

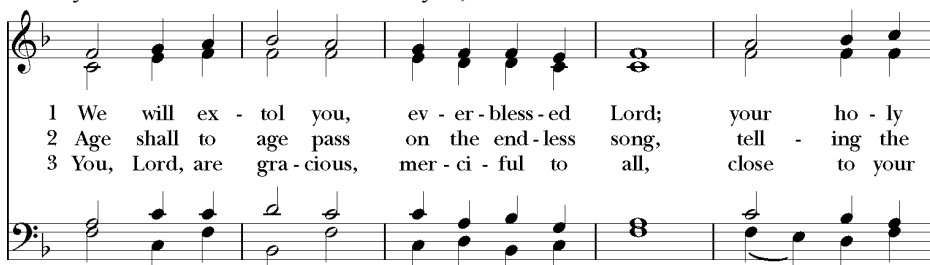
MORNING PRAYER

ST. COLUMBA'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
FR. VINCENT PIZZUTO, PRESIDING
FEBRUARY 28, 2021



LENT II

The Hymnal 1982 - #404 We will extol you, ever-blessèd Lord



1 We will ex - tol you, ev - er - bless - ed Lord; your ho - ly
 2 Age shall to age pass on the end - less song, tell - ing the
 3 You, Lord, are gra - cious, mer - ci - ful to all, close to your



Name for ev - er be a - dored; each day we live our
 won - ders which to you be - long, your might - y acts with
 chil - dren when on you they call; and slow to an - ger,



psalm to you we raise; you, God and King, are wor - thy of all
 joy and fear re - late; praise we your glo - ry while on you we
 mer - ci - ful and kind, in your com - pas - sion we your bless - ings



praise, great and un - search - a - ble in all your ways.
 wait, glad in the know - ledge of your love so great.
 find. We love you with our heart and strength and mind.

The first stanza may be repeated at the end.

O Lord open my lips!

And my mouth will proclaim your praise!

✠ Glory to You O Eternal Source, Divine Savior, and Holy Spirit:

As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.

CELEBRANT: 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.*

DEACON: Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of God and one another, in gratitude to hear the holy Word and share in the spiritual communion of Christ. In this celebration of Christ's Resurrection, let us prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship God, and entrust ourselves to the divine mercy.

Silence is kept. Then all pray together led by Deacon:

Most merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you,
Against one another, and against our Mother Earth.
Although you have made us incarnations of your Love,
We have not reflected your Divine Image in the
world.

Although you have called us to intimacy in Christ,
We have shunned you in ourselves, in others, and
in your Creation.

Although you have poured upon us the Spirit of freedom
We have preferred our slavery to our passions,
greed, and complacency.

Turn to us Lord, even when our hearts turn away from you.
Forgive us for the harm we cause to the innocent, the
vulnerable, the voiceless.

Forgive us for the harm we inflict on the very planet that
sustains us.

Instill in us a spirit of repentance.

Shake us from our complacency.

Move us to act in accordance with your Will for the love
of the planet and one another.

Awaken in us the hope of the Resurrection, that recalling
your boundless love for us we may love boundlessly in
return.

We ask this in the name of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

CELEBRANT: ☩ May 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.

THE LESSONS

[LECTOR, PLEASE UNMUTE YOUR MIC]

A reading from 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 make you exceedingly numerous.” Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from

you. 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.

God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her 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 give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God!

Psalm 22:22-30

Deus, Deus meus

[PLEASE PRAY PSALM WITH MICS MUTED]

ALL PRAY *ITALICIZED* PORTION

22 Praise the Lord, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of our God, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

23 For you do not despise nor abhor the poor in their
poverty; neither do you hide your face from them; *
but when they cry to you, you hear them.

24 My praise is of you in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who
worship you.

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek you shall praise you: *
"May your heart live forever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn
to you * and all the families of the nations shall bow
before you.

27 For kingship belongs to you, O! Lord; *
you rule over the nations.

28 To you alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before you.

29 My soul shall live for you; my descendants shall serve you; * they shall be known as the Lord's forever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *the saving deeds that you have done.

THE EPISTLE

[LECTOR PLEASE UNMUTE YOUR MIC]

A reading from Paul's Letter to the 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

Thanks be to God!

THE GOSPEL

GOSPELLER:  A reading from the Holy Gospel
According to Mark [8:31-38]

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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Christ.

SERMON

KINDLY KEEP ALL MICS MUTED DURING SERMON.

Fr. Vincent Pizzuto, PhD

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

All are invited to make their candle visible for all to see as we hold communion with one another in meditative silence for five minutes. A bell will signal the beginning and end of our meditation.

