

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

GOSPEL LESSON ~ Romans 4: 3, 13, 16-5:2 ~ Pages 979-980 in the pew Bible

For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ... The promise to Abraham and his descendants, that they should inherit the world, did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

That is why 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 us all, 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. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations; as he had been told, “So shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead because 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, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. That is why his faith was “reckoned to him as righteousness.” But 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 that raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was put to death for our trespasses and raised for our justification. Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

SERMON “Old Covenants: God’s Faithfulness” Rev. Frank Wyche

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles’ Creed* Inside front cover of Hymnal

\*HYMN *O God Our Help in Ages Past* #686

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY #815

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (...debts/debtors...)

\*HYMN *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* #575

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE *God Be with You* Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE Carolyn Wallace, Organist



*Second  
Sunday in Lent*

**For the  
LORD  
is good;  
his steadfast  
love endures  
forever, and  
his faithful-  
ness to all  
generations.**

*Psalm 100:5*

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**February 25, 2018 ~ 2nd Sunday in Lent**

HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 25, 2018

2nd Sunday in Lent

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

Carolyn Wallace, Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *The Lord Is in His Holy Temple* Chancel Choir

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** ~ Psalm 89: 1-2, 5, 8, 14-16

L: I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

**P: Your steadfast love exists forever, and your faithfulness is established in heaven.**

L: Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, and let them praise your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

**P: O LORD God of hosts, there is none as mighty as you. O LORD, your faithfulness surrounds you.**

L: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne, and steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

**P: Blessed are the people who know the festal shout, O LORD, who walk in the light of your countenance, who exult in your name all the day, and extol your righteousness.**

**\*UNISON OPENING PRAYER**

**Eternal God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – draw near to us as we draw near to you in this time of worship. Throughout Lent, guide us in self-examination and in repentance, and lead us into a closer relationship with you, that we may worship you and show forth your love in all our words and actions, in all our days. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

#139

**RESPONSIVE CALL TO CONFESSION** ~ Psalm 79: 9, 13

L: Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name. Deliver us and forgive our sins, for you name's sake.

**P: Then we, your people, the flock of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever; from generation to generation we will remember and proclaim your praise.**

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION** ~ From the Church of Scotland (Presbyterian)

**Compassionate and loving God, by your invitation of grace, we lay before you the burdens we carry, the suffering we endure, the issues with which we wrestle, and the memories of past wrongs, hurts, shame, and failures. May we know your forgiveness, and the healing and restorative touch of your hand, O Lord Jesus, for we confess our wrongs: our craving for earthly things; our insatiable need for worldly status, power and wealth; our words of malice and meanness; our shallow thoughts; and – above all – our pretense that we are better than we are. Fill us with the Holy Spirit that we may see our sins clearly, repent of them, and return to you.**

*(Silent prayer and personal confession)*

**RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF PARDON** ~ Psalm 103: 8-12

L: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.

**P: He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities.**

L: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who hold him in proper awe and reverence;

**P: As far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.**

L: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

**P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

#813

ANTHEM

*Be Thou My Vision*

Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S LESSON ~ *Children through 5th grade may go to Junior Church afterward*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

1st OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ~ Genesis 9: 8-17 ~ Page 7 in the pew Bible

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the cattle, and every beast of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will look upon it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant which I have established between me and all flesh that is upon the earth."

2nd OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ~ Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16 ~ Page 12 in the pew Bible

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.