

**CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
February 28, 2021 – 10:30am**



*Abraham—Andrei Rublev 1408 (detail from *The Last Judgement*)*

PROCESSIONAL

The God of Abraham Praise

Hymn 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.
- ² He by himself hath sworn:
we on his oath depend;
we shall, on eagles-wings upborne, to heaven ascend:
we shall behold his face,
we shall his power adore,
And sing the wonders of his grace for evermore.
- 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."

continued...

⁵ The whole triumphant host
give thanks to God on high;
“Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost” they ever cry;
hail, Abraham’s Lord divine!
With heaven our songs we raise;
all might and majesty are thine, and endless praise.

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly
love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

KYRIE

Trisagion

Holy God
Holy and mighty
Holy Immortal One
Have mercy
Have mercy on us

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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also 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.**

THE FIRST LESSON

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 multiply you exceedingly.” Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “Behold,
my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall
your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the father of a
multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and
kings shall come forth from you. And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your
descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you
and to your descendants after you.

And God said to Abraham, “As for Sar’ ai your wife, you shall not call her name Sar’ ai, 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 be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

THE PSALM

Psalm 22:26-28, 30-32

All **I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

Cantor My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the LORD, those who seek him. May their hearts live on forever and ever!

All **I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

Cantor All the earth shall remember and return to the LORD, all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

All **I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

Cantor And my soul shall live for him, my descendants serve him.
They shall tell of the LORD to generations yet to come,
declare his saving justice to peoples yet unborn: "These are the things the LORD has done."

All **I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

THE EPISTLE

Romans 4:13-25

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. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL HYMN

Take Up Your Cross

Hymn 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;
his strength shall bear your spirit up
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

³ Take up your cross, heed not the shame,
and let your foolish heart be still;
the Lord for you accepted death
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

⁴ Take up your cross, then, in his strength,
and calmly every danger brave:
it guides you to abundant life
and leads to victory o'er the grave.

continued...

⁵ Take up your cross, and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 8:31-38

Celebrant
People

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
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."

Celebrant
People

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

Fr. Stace Tafoya

THE NICENE CREED

BPC 358

All

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Leader Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. *Silence*

All Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Leader Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. *Silence*

All Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Leader Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. *Silence*

All Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Leader Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. *Silence*

All Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Leader Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. *Silence*

All Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Leader We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. *Silence*

All Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

Celebrant Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence*

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.**

Celebrant 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.**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY

The Wondrous Mystery

¹ The wondrous mystery of boundless grace divine
 The Son became the Servant of us all
 The fullness of our God in frail humanity
 Obedient to death upon a cross

² So let us walk this path of Christ's humility
 And place each other's needs above our own
 One heart one mind one love in glorious unity
 That shines His radiant light throughout the earth

**Lifted to the highest place
 Given the name above all names
 That at the name of Jesus
 every knee should bow
 Every power and every throne
 Heaven above and earth below
 Ev'ry tongue confessing Christ the Lord**

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DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise Him, all creatures here below
 Praise Him above the Heavenly host
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost**

HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.** Hymn S-130

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of 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 of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died.**
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.
AMEN. Hymn S-146

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

All **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.

All Sing **Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.** Hymn S-164
 Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
 Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:
 give us your peace, give us your peace.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION HYMN

Devotion

**Jesus come quickly
Jesus come surely
Into my heart into my soul
My spirit at rest sweet communion
My body's salvation spirit and soul**

¹ I will believe with devotion
Never departing from Thy tender care
With every thought and emotion
Wherever I am You are with me there

² Ever before me and leading
Gently You keep me
So tender and fair
As a good and gentle shepherd
Strong as a warrior
With delicate air

³ With every thought and emotion
With every word every action of life
You are my manna from heaven
Sustaining my soul with heavenly wine

John Michael Talbot
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Celebrant Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

RECESSIONAL

Lift High the Cross

Hymn 173

**Lift high the cross the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred Name.**

¹ Led on their way by this triumphant sign
the hosts of God in conquering ranks combine

² Each newborn servant of the Crucified
bears on the brow the seal of him who died

³ O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree
as thou hast promised, draw the world to thee

⁴ So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory