

Hearing God's Call to Become Community

Prelude: "Amazing Grace!" # 546

Welcome and Announcements

***Hymn of Gathering:** "The God of Abraham Praise" # 24

1. **The God of Abraham praise. All praised be the Name, who was, and is, and is to be, is still the same; the one eternal God, ere all that now appears, the First, the Last, beyond all thought through timeless years!**
2. **God's spirit flowing free, high surging where it will—in prophet's word it spoke of old—is speaking still. Established is God's law, and changeless it shall stand, deep writ upon the human heart, on sea, or land.**
3. **God has eternal life implanted in the soul. God's love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll. Praise to the living God! All praised be the Name, who was, and is, and is to be, is still the same!**

Seeking God's Mercy and Pardon

*Responsive Call to Worship 8:30am Don Aye/10:30am Sue Raines

"Psalm 121" (see insert) # 760

Proclaiming and Hearing the Word

Children's Message Rev. Schwartz & Abigail

Text *Romans 4:1-5, 13-17* (NRSVA)

Message "Is Faith About Keeping Rules?" Rev. Schwartz

Time for Giving

Call for Our Offerings 8:30am Don Aye/10:30am Frank Morgan

***Doxology:** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" # 46

Prayer of Dedication

* = *Please stand*

Receiving the Visible and Tangible Signs of God's Grace

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Congregational/Pastoral Prayer

A Prayer of Confession # 571

Communion Meditation and Invitation 8:30am Rev. Schwartz/10:30am Frank Morgan

The Lord's Prayer

*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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen*

Communion Music: "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

***Come forward to the Lord's Table to partake of Communion**

Departing to Serve Where God Leads

Closing Hymn: "Standing on the Promises" # 552

1. **Standing on the promises of Christ my king, through eternal ages let his praises ring; glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.**

REFRAIN: Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

2. **Standing on the promises that cannot fail, when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail, by the living Word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God. REFRAIN:**

3. **Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord, bound to him eternally by love's strong cord, overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword, standing on the promises of God. REFRAIN:**

4. **Standing on the promises I cannot fail, listening every moment to the Spirit's call, resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God. REFRAIN:**

***Benediction** Rev. Schwartz

Postlude: "How Firm a Foundation" #618

March 5, 2023

Second Sunday in Lent
Liturgical Color: Violet

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 (NRSVA)

¹What then 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 him 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 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, ¹⁷as 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.

L: These are Words from the Lord

P: Thanks be to God!

First Christian Church

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Sunday, March 5, 2023 8:30am. ☩ 10:30a.m.

Welcome! May your Journey of Faith be encouraged while you seek God here today.