

Sunday, March 1st, 2026
Second Sunday in Lent (Violet)

First Reading

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS (12:1-4A)

Now 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. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I 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." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Psalm 121

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

My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.

Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep;

The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

So that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; it is he who shall keep you safe.

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore.

Second Reading

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS (4:1-5, 13-17)

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. 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.

Gospel

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN (3:1-17)

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He 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 unless God is with that person." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus 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?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The 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." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"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. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"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.

"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.

Open : CP347 **The God of Abraham Praise** v1,2,4

Tune: Leoni Text : Daniel ben Judah (T.Olivers)

The God of Abraham praise,
who reigns enthroned above;
Ancient of everlasting days,
and God of love;
Jehovah, great I AM!
by earth and heaven confessed:
I bow and bless the sacred Name
forever blest.

The great I AM has sworn;
I on this oath depend.
I shall, on eagles' wings upborne,
to heaven ascend.
I shall behold God's face;
I shall God's power adore,
and sing the wonders of God's grace
forevermore

Triumphant hosts on high
give thanks eternally
and "Holy, holy, holy" cry,
"great Trinity!"
Hail Abraham's God and ours!
One mighty hymn we raise:
all power and majesty be yours
and endless praise!

Tract : **Speak ,O Lord**

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend (c) 2005 Thankyou Music Ltd

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Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your holy word
Take Your truth plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen
today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory

Teach us Lord full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity
Cause our faith to rise
Cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority
Words of power that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

---gospel --

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us
Speak O Lord till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory

Offertory : SANC 33 **Now in This Banquet**
Marty Haugen (c) 1986 GIA Publications Inc.
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Now in this banquet, Christ is our bread;
Here shall all hungers be fed.
Bread that is broken, wine that is poured,
Love is the sign of our Lord.

Lord, you can open hearts that are stone;
Live in our flesh and our bone;
Lead us to wonder, myst'ry and grace,
One in your loving embrace.

God of our journeys, daybreak to night;
Lead us to justice and light.
Grant us compassion, strength for the
day,
Wisdom to walk in your way.

Bread that is broken, wine that is poured,
Love is the sign of our Lord.
Bread that is broken, wine that is poured,
Love is the sign of our Lord

Close : CP602 **Lift High the Cross** v1,2,3
Tune: Crucifer Text: G.Kitchin , S.E. Murray, S. Nicholson
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Lift high the cross,
the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore
His glorious name

Come Christian people
sing your praises shout !
If we are silent ,
even stones cry out.

Lift high the cross,
the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore
His glorious name

Lift high the cross,
the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore
His glorious name

Lift high the cross,
the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore
His glorious name

Jesus, you wept to
see our human strife:
Teach us compassion
for each human life

Peace was Your plea,
and peace Your loving theme:
Let peace be our passport,
peace a living dream.