TÍRECHÁN'S CREED

From The Patrician Texts from the Book of Armagh, 670AD

Our God is the God of all,
The God of heaven and Earth,
The God of the sea and rivers,
The God of the sun and moon,
The God of all the heavenly bodies,
The God of the lofty mountains,
The God of the lowly valleys.
God is above the heavens;
And beneath the heavens.
Heaven and Earth and sea,
And everything that is in them,
Such is the abode of the Holy One.
God inspires all things,
gives life to all things,
stands above all things,

And stands beneath all things.
God enlightens the light of the sun,
strengthens the light of the night and the stars,
makes wells in the arid land and dry islands in
the sea,
And places the stars in the service of the
greater lights.
God has a Son who is co-eternal
and similar in all respects;
And neither is the Son younger than the Father,
Nor is the Father older than the Son;
And the Holy Spirit breathes in them.
And the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit
are inseparable. Amen.

THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE

Celebrant will invite us all into small groups for several minutes to exchange a sign of peace and get to know one another. If you are new to St. Columba's we welcome you. If you are a member already please extend a warm welcome to those in your group.

THE PRAYERS

DEACON: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

All Together:

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,
Forever and ever. Amen.

DEACON: And for what or whom else shall we pray?

*All are invited to voice prayers before the community,
or offer them in the silence of your heart.*

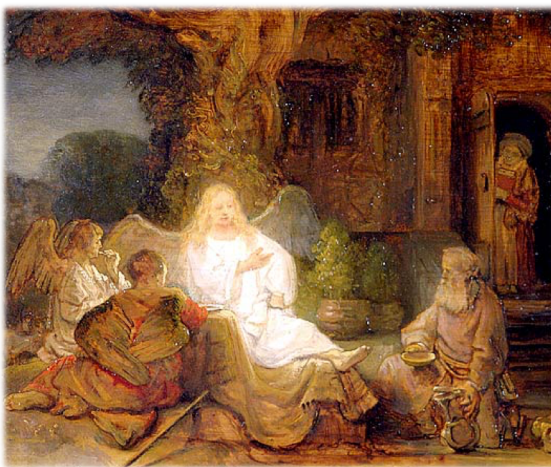
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PRAYER RESPONSE:

DEACON: Lord in your mercy...
Hear our prayer.

CELEBRANT CONCLUDES:

Lord God, hear the prayers of your people: Those we have voiced in the presence of your Assembly, those we hold in the silence of our hearts, and those for which we have yet to find words. In gratitude and love we entrust ourselves to you who knows better than we the deepest needs of our hearts. We ask this in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*



GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Celebrant and People Together

O God you have given us the grace of this time with one another to celebrate your love in spiritual communion. In Christ, you promised that where two or three are gathered, you will be here among us. Even as we long to be together in body, be now our spiritual body uniting us in heart and mind and spirit. In this time of pandemic, let longing for deeper communion with one another be the grace by which we come to know your deepest desire to be one with us. Amen.

CELEBRANT: Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

✠ And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all both now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Light of Life

Marty Haugen



1. Light of life be - yond con - - ceiv - - ing,
2. From the dawn - - ing of cre - - a - - tion,
3. In our call to be a bless - - ing,
4. Liv - ing wa - - ter of sal - - va - - tion,
5. Give us eyes to see you clear - - ly,
6. God of all our fear and sor - - row,



1. Might - y Spi - rit of our Lord;
2. You have loved us as your own;
3. May we be a bless - - ing true;
4. Be the foun - tain of each soul;
5. Make us child - ren of your light;
6. God who lives be - yond our death;



1. Give new strength to our be - - liev - - ing,
2. Stay with us through all temp - - ta - - tion,
3. May we live and die con - - fess - - ing
4. Spring - ing up in new cre - - a - - tion,
5. Give us hearts to live more near - - ly
6. Hold us close through each to - - mor - row,



1. Give us faith to live your Word.
2. Make us turn to you a - - lone.
3. Christ as Lord of all we do.
4. Flow in us and make us whole.
5. As your gos - pel shin - - ing bright.
6. Love as near as ev - - ery breath.

Interlude



DEACON: Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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OUR MINISTRY!**

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Please Email Anna Haight
who can help direct your needs to the right person:
annahaight@stcolumbasinverness.org

SATURDAY, MARCH 27

ST. COLUMBA'S OUT DOOR WORK DAY
GARDENING
CLEANING
WEEDING

COME AND SHOW YOUR LOVE!

COFFEE WITH JESUS

Take 15 minutes to get your favorite morning beverage and return to us for coffee hour small group conversation.



For those who would like to join us we will be breaking up into small groups to reflect on the Good Shepherd before coming back to share with the larger group.