

Worship for 28 February 2021 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Lent  
Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

One: O come, let us worship and bow down;

**ALL: Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.**

One: The hour is coming and is now here.

**ALL: In spirit and truth, let us worship God!**

Hymn of Invitation – “To Abraham and Sarah”

*To Abraham and Sarah the call of God was clear: “Go forth and I will show you a country rich and fair. You need not fear the journey, for I have pledged my word that you shall be my people and I will be your God.”*

*We of this generation on whom God’s hand is laid can journey to the future secure and unafraid, rejoicing in God’s goodness and trusting in this word, “That you shall be my people and I will be your God.”*

Prayer of Confession

***Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water, so that we may never thirst again. Amen.***

Scripture – Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Mark 8:31-38 (see reverse)

Reflection – “Covenantal Identity”

Prayers of the People & 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.***

The Apostles’ Creed (see reverse)

Hymn of Thanksgiving – “Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

*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.*

*Take up your cross; let not its weight fill your weak spirit with alarm; Christ’s strength shall bear your spirit up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.*

*Take up your cross, then, in Christ’s strength, and calmly every danger brave: it guides you to abundant life and leads to victory o’er the grave.*

Announcements & Blessing

-Remember to bring your non-perishable food donations for our Lenten Collection!

### **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."*

### **Mark 8:31-38**

*Then [Jesus] began to teach them 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 Apostles' Creed**

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

***What does it mean to you to let your identity be defined in God's covenant?***