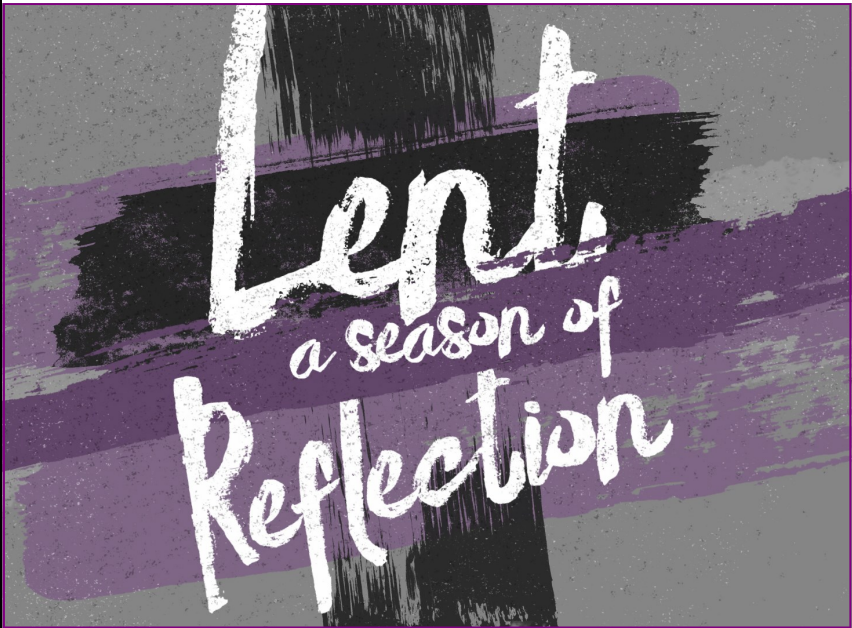


**EVENING WORSHIP
IN THE COURTYARD**



**FEBRUARY 24, 2021
7:00 P.M.**

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Presider: Bless the Lord my soul,

People: **And bless God's holy name.**

Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray

People: **Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 9:13-21

Lector: Let us mark in holy scripture the good news of God for our lives and for the world.

Furthermore, the Lord said to me, 'I have seen that this people is indeed a stubborn people. Let me alone that I may destroy them and blot out their name from under heaven; and I will make of you a nation mightier and more numerous than they.'

So I turned and went down from the mountain, while the mountain was ablaze; the two tablets of the covenant were in my two hands. Then I saw that you had indeed sinned against the Lord your God, by casting for yourselves an image of a calf; you had been quick to turn from the way that the Lord had commanded you. So I took hold of the two tablets and flung them from my two hands, smashing them before your eyes. Then I lay prostrate before the Lord as before, for forty days and forty nights; I neither ate bread nor drank water, because of all the sin you had committed, provoking the Lord by doing what was evil in his sight. For I was afraid that the anger that the Lord bore against you was so fierce that he would destroy you. But the Lord listened to me that time also. The Lord was so angry with Aaron that he was ready to destroy him, but I interceded also on behalf of Aaron at that same time. Then I took the sinful thing you had made, the calf, and burned it with fire and crushed it, grinding it thoroughly, until it was reduced to dust; and I threw the dust of it into the stream that runs down the mountain.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF PRAISE *Ubi Caritas*

The musical score is for a song of praise titled "Ubi Caritas". It is written in 3/4 time and features piano accompaniment on both staves. The lyrics are provided in both Latin and English. The first system of music includes the following lyrics:

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
 Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,

The second system of music includes the following lyrics:

u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.
 live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.

The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and a triplet of eighth notes in the second system.

SECOND READING: HEBREWS 3:12-19

Take care, brothers and sisters, that none of you may have an evil, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.

But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today’, so that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partners of Christ, if only we hold our first confidence firm to the end. As it is said, ‘Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.’ Now who were they who heard and yet were rebellious? Was it not all those who left Egypt under the leadership of Moses? But with whom was he angry for forty years? Was it not those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, if not to those who were disobedient? So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

A REFLECTION

A LENTEN CREED *from Traveling to Easter with Jesus as our guide*

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs.

We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.

We believe in the renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.

We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts.

We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine.

We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The People respond by singing the first verse of the song.

Leader: Christ Jesus, sent by God to reveal his love to all human beings, we pray to you.

Em C6 D G/B C

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call

5 Am6 B Em C6 D G6 Am B Em

an - s - w - e - r me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O

Leader: Christ Jesus, until your last breath you cared for others and you gave your life for love, we pray to you.

People: *O Lord hear my prayer...* (sung)

Leader: Christ Jesus, risen from the dead you call your disciples your brothers and you lead us to the Father, Lord we pray to you.

People: *O Lord hear my prayer...* (sung)

Leader: Christ Jesus, risen from the dead you call your disciples your brothers and you lead us to the Father, Lord we pray to you.

People: *O Lord hear my prayer...* (sung)

Leader: Christ Jesus, everyone will recognize us as your friends when we love each other, we pray to you.

People: *O Lord hear my prayer...* (sung)

Leader: Christ Jesus, our own destiny is rooted in communion with you, we pray to you.

People: *O Lord hear my prayer...* (sung)

Leader: Christ Jesus, in you we become brothers and sisters for each other, make us grow in peace and reconciliation. We pray to you.

People: *O Lord hear my prayer...* (sung)

THE CONFESSION

Presider: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People: 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 ABSOLUTION

Presider: 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.

People: Amen.

THE PEACE

Presider: O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God.

Presider: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

Presider: Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

“Lent is a time for discipline, for confession, for honesty, not because God is mean or fault-finding or finger-pointing but because he wants us to know the joy of being cleaned out, ready for all the good things he now has in store. — N.T. Wright



OUR MINISTERS

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Hale, Marylee Sauder, Mary Waskowicz

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Equilla Curry, Parish Administrator
Gina Keiser, Financial Secretary
Richard Kuhn, Sexton
Ben McNaboe, Interim Organist
Maria Weaver-Hollowniczky, Nursery and Security

PRIESTS & CANONS ASSOCIATED WITH ST. JOHN'S

Canon William F. Honaman, DHL
The Rev. Faith D'Urbano
The Rev. Elizabeth Mollard

GROW IN GOD, ACT IN SERVICE, WITNESS IN LOVE