SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT FEBRUARY 25, 2024

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Prelude	Janice Hedberg	-Boyce, Church Organist
Welcome and Greeting in	n Jesus' Name	Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter
*Opening Song (Stand)	"The God of Abraham Pr	aise" Worship & Rejoice
*Opening Prayer (Stand)		Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter
Songs of Faith	"Step by Step" "Knowing You Jesus"	Worship Team
WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD Scripture Reader: Sonia Roling		
The First Reading		Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
The Second Reading		Romans 4:13-25
Gospel Reader: Deacon Laurie Dewey*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ (Stand)Mark 8:31-38		
*Responsorial (Stand) #	"The Wonderful Cros	s" Worship Team
Call to Confession		Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

Prayer of Confession: Redeeming God, we admit that we are overwhelmed by human, worldly concerns. We have not set our minds on things divine and heavenly. We diminish ourselves and discount others when we value ourselves more highly than we should. Forgive us of our sin! Do not let us be put to shame! Help us embrace, for the sake of the gospel, whatever losses, and whatever gains you will for us, in your divine wisdom and love.

Declaration of Pardon

Rev. Dr. Ivan E. Greuter

*Passing of the Peace with Family and Neighbors (Stand)

The Children's Sermon

Announcements & Prayers of the Community 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.

Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations – Ushers are invited forward to receive our tithes, gifts, and offerings to the Lord. Worshippers can give cash, check, or online by debit/credit card.



Offertory Special

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A Prayer of Illumination & The Message "The Covenant of Blood" The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

Notes:

WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH AND SERVICE

Invitation to Faith and Fellowship – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God's forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to be a follower of Jesus in the waters of baptism or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

*Closing Hymn (Stand) # 434 "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

*Spoken Benediction

Postlude

Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Organist

HOW TO BECOME A FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF JESUS

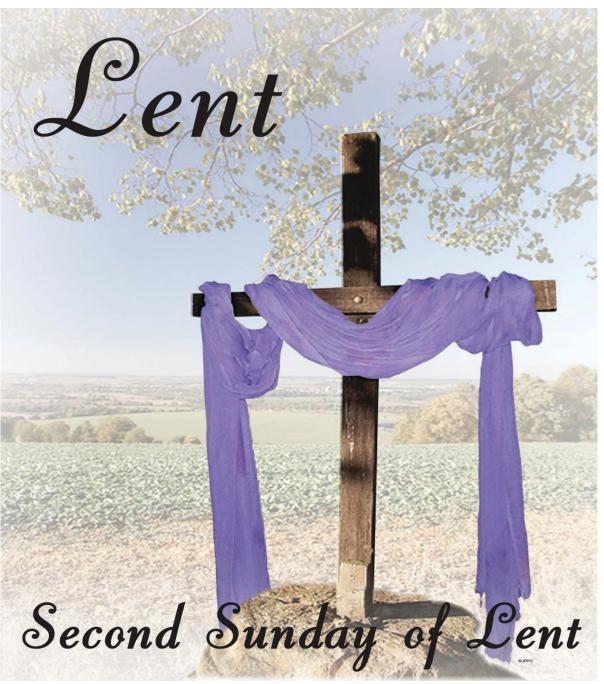
GOOD NEWS! God loves you and wants to rescue all people from the consequences of evil. The Bible teaches the way to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ:

- <u>ADMIT</u> Admit to God you have done wrong things (sinned) that have hurt God and others. Apologize to God, turn away from harmful behavior, and start doing good things (See Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19).
- <u>BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU AND GOD HAS RAISED HIM</u> FROM THE DEAD – Accept and trust that Jesus is God's one and only Son who died on the cross in your place and give God the credit for raising Jesus from the dead (See Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31a; John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; John 14:6).
- 3. <u>CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD</u> Make a religious commitment to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus by trusting Him to be your Rescuer, Redeemer (Savior), and Ultimate Leader (Lord). (See Romans 10:9 and 10; Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)
- 4. <u>DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO THE JESUS WAY</u> Tell your family and friends about your new trust in Jesus Christ by coming to the front of the Sanctuary at the end of a worship service to publicly share your decision to be a follower of Jesus (Christian).

HOW TO JOIN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - COME FORWARD – Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and accepting the Baptist principles, practices, and the covenant of this church may join this Christian church. Persons interested in affiliating should speak with the Pastor or come forward at a congregation meeting. A person may join by Believer's Baptism, Letter of Transfer from a previous Christian church with prior baptism, or a Satisfactory Statement of Christian Faith.

OUR MISSION – We love God and we love people by sharing the Good News of God's forgiving, renewing love in Jesus Christ by word and deed in the hopes of improving the lives of neighbors. West Side Baptist Church is an autonomous Christian church partnering for mission support with likeminded people of faith in our City, County, State, Nation, and World.





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