CHRIST CHURCH

PORTOLA VALLEY & WOODSIDE

WELCOME!

Welcome to Christ Church - the Episcopal Church in Portola Valley
The Rev. Beth Phillips, Rector
Lauren Wittine, Director of Music

This service is a live interactive service on Zoom.
Please change your screen name to your preferred name.
You are welcome to worship with or without your own video on,
but those who are reading are asked to turn their screen on during that portion.
The service can also be found on our YouTube page.

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We will begin with a musical prelude in a few moments.

During this time of preparation, we invite you to share your prayers and petitions in the Zoom chat.

CHRIST CHURCH
PORTOLA VALLEY & WOODSIDE

The Second Sunday in Lent

Welcome!

February 28, 2021

Prelude

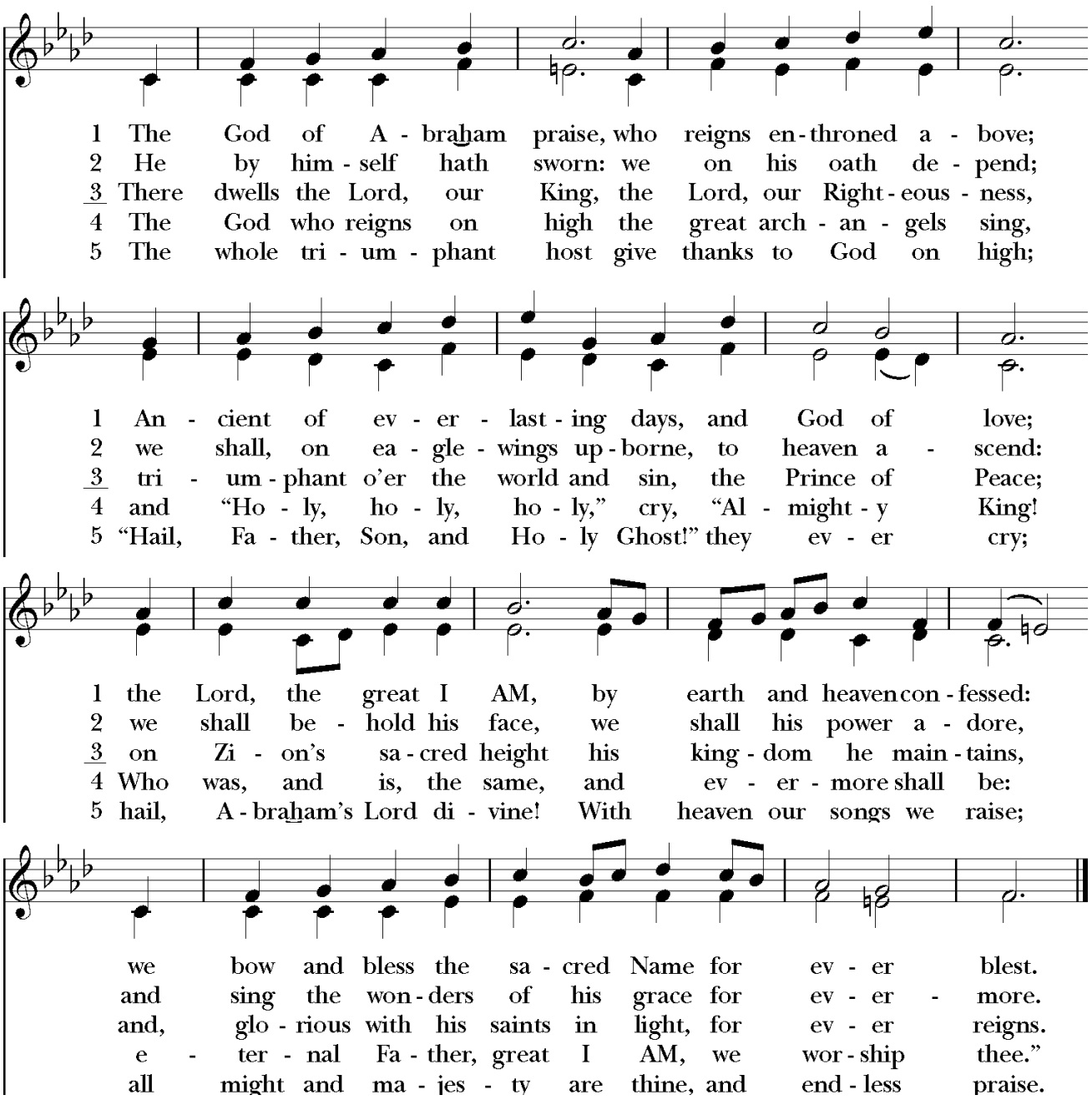
Toccata in E Minor *Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)*

