

Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish

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March 5, 2023 – Second Sunday in Lent

Welcome in Jesus' name.

We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.



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WELCOME TO WORSHIP

March 5, 2023

Second Sunday in Lent

Prelude/Procession/Bells

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness:**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.

L: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for Repentance and God's mercy.
(Silence for Private Confession)

Holy God,

C: we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

L: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: Amen.

***Opening Hymn: "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters" ELW #445**

Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Wave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,
One with Christ in living, dying, by your spirit, children, heirs.

Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit born.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

Text: Ruth Duck, B. 1947

Music: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985

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***Apostolic Greeting:**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***Kyrie:**

Setting 10, page 203

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.

We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.

Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.

Have mercy on us Lord; make sin and shame depart.

Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts

***The Prayer of the Day:**

O God, **our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Scripture Reading:

Genesis 12:1-4a

The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and

make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ^{4a}So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm Reading:

Psalm 121

L: I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

C: My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.

L: The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

C: Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;

L: the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

C: the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

L: The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

C: The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.

Scripture Reading:

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. ¹³For 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. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For 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, ¹⁷as 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.

L: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Sermon

***Gospel Acclamation:** “We are Turning”

We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -

slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

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***Holy Gospel:**

John 3: 1-17

L: The Holy Gospel according to the Book of John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”

⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

***Hymn:** "God Loved the World"

ELW #323

1 God loved the world so that he gave
his only Son the lost to save,
that all who would in him believe
should everlasting life receive.

2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
who was made flesh and suffered death;
all who confide in Christ alone
are built on this chief cornerstone.

3 If you are ill, if death draws near,
this truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus rescues us from death;
that is the firmest ground of faith.

4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
forgives all sins that you have done,
and justified by Jesus' blood,
your baptism grants the highest good.

5 All glory to the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
be praise now and eternally!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846-1923, alt.
Music: Edward miller, 1731-1807, adapt.

***Apostle's Creed:**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

***Prayers of the People:** (Sing throughout prayers as directed)

O God, We Call

The musical score is written for a single voice part on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "O God, we call, O God, we call, from deep in - side we yearn, from deep in - side we yearn, from deep in - side we yearn for you." The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

Text: Linnea Good, b. 1962
Music: O GOD, WE CALL, Linnea Good
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***Peace:**

L: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Offering: (children may bring offerings forward)

***Offertory Hymn:** "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

ELW 597 (v. 1 & 3)

1 My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood
sustain me in the raging flood;
when all supports are washed away,
he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne! *Refrain*

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.
Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

***Offertory Prayer:**

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving:**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***Holy, Holy, Holy:**

Setting 10, page 207, ELW

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heav'n 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, hosanna in the highest.

***Words of Institution**

***The Lord's Prayer:**

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymns:

"Lamb of God"

Setting 10 page 208, ELW

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
you suffered death our lives to save; have mercy now, we pray.

2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You set us free from guilt and gave; have mercy now we pray.

3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
Eternal peace with God you made; give us your peace, we pray.

"Precious Lord, Take my Hand"

ELW #773

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993

Music: George N. Allen, 1812-1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey

“This is Christ’s Body”

This is Christ's body, broken and blest.
Feed us with mercy and love. (with mercy and love.)
We are Christ's body, broken and blest.
Heal us and make us one.

Text: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960
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“Amazing Grace”

ELW #779

1 Amazing grace!– how sweet the sound–
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

“Amazing Grace” Music by: John Newton
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*Communion Blessing

*Communion Prayer:

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.
Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

Amen.

*Benediction:

God, the giver of love, ☩ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn:** "Lift High the Cross"

ELW #660

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. **Refrain**

2 All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brows the seal of him who died. **Refrain**

3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. **Refrain**

4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory! **Refrain**

"Lift High the Cross" Music by: Sydney H. Nicholson Copyright: 1974 Hope Publishing Company
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***Dismissal:**

L: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.