

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 1, 2015

Worship – 9:30 a.m.

Celebration hour – 11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Carol Buller, Accompanist

WELCOME

Debra Sapp-Yarwood, Worship Leader

CALL TO WORSHIP INSPIRED BY PSALM 22*

God does not forsake us.
Even before God broke into the world as one of us,
our forebears walked in faith,
fearing the Mystery and yet trusting.
We are called to walk through fear and in faith too.

We take comfort:
God does not shudder at our afflictions, or abandon us,
but listens and hears.
God esteems the poor.
God delights in seekers.

Our hearts leap and find hope in God, who is unrestricted by time or finitude.

A day will come when all God's creatures shall seek the Mystery,
lay aside pride, violence and trifles, in order to worship,
generation upon generation.

Our world is God's to govern.
In awe, with our ancestors and our descendants,
We worship God together.

***HYMN #328**

O God, our help in ages past

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 17:1-7; 15-16
Mark 8:31-38

SILENT AND SPOKEN MEDITATION ON SCRIPTURE**

Seeker: God, what do these stories mean?
Why all this emphasis on nations and generations?
What are you asking of us?

Reader: “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.”

**Cong: The encircling love of God has no beginning or end;
neither start nor finish. It is as deep as the need.**

Seeker: God, you made a strange promise to Abram and Sarai.
You changed their names and they became parents in old age.
They both laughed in disbelief. We, too, have trouble
understanding your ways.

Reader: And God said to Abraham,
“I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of
you, and kings shall come from you...And I will bless your wife
and she shall give rise to nations and kings shall come from her.”

**Cong: The encircling love of God has no beginning or end;
neither start nor finish. It is as deep as the need.**

Seeker: So what is this covenant all about? Why does it matter to us?
How can we take part in this covenant today?

Reader: Jesus said, “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.”

**Cong: The encircling love of God has no beginning or end;
neither start nor finish. It is as deep as the need.**

SERMON

Crowns and crosses

ANTHEM

The prayer of St. Francis

Clausen

(Please reserve expressions of appreciation for Community Building time)

COMMUNION SERVICE

- Words of Institution and Invitation
- Sharing Bread and Cup

Please come forward by the center aisle, take the bread and dip it in the cup of juice. Return by the side aisle. To receive a blessing in lieu of partaking in the bread and cup, please present yourself with hands folded. Gluten free crackers and grapes are also available.

- * Hymn of Response #1

What is this place

COMMUNITY BUILDING TIME

INTRODUCTIONS

We are glad you are here. Once the attendance register reaches the center aisle, please pass it back to the outer aisle.

SHARING JOY

SHARING CONCERNS

PRAYING TOGETHER

Slips of paper are available in the attendance register for those who wish to offer joys and concerns silently and anonymously. These papers, if put in the offering plate, will be placed in the prayer bowl at the front of the sanctuary.

OFFERING

SHARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEDICATION: LUCILLE LARSON YOUTH EDUCATION CENTER

*SUNG BENEDICTION #STS 16

Peace before us

*POSTLUDE

* Please stand as you are able.

Unless otherwise indicated, hymns are in the blue *Hymnal: A Worship Book*.
Songs designated “STS” are in the purple *Sing the Story* songbook.

**Special thanks to Debra Sapp-Yarwood for writing the call to worship and Lonnie Buerge for preparing the meditation on scripture.



Kindergarten-5th graders, please go directly to the WorshipArts room (114) following today's sung benediction. There is a special project awaiting you today!

RAINBOW MENNONITE CHURCH

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