

HOLY EUCHARIST

Lent II – February 28, 2021

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN

The God of Abraham praise

Hymnal 401

A PENITENTIAL ORDER

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant Hear the commandments of God to God's people

Response to each commandment: **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

- I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.
- You shall not make for yourself any idol.
- You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
- Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
- Honor your father and your mother.
- You shall not commit murder.
- You shall not commit adultery.
- You shall not steal.
- You shall not be a false witness.
- You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

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

All: **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.**

Priest: 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. **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And God's Spirit with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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**

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

READING FROM THE HEBREW BIBLE

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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

People **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 God 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 God 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; **God rules over the nations.**
- 28 To God 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 God; 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 God has done.**

THE GOSPEL

Mark 8:31-38

The gospels are stories of Jesus' life

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

People **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.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON Believe in what you cannot see The Rev. Dr. Kate Heichler

PRAYER SONG My peace I give you (Taize)

My peace I give you, my peace I leave you; trou-ble not your hearts; My
peace I give you, my peace I leave you; be not a - fraid. My

OUR PRAYERS (*In small groups*)

Father, we thank you for (*every blessing we can name*)

Jesus, please bless... (*nations, people, communities, churches, ministers...*)

Holy Spirit, please give us... (*spiritual gifts to be God's peacemakers*)

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY HYMN El Shaddai (*Words on last page*) Michael Card and John Thompson

You can make your offering online at <https://christchurchlaplata.org/donate/>

Or text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts.

THE HOLY MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The people are invited to participate praying the words in bold type.

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the holy.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the holy and living God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right to give you thanks, Almighty God, you who were before all worlds began,

who is outside of time; who will be for all eternity.

You are our beginning, and in you we find our perfect end.

All our years and moments are hidden in you;

Through You all things were made; in you all things are sustained.

God, you made us for relationship,
to live in harmony with you and all creation.

Whenever we walk away from you, that harmony is broken;
Our intimacy with you becomes fractured and strained;
Our relationships are marked by tension and strife.

The very creation become broken and disordered, with storms and tumults.
Peace becomes the exception; "not-peace" our daily bread.

Into this "not-peace" you sent your beloved Son, Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
He came as one of us, and saw how we lived with each other and the earth,
And he said STOP.

He said, "Why are you afraid?"
He stilled storms, banished evil, healed diseases, overcame death.
He said, "Peace be with you," and breathed upon his disciples his Holy Spirit.
He gives us peace in unpeaceful times;
he makes us agents of change in an unpeaceful world.

On his night of greatest disruption, our Lord had supper with his friends.
He took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to
them, and said, **"Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."**

After supper, he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,
**"Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me."**

And so we stop, to remember Him:
We remember Him in the breaking of the bread.
We recall His suffering and death;
We celebrate his rising and ascension.
We look forward to his eternal reign of peace.

Come upon this bread and this wine, most Holy Spirit:
Feed our spirits with the very life of Christ himself.
Come to us, Lord Jesus, by your Holy Spirit:
Give us your peace in all circumstances; the joy to trust you.

Fill us now, we pray, as we come to your table to enjoy in part the feast of perfect peace we will one day
enjoy in fullness, through Christ. By Him, and with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor
and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.
And all the people said: AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Jesus, Lamb of God, **have mercy on us;**
Jesus, Bearer of our sins: **have mercy on us;**
Jesus, Redeemer of the world: **Give us your peace.**

THE COMMUNION

Consecrated bread will be brought to all present in person; those worshipping at home are invited to partake of consecrated bread and wine at home tables.

PRAYER OF THANKS

Most Holy God, thank you for feeding us with the life of our Lord Jesus in these signs of His body and blood, poured out for us. Thank you for refreshing us, restoring us, renewing us deep in our spirits. As you fill us with that peace that only comes from you, make us bearers of peace into the divisions of this world, that those who are frenzied and fearful may find rest in You. In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we pray: Amen.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

Take up your cross (*Words on last page*)

Hymnal 675

PRAYERS FOR BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

COMMUNITY NEWS

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ
People **Thanks be to God!**

THE PRAYERS

We Pray For: Those in need of healing – Melanie Coe, Alicia Cordelle, Steve Blamer, John MacCoy, Barry Kercher, Beverly Stone, Gary Murray, Susan White, Benji, Garner Burroughs, Andie Corby, Betty Bowling, Susie Marshall, Jane and Michelle, Bill Grothe.