Lighting of Candle(s) *After the prelude and before the opening hymn, an acolyte lights a candle in place of the candles we light each week on the altar and says:*

Acolyte We light a candle to remind us of the light that came into this world with Jesus. It symbolizes the light of Christ.

Opening Hymn #401 — The God of Abraham praise

While on mute, please join in singing:



A Penitential Order

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins;
People **His mercy endureth for ever.**

Officiant If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8, 9*

Let us confess our sins unto Almighty God.

People **Almighty and most merciful Father,**
we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
we have offended against thy holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
spare thou those who confess their faults,
restore thou those who are penitent,
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord;
and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

Officiant The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison

Officiant Lord have mercy.
People **Christ have mercy.**
Officiant Lord have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Officiant Let us pray,

Officiant 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.**

The Lesson – Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Reader A reading from Genesis.

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."

Reader Here ends the reading.

Psalm 22:22-30

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

For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them;
but when they cry to him he hears them.

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

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him:
"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord;
he rules over the nations.

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

My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn
the saving deeds that he has done.

The Epistle – Romans 4:13-25

Reader A reading from Romans.

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.

Reader Here ends the Epistle.

Sequence Anthem

Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow — Arlen Clarke (b. 1954)

Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow,
Where the blood of Christ was shed,
Perfect Man on thee did suffer,
Perfect God on thee has bled!
Here the King of all the ages,
Throned in light ere worlds could be,
Robed in mortal flesh is dying,
Crucified by sin for me.
O mysterious condescending!
O abandonment sublime!
Very God Himself is bearing
All the sufferings of time!

The Gospel – Mark 8:31-38

Celebrant The Holy Gospel according to Mark.
People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Celebrant 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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Although this will be read by one person, you are invited to say the creed aloud at home while on mute.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

You are invited to unmute yourself and join in the Prayers of the People. If the tech moderator mutes you, then it is because there is an echo or background noise that you may not be able to hear.

The Prayers of the People

Leader In this holy season let us turn to God in prayers, saying: Lord, Hear our prayer.
For our divided and restless world, that those who hold power over others may be troubled and transformed by the demands of justice and peace, we pray:

People **Lord, Hear our prayer.**

Leader For this nation and all nations, that we may generously share the produce of the land, both in plenty and in want, we pray:

People **Lord, Hear our prayer.**

Leader For the church, that during this holy season God's grace may produce in us the fruit God seeks, we pray:

People **Lord, Hear our prayer.**

Leader For this congregation, that we take this time to read, ponder and cherish the Scriptures, we pray:

People **Lord, Hear our prayer.**

Leader For *Jim Szewczak, Anne Van der Staay, and William Christensen* who are celebrating their birthdays this week, and for *Rex and Dede Jamison* who are celebrating their anniversary.

People **Lord, Hear our prayer.**

Leader For our own needs and those of others especially *Gabrielle, Tim McAdam, Anna Sandell, Jean Bertelsen, Stephen Placido* and those we now name either silently or aloud, that God may be our hope and consolation, we pray:

People **Lord, Hear our prayer.**

Leader For all who have died, especially *Megan Flynn, Michael Enright, Fern Brown Wilson, Debra Ferguson, Owen Taylor, Barbara A. Barney, Eleanor (Bunny) North, Lewis A. Todd Jr.,* and those we now name, silently or aloud [pause], that they be at peace, we pray:

People **Lord, Hear our prayer.**

The celebrant will now offer up the prayers shared this morning in our Zoom chat, concluding with "we pray:"

People **Lord, Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant *God of mercy and compassion, bring us back to you when we stray, and give us again the joy of proclaiming among the nations you saving deeds. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

