00 P.M. Finance Committee Meeting

Monday February 26, 2024

Photini, the Samaritan Woman, c. 67

6:00 P.M. AGO Dinner and Meeting

6:00 P.M. Evening Prayer
6:15 P.M. Vestry Dinner
6:30 P.M. Christ-centered Yoga
7:00 P.M. Vestry Meeting
7:00 P.M. Contemplative Prayer

Tuesday February 27, 2024

George Herbert, Priest and Poet, 1633

11:00 A.M. Staff Meeting

6:00 P.M. Lenten Preaching Series

at St. Thomas, Oakmont

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Wednesday February 28, 2024

Anna Julia Haywood Cooper, Educator, 1964

9:00 A.M. Wednesday Workspace 10:00 A.M. ESL Conversation Class

12:00 P.M. Holy Eucharist 6:00 P.M. Interlude Group

Thursday February 29, 2024

6:00 P.M. Evening Prayer

6:30 P.M. Lenten Reading Series

6:30 P.M. Mahjong 6:30 P.M. Inquirer's Class 7:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

Friday March 1, 2024 *David of Wales, Bishop, 672*

Agape Deadline

Saturday March 2, 2024

Chad of Lichfield, Bishop, 672

12:00 P.M. Adwa Celebration

Sunday March 3, 2024

The Third Sunday in Lent

The Holy Eucharist at 8, 9, and 11 a.m.

10:00 A.M. Children/Youth Formation

10:00 A.M. Priest/Rabbi Class

10:00 A.M. Gospel and Breakfast (GAB)

10:00 A.M. Choir Warm-up
11:00 A.M. Children's Liturgy
11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist with

Heinz Chapel Choir

12:00 P.M. Coffee Hour

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

EASTER DAY MEMORIALS

no later than Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024.
bulletin, please fill out this form and return it, with your donation,
If you would like to have your loved ones remembered in the Easter Day

Name (as you would like it to appear):
Donor's name:
Donor's telephone: ()
Please mail to: Lynda Kennedy, Calvary Episcopal Church,

315 Shady Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206-4388

The Prayers of the People

For the Anglican Communion, and for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, and The Anglican Church of Tanzania.

For the Episcopal Church, and for The Most Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop.

For the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh and for The Right Reverend Dr. Ketlen A. Solak, Bishop.

For the parishes of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, especially Emmanuel Episcopal Church, North Side, and the Rev. Don Youse, Jr., M.D.

Let us pray for those serving in the armed forces:

Christine DeForest, Tres Mellor, Robert Weaver, Jon Danchik, Chris Claunch, George Rossman, Brian Bongiovi, Lauren Laessig.

For those who are ill or convalescing:

Erica, Elise Power, Henry Albee, Jamie Rogers, Phyllis Ernst, Hattie Mauch, Judith Baskin, ++Michael Curry, Jeff Arberman, James Knight, Roy Murphy, Joan Rollins, Nancy Hudak, Janet, David Clark, Josh Butler, Kate, Jean Oh, Andrea, Beth Gallis, Thomas Gallagher, Jean Carver, Daniel Perett, Judith Morgan, Janice Myers, Lucy Duffy, Earl, Susan MacLeod, Marilyn Devereaux, Diana Jannetta, Pat, Judy, Shannon, Emily, Kristen, John Lovelace.

Let us remember those who continue in our prayers:

William Marchl+, Charles Mullen, David Rollins, Charlotta Ross, Mimi Doboy, Charlie Quillin, Holly Best, Marie Houston, Nikki Smith, Fairfax Seay, Paula King-Smith, Phyllis Hickok, Mary Anne Marchl, Betty Howard, Richard Zack, Walter Bowman, Stan Schoen, Doreen Putnam.