Those Who Have Died:

Birthdays: Tim Rybarczyk, 3/5

Anniversaries:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN "SPA FOR THE SPIRIT" Saturday March 6, 9-12:30

This Lent we kick off a new offering: quarterly online retreat mornings called "Spa for the Spirit." Even a few hours of retreat can sweeten our spirits, renew and recharge our souls. The first one will take place on Saturday, March 6, starting at 9 am and ending by 12:30. Rev. Kate will lead this retreat time focusing on the spiritual practices that keep us "fit" as peacemakers - forgiveness, hope, hospitality and peace. Click [here](#) to register; Zoom link and more information will be emailed. Share the [Facebook Event](#) and invite others. Download the flyer [here](#) and share!

Spa for the Spirit

Online Retreat Morning
Saturday, March 6, 9-12:30



SPIRITUAL FITNESS FOR PEACE-MAKERS

Kate Heichler will lead us in a time of at-home retreat, exploring ways to keep our spirits in shape, cultivating the practices of forgiveness, hope, hospitality and peace.

Click here to register; link and info will be sent.

Christ Church in La Plata & Christ Church Wayside

LENT: BECOMING PEACE-MAKERS Our times call us to Christ's work of peacemaking. But how? In Sunday worship, and in a study group in the Sunday Learning Hour, we will focus on five elements of peacemaking. Sign up [here](#). (The study group can be repeated on Tuesday mornings if there is sufficient demand) The Wednesday night bible study will study passages related to peacemaking.

THE MIRACLE BOX: The new donation box sitting outside Christ Church in La Plata's Food Pantry building keeps yielding new treasures. And as Bill Hoxie gets these out to folks in need, including people living in tents in the woods, he is learning more about what they need. Needed items include: hand warmers; 1LB propane tanks; Warm socks; Soap; Toothpaste; Women's hygiene pads; Wash cloths; Towels; Shampoo/ conditioner
If you can purchase some of these items, please email Bill at hoxieinc@aol.com
If you'd like to contribute to funding these purchase, donate to the [Giving Fund](#).

ONLINE GIVING - You can text a donation - text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts. You can give to Open Plate or toward your pledge. A 2.6% fee is charged for credit or debit cards - you'll have the option to include that in your gift or not. Standard text message rates do apply. You can also give online - go to www.christchurchlaplata.org and scroll down to the "Donate" link.

GIVING FUND – Please consider making a dedicated donation to the Giving Fund, from which Rev. Kate can offer help. You can write a check or give online at the donate page on our website, www.christchurchlaplata.org, or text "CCLAPLATA" to 73256, and follow the prompts, designating Giving Fund. You now have the option to make pledge offerings or donations online, or by text.

HYMNS

OPENING HYMN

The God of Abraham praise, vv 1, 3, 4

Hymnal 401

1 The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above;
Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love;
the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed:
we bow and bless the sacred Name for ever blest.

3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Righteousness,
triumphant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;
on Zion's sacred height his kingdom he maintains,
and, glorious with his saints in light, for ever reigns."

4 The God who reigns on high the great archangels sing,
and "Holy, holy, holy," cry, "Almighty King!
Who was, and is, the same, and evermore shall be:
eternal Father. great I AM, we worship thee."

OFFERTORY HYMN

El Shaddai (*Words on last page*)

Michael Card and John Thompson

Refrain: El shaddai, el shaddai, el-elyon na adoni,
Age to age you're still the same, by the power of the name.
El shaddai, el shaddai, erkamka na adonai, we will praise and lift you high, El shaddai.

1 Through your love and through the ram,
You saved the son of Abraham;
Through the power of your hand,
You turned the sea into dry land.
To the outcast on her knees,
You were the God who really sees,
And by your might, you set your children free.

2 Through the years you've made it clear,
That the time of Christ was near,
Though the people couldn't see
What messiah ought to be.
Though your word contained the plan,
They just could not understand
Your most awesome work was done
Through the frailty of your son.

CLOSING HYMN

Take up your cross, vv.1,2,4

Hymnal 675

1 "Take up your cross," the Savior said,
"if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross with willing heart,
and humbly follow after me."

2 Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill your weak spirit with alarm;
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength,
and calmly ev'ry danger brave:
it guides you to abundant life
and leads to vict'ry o'er the grave.