

# Grace Weekly: Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2018

*Education Classes for all ages at 9:15 am throughout building.*

*\*denotes music in the 10:30 am liturgy*



**\*Prelude**

*Intermezzo in A-minor, Op. 76, No. 7*

Johannes Brahms

Dr. Lillian Pearson, *Interim Organist & Choir Director*

**\*Gathering Hymn 401**

The God of Abraham Praise

*Leoni*

## 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.*

## First Reading: 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."

## Psalm 22:22-30 (*Read responsively by whole verse, beginning with the lectern side.*)

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.

## Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

For 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. 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.

## The Holy Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

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."

### \*Anthem at the Offertory

*Lord of the Dance*

arr. Mark Hayes

Marlene Hyatt, Mezzo Soprano

### \*Communion Hymn 691

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

*Olivet*

### \*Recessional Hymn 636

How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints of the Lord

*Foundation*

### \*Postlude

*Jig Fugue in C-major*

Dietrich Buxtehude

## In our Prayers

Members of Grace Church: Barbara Jo, Bob & Gwen, Bill, Diane & Maribeth, Carol, Dale, David & Anne, Doug & Mary Elizabeth, Paul, Rachel & Mackie, Sandy, and Shane

Friends of Grace: Alene, Arthur & Loran, Andy, Andy & Beth, Andrew & Carol, Angela, Barbie, Ben & Cassie, Carl, Chet, Donna & Clint, Drew, Flo, Francis, Earnest, George, Glenna, Gloria, Hank, Heather, Helen, Jack, Jackie, James, Jeff, Jerri, Jolly, Josh & Jennifer, Kathryn, Kristen, Lana, Logan, Louise, Lou & Jane, Madeline & Dakota, Matthew, Patricia, Pauline, Rina, Sue, Stephanie, Steve, Jesse, Lori, Mahalia, Ray, Sascha & Megan, Wendy, and the men and women in our Armed Forces.

In Our Cycles of Prayers this week, we remember: St. David's, Cullowhee; Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America, The Most Revd. Sturdie Downs Primate of IARCA & Bishop of Nicaragua

## Serving This Week

**Choir:** Kathy Alley, Jackie Blevins, Diane & Bill Collins, Pam Davis, Nancy Fergusson, Mary & Mike Hartman, Marlene Hyatt, Mary Alice & Michael Lodico, Ann Rothermel, Joanne Thrower, Kathleen & Bob Vogt, Paula & Peter Welling

**Altar Guild:** Spring Allen, Melanie Cyre

**Coffee Hour:** Mary Lou Daily (8:00) Kent & Crystal Clary (10:30)

**Collection Counters:** Bob Tope, Dan Linker

**Crucifer/Server & Torchbearers:** Jack Geist, Kathy Alley, Susan Williams

**Lectors:** Bob Tope (8:00) Mary Lockey (10:30)

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Lori Yearse, Gretchen Tope, Donna Buckner (8:00)  
Susan Williams, Annelle Woggon, John Zellar (10:30)

**Ushers:** Lisa Hardeman; Melanie Walt, Phyllis Watson

**Eucharistic Visitor:** Deacon Ray

## Today

### EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES

\*Children Ages 3 - 6 – Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (Downstairs)  
Ages 7 - 10 – Godly Play (Downstairs)

\*Youth: Rite 13 (across from Library)

\*Adults: "*Sanctuary of the Spirit* ." Emily Chatfield-Lusto and Paula Welling will help us explore the idea of spirituality as a migration: "A migration of a whole people going together from one home in search of another. Everyone comes along. Everyone is needed. Conformity is not necessary. Not even agreement." Please reread chapters 1 and 12. Copies of the book may be checked out from the library.

## Announcements

**Wednesdays in Lent:** Join us on Wednesdays through March 21 for a simple dinner and fellowship (5:30 pm) and a program (6:00 pm). We'll get weekly updates on "Lent Madness" (a spoof on March Madness where you root for saints rather than basketball teams) to see which saints are progressing toward the Golden Halo and learn about their lives and ministries along the way. We'll also spend some time on key passages from the Gospel of Luke as we are led in a group Bible Studies by different groups from around the parish.

