

**First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
**Boonsboro, Maryland**  
**301-432-2278**  
**Rev. Ciara Simonson**  
**Sunday, February 28, 2021 – Second Sunday in Lent**  
**Worship Service 10:00 am**

**Organist – Gwen Pangborn**  
**Elders – Roz Johnson and Fran Cockerham**  
**Lay Leader – EJ Dean**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3331109127?pwd=VWVoOFITSGdXTm9pV2pMdE1DUnZ5UT09>

**Phone number: (301) 715 8592**  
**Meeting ID: 333 110 9127**  
**Passcode: 21713**

Greeting and Welcome- Richard Riddle

Announcements – Richard Riddle

Prayer of Invocation

**Opening Hymn #343 Amazing Grace**

**V1** – Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now am found was blind, but now I see.

**V2** – ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed

**V3** – The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

**V4**- Thro’ many dangers, toils and snares I have already come.  
‘Tis grace hath bro’t me safe thus far and grace will lead be home.

**V5** – When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.

**Lectionary readings this week from**  
**[www.lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu](http://www.lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu)**

**Responsive Reading- Psalm 22:23-31**

L – You who fear the Lord praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honor him!  
Revere him all you descendants of Israel

**A – For he has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one, he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.**

L – From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you, I will fulfill my vows.

**A – The poor will eat and be satisfied; those who seek the Lord will praise him – may your hearts live forever**

L – All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all families of the nations will bow down before him

**A – for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.**

L – All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him – those who cannot keep themselves alive.

**A – Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord.**

L – They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn.

**A – He has done it.**

Gloria Patri: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end, Amen. Amen.**

Joys and Concerns

Interlude for Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Threefold Amen

Children's Message

Special Music

Scripture Reading

*The Lesson: **Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16** (for your own reading)*

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty, walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers."

Abram fell facedown and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram, your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after

you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

God also said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai, her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations, kings of peoples will come from her.

*The Epistle: Romans 4:13-25 (for your own reading)*

It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing, and the promise is worthless because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring – not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed – the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead – since he was about a hundred years old – and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness – for us who believe in him, who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

*The Gospel: Mark 8:31-38 (for your own reading)*

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and look at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. **“Get behind me Satan.” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God but merely human concerns.”**

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: **“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For**

whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it.

What good is it for someone to gain their whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels.

And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power.

Sermon

Offering

The Doxology: **Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.**

Offertory Prayer

Invitation to Communion

**Communion Hymn – #488 Just as I am**

**V1** - Just as I am, without one plea but that thy blood was shed for me  
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come

**V2** – Just as I am and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot  
To thee whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come

Prayers of the Elders – Roz Johnson  
Sharing of the Bread and Cup

The Lord's Prayer

**Closing Hymn – #676 O Jesus, I Have Promised**

**V1** – O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end  
Be thou forever near me, My Master and my friend:  
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

**V2** – O let me feel thee near me, the world is ever near  
I see the sights that dazzle the tempting sounds I hear  
My foes are ever near me, around me and within  
But Jesus draw thou nearer and shield my soul from sin.

Benediction

Postlude