

February 25

Welcome and Outreach Announcements

Prelude: Great Is Thy Faithfulness Lee Schouw - Handbells

Call to Worship

Let us sing and praise our God out loud.

In the midst of the crowd, we will praise you. In our community, we will bear witness to our faith.

Let us set our minds on divine things

Let us take up our cross and follow Christ.

Gathering Song The Summons 726

1 "Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"

2 "Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?"

3 "Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"

4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"

5 Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, the public spectacle of the cross calls us to account. We hesitate when opportunities arise to speak of you and not bold to proclaim. We are shy in faith. Forgive our reticence of faith and the ways we fail to serve as public witnesses. Help us be your candlelight held high to set the world aglow. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Gloria Patri

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Scripture: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

17 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.

2 And I will make my covenant between me and you and will make you exceedingly numerous."

3 Then Abram fell on his face, and God said to him,

4 "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations.

5 No longer shall your name be Abram,[b] but your name shall be Abraham,[c] for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations.

6 I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

7 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.

15 God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name.

16 I will bless her and also give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Anthem: My Savior's Love - Chancel Choir

Scripture: Mark 8:31-38

31 Then he began to teach them 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.

32 He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

33 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."

34 He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

35 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.

36 For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?

37 Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

38 Those who are ashamed of me and of my words[c] 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.”

Message

Responding Song The Church of Christ in Every Age (verses 1-3) 320

1 The church of Christ in every age,
beset by change but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.

2 Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live before they die.

3 Then let the servant church arise,
a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity.

Prayers of the People
Lord's Prayer

Receiving our Offering

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Sending Song Sing to the Lord - Praise Band
Sing to the Lord with all of your heart
Sing of the glory that's due to His name
Sing to the Lord with all of your soul
Join all of Heaven and Earth to proclaim

Refrain: You are the Lord the Savior of all
God of creation we praise you
We sing the songs that awaken the dawn
God of creation we praise you

Sing to the Lord with all of your mind
With understanding give thanks to the King

Sing to the Lord with all of your strength
Living our lives as a praise offering (Refrain)

Blessing

Postlude When I Survey the Wondrous Cross and Above All