



Sunday, March 21, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Lent
Live Stream via
facebook.com/salcwausau
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 3:14-21

WORD

A reading from Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51:1-12

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother’s womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Fountain of living water, pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love.

Amen.

Beloved, God’s word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are ☩ forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

Amen

GATHERING HYMN

“Now the Green Blade Rises”

GREETING

KYRIE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN’S SERMON

A reading from Hebrews.

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Seed That In Earth Is Dying"

APOSTLE'S CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The response is:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

PEACE

MEAL

OFFERTORY HYMN

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

OFFERTORY PRAYER

DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

GREAT THANKSGIVING

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND CANTICLE

SENDING

BENEDICTION

HYMN

"Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Serving in Worship

Pr. Jenn Collins
Pr. Justin Smoot
Joel Freiberg - Pianist
Shirley Bickford - Layreader
Mary Shafarik - Vocalist
Doug and Alicia Gjertson - Vocalists

Technical Support

Patrick Kieper
Travis Puig
Joel Freiberg
Bob Wiederhoeft

Altar Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God by Phil and Helen Bickley in memory of Phil's sister, Ina Bickley Lewis.

Thank you for your offerings and continued support!

Now more than ever we are grateful for a gift of any amount you might share to further support the ministry of Saint Andrew. What you share makes a difference as we seek to be "open to all". For the many ways you give, thank you.

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MARCH 21, 2021
FIFTH SUNDAY
IN LENT



A time for new beginnings.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 12:20-33	The hour has come
Monday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	A new covenant from God
Tuesday	Hebrews 5:5-10	Jesus as high priest
Wednesday	2 Corinthians 3:5-18	Ministers of the new covenant
Thursday	Nehemiah 1:5-11	Nehemiah prays for his people
Friday	Hebrews 8:6-13	A better covenant
Saturday	Psalms 51:1-12	A prayer for cleansing
Sunday	Mark 14:1–15:47	The passion of Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jeremiah 31:33 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of new beginnings, help us to face our shortcomings knowing that you promise to be our God and that we are your people through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, with this food restore our bodies as your promise of love and care for us restores our hearts. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God create in you a clean heart through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord.



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MARCH 21, 2021

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*My Hope Is Built on
Nothing Less*



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Think or tell about a time you failed at something.
- Failure is a part of life, but when we learn from our mistakes, it is not a total failure, but a learning moment. When have you learned from your mistakes?
- The Bible is filled with mistakes by God's people, yet God refuses to give up on us. What does that say about the God who reaches out to us through Jesus?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Jeremiah 31:31-34.

Jeremiah is speaking to a people who are either in exile in Babylon or about to be conquered and sent to Babylon. The northern kingdom of Israel had already fallen to the Assyrians well over a hundred years before. Now the southern kingdom of Judah is doomed. The people have been unfaithful and God's promises to Abraham, Moses, and David seem to have come to naught. But Jeremiah prophesies, "Not so." God promises to find a new way, a new covenant. This passage is about God's people only because it is about the God who continues to claim them. God will not give up on the people God loves. It is the very nature and character of God not to give up on us. God finds a way by having a new covenant, a new start. What God ordains will happen: we shall be God's people and God will be our God. We are not there yet. We are people of the new covenant, but the prophesy has not happened completely. We still need to be taught, but the day is coming that God's promise will be fulfilled. How do you learn about faith in Christ?

Pray: **God of the new covenant, give us faith to trust in your promises and courage to walk in your ways through Jesus Christ, the one who came to set us free. Amen.**

SERVICE

Psalm 51 is a prayer for cleansing and pardon. Christian prison ministries reach out to inmates with the love and hope of Jesus Christ. There are many who care for the children and families of prisoners and lead Bible studies and prayer with the prisoners. Pray for those who work with inmates and their families this week.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

This is our fifth week suggesting the discipline of using the *Daily Bible Readings*. At the core of new beginnings for Christians is the work of God revealed from the cross and in the Bible. Begin each day's reading by reciting Psalm 51:10: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." Say the *Prayer for the Week* after each reading, add your own prayers, and end by saying: **Remember that you are God's, and to God you shall return.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org