

**Second Sunday in Lent Lectionary:  
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18**

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup>But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup>Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." <sup>8</sup>But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" <sup>9</sup>He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." <sup>10</sup>He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup>And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup>As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

<sup>17</sup>When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup>On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates,"

**Luke 13:31-35**

<sup>31</sup>At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." <sup>32</sup>He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. <sup>33</sup>Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' <sup>34</sup>Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup>See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Palisades Presbyterian Church  
Palisades, New York 10964  
March 4, 2007



*We are a Christian  
community welcoming all  
as we seek to grow in  
faith and serve others.*

*Reflection:*

Seeing is of course very much a matter of verbalization. Unless I call my attention to what passes before my eyes, I simply won't see it.

- Annie Dillard  
Pilgrim at Tinker Creek

# Palisades Presbyterian Church

The Palisades Presbyterian Church Welcomes You

Second Sunday in Lent  
March 4, 2007



## Prelude

## Church Bell

## Introit

## Call to Worship

Leader: God is our light and our salvation.

**All: Whom then shall we fear?**

Leader: God is the strength of our lives.

**All: Of whom shall we be afraid?**

Leader: We have no one to fear, for fear has not the power of our God.

**All: No, love is the power of our God and it abounds in this place!**

Leader: Let us raise our voices in worship and song!

**All: Amen.**

*Communion of the People* All are welcome!

## *Prayer after Communion:*

In Unison...

O God, through this bread and this cup, you have made us one with you and with each other. May the unity we find at this table be a gift that we carry out into your suffering, divided world. Help us to find strength in knowing that you, the God of peace and justice, will always be with us. Amen.

## Offering our Gifts and Tithes

**\*Hymn #592** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

## **\*Prayer of Dedication**

## Offering our Joys and Concerns for Prayer

## The Prayer of Jesus

**\*Hymn #537** *Shalom, Chaverim! Farewell, Good Friends*

## Charge and Benediction

## Choral Response

## Postlude

*\*All that are able please stand.*

Dying on the cross, Jesus saves us from death, having changed the oppressor's tool of execution into a symbol of promise and eternal life. Alive with us today, we rely on him and his guidance.

Remembering all this and more, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate Jesus: his dying, rising, and his eternal presence among us.

With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you, broken in some ways as this bread will be, working in a fractured and hungry world, knowing that we are made whole in service to you. Great is the mystery of faith:

**People:**

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

**Leader:**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these your gifts of bread and fruit of the vine, that this meal may be for us a communion in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Make us one together with him and all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us in hope, and inspire us in steadfast love, so that we may serve as your faithful disciples all the days of our lives. We ask these things humbly, in the name of the one we serve.

**People: Amen**

***Blessing of the Bread & Cup:***

On the night of his arrest, Jesus took the bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, he took the cup, saying, "This is the cup of the new covenant, sealed in my blood, shed for you and for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the saving death of the risen Jesus, with us today.

**\*Hymn 488**    *The God of Abraham Praise*

**Prayer of Confession (In Unison)**

Loving God,  
you have formed a covenant with us,  
committing yourself to us  
and inviting us to walk with you.  
Yet, we sometimes resist,  
preferring our own ways,  
seeking other companions,  
thinking we know best.  
We can find ourselves distant from others,  
and farther still from you.  
Please help us to find our way back.  
Have mercy on our waywardness,  
stir us to accept what you have to offer,  
and gift us with faith  
so that we can hold the hand you have extended  
to us in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

**Silent Confession**

**Choral Response**

**Declaration of Forgiveness:**

**\*Hymn #322**            Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
                                 Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
                                 Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
                                 Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**Offering to One Another of a Sign of Peace**

**Announcements**

**Reflection on One Great Hour of Sharing**    Mercy Garland

**Children's Message**    Kathryn Cuccia

**Ordination and Installation:** Catherine Hooper as Deacon

**Prayer for Illumination**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**            Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18
- Anthem**                 *O Rest in The Lord* by Mendelssohn from Elijah
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**            The Gospel of Luke 9:31-15
- Sermon**                 *Jesus Christ, Interim Minister*
- \*Hymn #85**              *What Wondrous Love is This*

**Celebration of Communion** - All Are Welcome at the Table!

**Communion**    The Invitation to Jesus' Table

Leader:            Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

**People:**            **They will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.**

Leader:            According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at the table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

**People:**            **Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.**

Leader             This is that same table.

**People:**            **All are invited to share this feast, which God has prepared.**

**Great Thanksgiving:**

Leader:            The Lord be with you.

**People:**            **And also with you.**

Leader:            Lift up your hearts.

**People:**            **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader:            Let us give thanks to the Lord, Our God

**People:**            **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Leader:**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give thanks and praise to the One who is with us always. It is especially joyful to celebrate our gratitude on this Sunday, the Second Sunday in Lent, as we move more deeply into the mystery we share.

We recall that through the words of the prophets, the Spirit of God promised us a Redeemer, giving us hope for the day when justice would roll down like waters in a mighty stream. We rejoice now, for in Jesus Christ that day of rushing winds and waters is upon us and carrying us onward.

In thanksgiving and anticipation we praise you, and we join our voices with the choirs of angels, the prophets, the apostles, and the saints. We gather here in this sanctuary with the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name in the great mystery of your presence.

**People Sing Hosanna!**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.

**Leader:**

You are holy, O God of Majesty, and blessed is Jesus the Christ. Born of Mary, Jesus *lives* with us. Eating with those who have found distance from God, he welcomes us all back into God's presence. As we guide children with his teachings, he teaches us, again. Visiting the sick as he did, he heals us in ways beyond the physical limitations of these bodies of ours.