

Second Sunday of Lent

March 5, 2023

Hymns:

Gathering Hymn: ELW 805 *Lead On, O King Eternal*
Hymn of the Day: ELW 769 *If You But Trust in God to Guide You*
Sending Hymn: ELW 796 *How Firm a Foundation*

Readings:

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

Readings for the Assembly

¹The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I 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.”

^{4a}So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Psalm: Psalm 121

Readings for the Assembly

1. I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
2. **My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**
3. The Lord will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.
4. **Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**
5. the Lord watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
6. **the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**
7. The Lord will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.
8. **The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Readings for the Assembly

¹What are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts God who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³For 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. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all Abraham’s 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, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom Abraham believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Gospel: John 3:1-17

Readings for the Assembly

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jewish people. ²He 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 apart from the presence of God.”

³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the dominion of God without being born from above.” ⁴Nicodemus said to Jesus, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?”

⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the dominion of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’

⁸The 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.”

⁹Nicodemus said to Jesus, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son-of-Man. ¹⁴And

just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son-of-Man be lifted up,
¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶For God loved the world in this way, that God gave the Son, the only begotten one,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order
that the world might be saved through him.”

Prayer List

*You may contact a member of the staff to have a prayer petition added or updated.
Please ask for permission from individuals, before including last names or identifying details.*

Aimee B. (diabetes, granddaughter of Verna Rossevelt); **Alex D.** (Verna Rossevelt’s nephew); **Amy K.** (autoimmune disorder & chronic pain); **Anne Johnson** (health concerns), added 10/3; **Barney** (from Jan Olson) added 3/11; **Beth Greathouse** (diagnosed with MS: 29-year old granddaughter of Anne and Dick Harrison); **Bill S.** (hematoma and brain surgery, friend of Verna Rossevelt); **Bill** (father of Pam Johnson) added 2/23; **Bob H. and his wife, Jill** (treatment for cancer, nephew of Richard Harrison); **Candy Mathes** (recovering from heart surgery) **Debbie Z.** (health concerns); **Diane** (colleague of Jodie P.) added 9/19; **Family and Friends of Charlene Porter** (Grandmother of Kelly Peterson, 1/16); **Greg C.** (health concerns, family friend of Kelly Peterson); **Jamie S.** (cancer; friend of the Rulifson family); **Jennifer & family** (breast cancer, friend of Anne H.); **Jim S.** (recovering from a stroke, from Kyle G.) added 10/24; **John Ceglia** (friend of Ellen Beck); **Jon L.** (lung cancer, friend of Amy Knickrehm); **Kate T.** (lyme disease, Anne Johnson’s niece); **Kris** (heart blockage & aneurism, Carol Johnson’s brother); **Launi B. and Russ B.** (she has cancer and her husband is in a long-term facility after a stroke, friends of Verna and Joe); **Lorraine** (friend of Edie's, with multiple health issues) added 12/17; **Mark Lee** (battling lung cancer) added 2/21/23; **Margaret** (colleague of Jodie P.) added 9/19; **Marilyn H.** (recovering from stroke); **Rajan** (friend of Bill P.) added 9/19; **Richard E.** (leukemia, grandson of Betty); **Rob B.** (cancer, cousin of Verna Rossevelt); **Ron W.** (Starting chemo and radiation, family friend of Kelly Peterson); **Sabina Watson** (friend of Ellen Beck); **Sandra Enger**, broken ankle, friend of Carol Johnson, added 10.16; **Steve Johnson**, (health concerns), added 10/2; **Taisa** (Hospitalized due to Covid, from Linda L.); **Tim S.** (cancer treatment, brother-in-law of Anne Johnson); **Family and friends of Chris** (brother of Carol J.); **Family and friends of Ted** (brother-in-law of Verna R.) added 2/19/23; **Fred McBride** (former member of SJU)

Lead On, O King Eternal!

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,

hence - forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

If You But Trust in God to Guide You



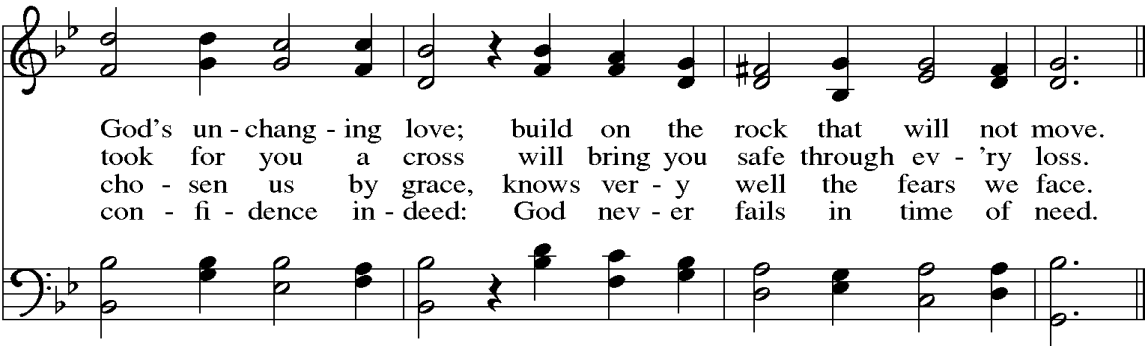
1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our

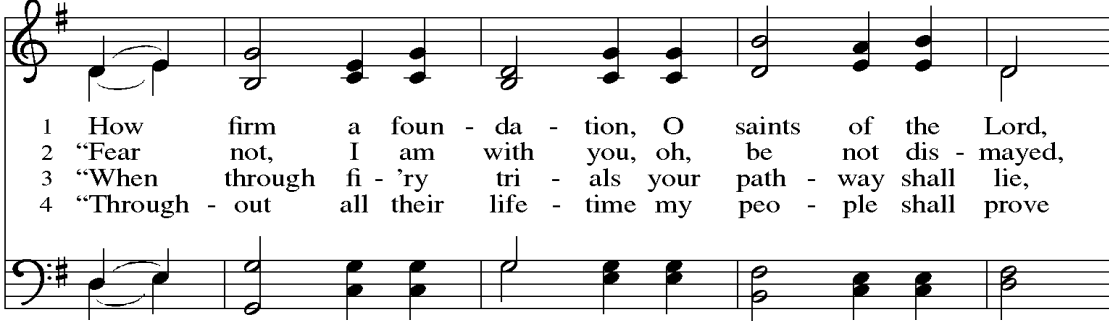


God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–1681; tr. composite
 Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark
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How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."