**Men of Grace and Episcopal Church Women Breakfast and Program:** Saturday, March 3, 9:30 am Thatcher Hall. Cory Vaillancourt will share his undercover experiences as a homeless man in Haywood County. Followed by ECW business meeting to plan 2018 projects! Please RSVP [mldaily7@gmail.com](mailto:mldaily7@gmail.com).

**Altar Guild Information Meeting:** Saturday, March 3, 11:00 – 11:30 am, Meet the parishioners whose ministry is to care for the altar, vestments, vessels, and altar linens of the parish. Altar Guild members prepare the sanctuary for services, and clean up afterwards. Altar Guild members frequently supervise the decoration of the sanctuary of the parish with flowers. Please feel free to join us and find out more about the ministry. Contact: Melanie Walt @ 828-734-4383 for more information.

## Looking Ahead

**Pantry Sunday** is next Sunday. Canned or boxed soups, pasta, spaghetti sauce, eggs, and peanut butter are items needed. You may also place a monetary donation in the offertory plate made payable to "Grace Church" with "Food Pantry" marked on the memo line OR donate via the website under online giving for the Food Pantry.

**Rector's Discretionary Fund.** On the first Sunday of each month, all loose cash collected and any checks specifically marked for the Rector's Discretionary Fund will be deposited into the account. The funds are used at the Rector's discretion to help those in need.

## Beyond Our Doors

**Interfaith Peace Conference at Lake Junaluska Conference Center, Thursday – Sunday, March 1-4<sup>th</sup>** "Meeting the Other: Can We Talk?" We are gravitating toward conversation only with those with whom we agree on issues. We have barricaded our communities of faith and failed to reach out to our brothers and sisters of the three Abrahamic faiths, much less other faiths or those who advocate no religious belief. At the conference, we will demonstrate the art of building bridges of godly love and participation in holy conversation. We can agree to disagree with civility and respect while upholding the core values of our various traditions. Call 800-222-4930 or visit [www.lakejunaluska.com](http://www.lakejunaluska.com).

**Green Forum at Grace Episcopal Church, Morganton, NC, Saturday, March 17, 7:00 pm**, featuring Mr. Fred Bahnson of Wake Forest Divinity School. Mr. Bahnson will address the spirituality of agricultural stewardship and sustainable eating. Former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, said of Mr. Bahnson's most recent book *Soil and Sacrament*: "Fred Bahnson succeeds in showing how our practices of cultivating the environment and producing our food can become an integral part of a 'gospel for all creation.' In a culture obsessed with both growth and control, his spiritual insight is a gentle but clear challenge."

### Regular Gatherings February 26– March 2, 2018 (\* = open to all to attend)

Dream Work Group, Tuesday, 9:00 am Library

\*Outreach Committee, Tuesday, 5:00 pm, Library

\*Open Library Use, Wednesday, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

\*Holy Eucharist and Healing Service, Wednesday, 12:00 noon, Sanctuary

\*Lent Wednesday Night Supper & Programs, 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm Thatcher Hall

\*Marthas, Thursday, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon, Marthas Room

\*Sisters of Grace, Thursday, 6:00 pm. Private home, contact Mary Lou Daily for more information ([mldaily7@gmail.com](mailto:mldaily7@gmail.com))

\*Friday Morning Prayer, 8:00 am, at Panacea Coffee House

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*The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin, Bishop of Western North Carolina*

*The Rev. Joslyn Ogden Schaefer, Rector*

*The Rev. Br. Raymond Escott, n/OSB, Deacon*

*The Rev. Orion Davis, The Rev. Dr. Dan Matthews, & The Rev. Harriet Simmons, Priest Associates*

*Paula Brandt, Communications Administrator*

*Alyson Nelson, Bookkeeper*

*Dawna Keilman, Nursery Supervisor*

*Peter Zinglersen, Sexton*

#### Members of the Vestry

Bill Collins, Sr. Warden (2018)

Louisa Lunt (2018)

Linda Sexton (2018)

Linda Deeb (2019)

Rob Viau (2019)

Paula Welling, Jr. Warden (2019)

Crystal Clary (2020)

Mary Hartman (2020)

Kenneth Ratcliffe (2020)

Mary Lockey, Clerk

Fred Deeb, Treasurer