Let us pray for those who have been commended to our prayers:

Betty Shandor, Marjorie Wells, Linda Augustine, Sang Oh, Dorothy Tague, Tom Vig, Heidi Murrin, Joachim Bielert, Marilyn Corstange, Gary McCann, Dave Bruton, Alyson Holt, Debra Teton, Patricia, Carol Ann R., Jennifer S., Laura B., Patricia M., Marian G., Charles, Jeremiah McClung, Dave Arlotti, Mike, Ed Cohen, Carol, Hayden, Brian, Meredith G., Janie Leighton, Devlin Cato, Rebecca Rogovin, John, Nancy, Steve, Ernie, Betsy Mastaglio, Jason Durand, Barbara G., Paul Thompson, Lou and Nancy M., Cathie Keenan, Mary Kay D., Marsha Dilts, Eileen Simmons, Al Churley, Barbara, Judy, Mark Steinberg, Michael C., Anthony, Helene Burke, Walter Simmons, Alex, Aster, Gail, Megan and Mike and family, Judy, Jill W. and children, Katherine Plank, Marie Churley, April DeLucia, Stefania, Edward, Kathleen, Joe Hardy, Cathy Rielly-Goddard, Avi and family, Lisa, Kam Murrin, Dena Gallagher and family, Frankie Schell, Max and Leah Weiss, Mary G., Lynn Jolly, Paul Jolly, Paul Marvy family, Arnold Shurkin, Linda Almasy-Hohmann, David Hohmann, Marsha McElwain, Harry DeLuce, Chris Chaney, Kristen, Annette Bowen, Stefan, Denise Wolff Oetinger, John Rinozzi, Vincent Esposito, Katy Reeder, Allison, Rita Rose, Betty Chandler, Jon Burnett, Kevin Ayala, John Pranikoff.

For people throughout the world living with HIV and AIDS.

For caregivers.

For those who have died: Laurel Wemett (Fred Roth's cousin), Marcia Peterman (the Muldoons' sister-in-law), Sal Ricottone (Diane Styles' nephew-in-law), Jerollyn McMahon (David Charonis' friend).

The Altar flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of

Ralph P. Brooks, by Clementine Brooks Hooper.

Laura Mabon Childs, by her family.

Jane E. Hammer, by her family.

Mrs. Richard C. Long and her son, Ensign Richard C. Long, II.

[To add or remove names from the Prayer List, please contact Kim Pieratt at the church office: 412.661.0120, ext. 111; kpieratt@calvarypgh.org]

Participants in Today's Services

8 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

9 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Chalice Bearers Elizabeth Slaymaker, Florence Atwood Ushers Lucy Weingartner, Lea Carone, Lyn Orr

11 a.m. - The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

VergerAdam Bailey

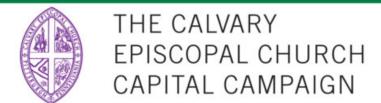
AcolytesLily Arrington, Quinton Bohna,

Reed Van Schenck, Virginia Choi-Durham

Chalice Bearers Elaine Effort, George Davis, Fred Roth Ushers Jeffrey Hovis, Dan Prevade, Mike Kelly

Coffee Hour Host The Calvary Choir

Flower DeliveryGillian Cannell, Louise Kay Woodside



PRESERVE • SUSTAIN • SHARE

Now that we have officially entered the public phase of the campaign, we are planning and organizing many different ways in which to share the Case and plans with you. The first of those are coming up soon, and we hope that many of you will take the opportunity to engage with fellow parishioners, enjoy some nourishment, and learn more about the campaign.

On **Thursday, March 7th at 1 p.m.,** we will host an Afternoon Tea at Calvary, complete with requisite tea sandwiches and sweets. The following **Sunday, March 10 at about 12:15 (following the 11 o'clock service Coffee Hour),** we will host a Lunch and Learn session, providing a light lunch, beverages, and dessert. Please do sign up as soon as possible so we know how many people to expect and can plan accordingly. You may do so by sending an email to campaign@calvarypgh.org or by calling the campaign phone at 412.735.6918.

The Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

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.*

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: The Word of the LORD. Congregation: 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.
- 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.

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

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans [4:13-25]

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham 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 trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader: The Word of the LORD. Congregation: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Mark [8:31-38]

Response before the Gospel: 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."

Response after the Gospel: Praise to you, LORD Christ.