**February 25, 2024 Second Sunday in Lent**

**Announcements**

**Prelude**

**Solemn Declaration**

**Call to Worship**Pastor: Do not be afraid to answer the call to discipleship.
**All: What does the call require?**Pastor: Letting go of our life as we know it. Following the way of the cross.

 Aligning our soul with God’s.
**All: We step out in the way of Jesus by losing our life to save it.**Pastor: Do not be afraid to walk in the way of Jesus.
**All: We answer the call, unashamed and unafraid. Amen.**

**\*Invocation (Pastor)**O God, we are offered every opportunity to embrace the path that helps us gain the world at the expense of our soul. Instead, you have called us to yourself and to follow in the way of love and compassion. Teach us about Jesus’ way and lure us away from the paths of self-absorption and greed. You have called us to discipleship, to self-emptying, and embracing your way with courage. May it be so. Amen.

**\*Hymn #24** *The God of Abraham Praise*

**Prayer of Transformation and New Life (Unison)
Holy God, like Peter, sometimes we think we know better than you do. We make our own attempts to save ourselves and others from the cross filled path you have called us to walk. Help us to get behind you, because it has become easier to rely upon ourselves, rather than on your strength and presence. Grant us grace and help us to let go of our need for control so that you and your way might be our guide and path forward. Amen.**

**Words of Grace (Pastor)**Dear ones, may the God of compassion, Jesus the wounded healer, and the Holy Spirit who shapes and transforms us anew, grant you peace and hope for your soul. For we know that the One who calls us to follow in the way of Jesus is merciful and offers the consolation of love in a world of empty promises. Be at peace through forgiveness and thanks be to God. Amen.

**\*Gloria #759**

 *Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three-in-One;*

*as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*

*world without end. Amen. Amen.*

**\*Peace of Christ**

**Message for Youth**

**Scripture:  Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16 (Dusty Rhoads);**

 **Romans 4: 13-25 (Dusty);**

 **Mark 8: 31-38**

**Response of Praise** *Thy Word*

 *Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

**Sermon:  “Faith and The Cross”.**

**\*Hymn #451** *Be Now My Vision*

**\*Statement of Faith #885**

**Pastoral Prayer and Our Lord’s Prayer:  “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.  And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen”**

**Prayer Response #769**

*Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God;*

 *Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.*

**Invitation to Generosity (Pastor)**

In a world that offers a vision of never enough, we share in God’s abundant provision for all. While we could gain the world but lose our soul, it is from within our soul that we share in a generous spirit of giving.

**Offertory**

**\*Offering Response #780**         *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise God, all creatures here below;*

*Praise God above, you heavenly host:*

*Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)
Giving God, Jesus invited us to give our lives away, take up our cross, and to follow. Rather than exchanging our souls, may the sharing of these gifts nurture our commitment to walk in your way. In the name and way of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #381** *Faith of the Martyrs*

**\*Benediction (Pastor)**We step out into a world offering us the power to gain the whole world, and yet the call to discipleship is one that is less of us and more of Christ. Go forth to serve, to embrace a life of humility, and to walk in the way of the cross. For such a path is the way of life. Amen.

**Postlude**

Acknowledgments - Shame: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday in Lent Year B was written by The Rev. Dr. Chad Abbott, Conference Minister in the Indiana-Kentucky Conference.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS – February 25, 2024**

**Altar flowers** arepresented by Susan Henricks in memory of loved ones.

**Prayer List:** The people of Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Turkey and Syria, The victims of the tornadoes and natural disasters, Richard Adinolfi, Alvin Behm, Marsha Biehl, Joe Brogley, Ed Brous, Irene Burkhardt, Joan Clouser, Jane Detwiler, Laurie and Peter Eaton, Jana Eschbach, Doris Evenstad, Ruth Hardaker, Betty Hawthorne, Adam Hayden, Chip Hoover, Kathy Hughes, Dorcas Kieffer, Jim Kirkhoff, Betty Leister, Robert Mackie, Eleanor Mauger, Daryll McCormick, Calvin Miller, Ollie, Dan and Lois Oister, Phyllis, Holly Rhoads, Dave Richards, Bill Ross, Christian Ross, Kenneth Shellenberger II, Karen, Paul, and Scott Steffey, Lee Steiner, Bob Stengel, Dave and Pat Stout, Sandy Strunk, Dottie Taylor, Dotty Washburn, Patti Whisler, Barbara Ziegler

**Wednesday, February 28 –** Wednesday Crew

 Quilters

 Lenton Devotions at Trinity, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

 (Soup and Bread)

 Pizza and Ping Pong, 5:30 p.m.

 Bell Choir, 6:30 p.m.

 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.

**Looking Ahead**

**Sunday, March 3 – Worship with Trinity at Trinity, 10:15 a.m.**

**Save your Redner’s Receipts!** Please, place your Redner’s Save-A-Tape receipts in the box in the lobby of the Sunday School building. We need the entire register tape in order to get credit. Redner’s will donate 1% of sales to our church.

**Get on Board with Market Cards! Support Your Church!**

Members and friends may purchase a Giant and/or Redner’s Gift card to use for groceries or gas. Denominations of cards come in $25, $50, or $100. There is no charge to you but our church receives 5% of the grocery card purchased. Gift cards to Redner’s or Giant are available Sundays in the Sunday School building or during the week through the church office.

***CareBag List for Pottstown Infusion Center***

Here is a suggested list of donations:

—Knit hat

---Neck Noodle

—Hand lotion/chap stick

—mouth wash

—Prayer shawl/ lap blanket

—diamond painted angel keychain

—a CareNote (or similar) booklet

—word puzzle book

—notepad and pencil