People **Amen.**

The Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

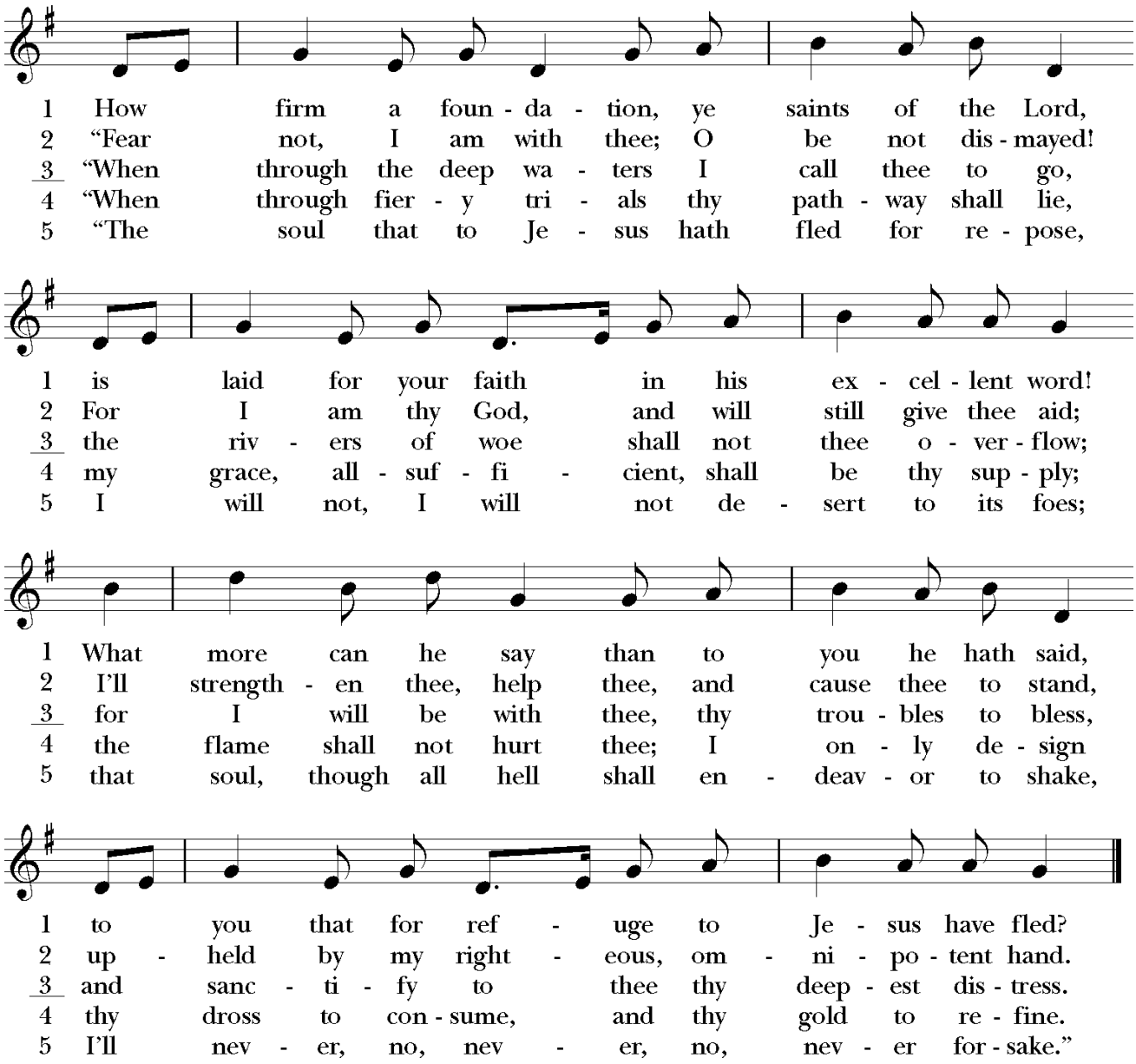
All **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Announcements *If you have any announcements regarding church matters, please select the "raise hand" icon under the participants tab at the bottom of your screen, and a host will unmute you.*

Closing Hymn #636 How firm a foundation

While on mute, please join in singing:



Dismissal

Acolyte Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stay for coffee hour!