

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance;
By the blood I may enter your brightness,
Search me; try me; consume all my darkness.
Shine on me; shine on me. REFRAIN

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
So our faces display your likeness;
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me; shine on me. REFRAIN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*In Unison*)

Gracious God, we often live our lives with complacency, priding ourselves that we are not guilty of—or even capable of—doing great harm to anyone. But we forget that when we are indifferent to the wounds of the world, when we sleepwalk from one boring daily task to another, when we are apathetic, when we just don’t care, we are in danger of denying the good gifts you offer. Open our spirits to an exploration of this sin of sloth and help us to nurture the virtue of caring. For we ask it in the name of your Son. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Anyone who is in Christ is of the New Creation. The old life is finished, gone. Behold, new life has begun. Brothers and Sisters, believe the good news:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

HYMN NO. 406

“We Are Standing on Holy Ground”

HOLY GROUND

We are standing on holy ground,
And I know that there are angels all around;
Let us praise Jesus now;
We are standing on holy ground.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Oasis

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ecclesiastes 1:1-17

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Mark 9:2-9

SERMON

“Sloth on the Mountain”

Rev. William Schram

HYMN No. 515, St. 1 - 3

“I Come with Joy”

DOVE OF PEACE

I come with joy, a child of God,
Forgiven, loved, and free,
The life of Jesus to recall,
In love laid down for me,
In love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near
To find, as all are fed,
The new community of love
In Christ's communion bread,
In Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
Each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
And strangers now are friends,
And strangers now are friends.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The God of mountaintops be with you.

And also with you.

Come, People of God, to the One who will transfigure your hearts.

We offer them to God, who will make them dazzle with grace.

Great God, you gifted us with light in the creation. Lord Jesus, we know you as the Light of the world, whose glory shone forth at the Transfiguration. Pour out your Holy Spirit on all gathered here, that we might be your light in the world. Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine, that we might be infused with the gift of your nourishing guidance. Transform us with your nourishing grace, even as we eat of this bread and drink of this wine. Transfigure us to be your presence in the world, even as we are redeemed and reclaimed by your great love. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at the heavenly banquet. Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever more. Amen.

HYMN NO. 559

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

SANCTUS

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. Hosanna in the highest.

CONSECRATION & THE 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.

HYMN NO. 603

"Lamb of God"

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us,

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us,
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us, O grant us your peace.

SHARING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving God, it was good to be here, but now you send us from worship to action. Help us to speak of hope to those who have lost heart, to be the voice of all not heard by the world. Gracious Savior, it was good to be here, but now you send us from worship into service. Help us to listen to the broken, and then speak of hope. Holy Spirit, it was good to be here, but now you send us from the community of faith into our neighborhoods, schools, and work. There we will act boldly for righteousness, love, and grace. Amen.

HYMN NO. 193, St. 5

“Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain”

UNSER HERRSCHER

We who have beheld your glory,
Risen and ascended Lord,
Cannot help but tell the story,
All that we have seen and heard;
Say with Peter, James, and John:
“You are God’s beloved Son!”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude on “The Glory of These Forty Days”

arr. Matthew McConnell

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Rev. William Schram
Rev. Barbara Jo Piercy
Susan Jones
Paul Salierno & Micki Hardenberg, Cantors
Cailan Compierchio, Alto Saxophone
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers

SERMON QUESTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 14TH

1. Have you thought of sloth simply as laziness before?
2. Christians can be anything but lazy when they are actively engaged in sloth.
How do you respond to this?
3. Have you ever experienced sloth in this way yourself?
4. Lack of caring and empathy for others is a result of sloth. Have you ever said to yourself "I'm tired of hearing about it?"
5. What helps you rekindle an appreciation of joy? Of caring?