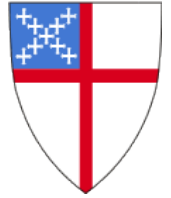


The Lessons Appointed for Use on the  
**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**February 28<sup>th</sup> & March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

Year A  
RCL



## The Collect

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.*

## Genesis 12:1-4a

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

## Psalm 25

1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my  
God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies  
triumph over me.  
2 Let none who look to you be put to  
shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their  
schemes.  
3 Show me your ways, O LORD, \* and  
teach me your paths.  
4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you  
have I trusted all the day long.  
5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion  
and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.  
6 Remember not the sins of my youth and  
my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love and for  
the sake of your goodness, O LORD.  
7 Gracious and upright are you, O LORD;  
\*  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

8 You guide the humble in doing right \*  
and teach your way to the lowly.  
9 All your paths, O LORD, are love and  
faithfulness \*  
to those who keep your covenant and your  
testimonies.  
10 For your name’s sake, O LORD, \*  
forgive my sin, for it is great.  
11 Who are they who fear the LORD? \*  
the LORD will teach them the way that they  
should choose.  
12 They shall dwell in prosperity, \*  
and their offspring shall inherit the land.  
13 The LORD is a friend to the God-  
fearing \*  
and will show them the holy covenant.  
14 My eyes are ever looking to the LORD,  
\*  
who shall pluck my feet out of the net.  
15 Turn to me and have pity on me, \*  
for I am left alone and in misery.  
16 The sorrows of my heart have  
increased; \*

bring me out of my troubles.

17 Look upon my adversity and misery \*  
and forgive me all my sin.

18 Look upon my enemies, for they are  
many, \*  
and they bear a violent hatred against me.

19 Protect my life and deliver me; \*

let me not be put to shame, for I have trusted  
in you.

20 Let integrity and uprightness preserve  
me, \*

for my hope has been in you.

21 Deliver Israel, O God, \*  
out of all their troubles.

## **Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

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.

## **John 3:1-17**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”