



MORNING PRAYER AND HOLY COMMUNION AT NINE
SERVICE LEAFLET

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 25, 2018

The Second Sunday in Lent

* PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 22:23–31 (*read responsively by verse*)

L: May all who fear you, O God, give praise; may the offspring of Israel stand in awe and all of Jacob's line give glory.

P: For you do not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty, neither do you hide your face from them, but when they cry to you, you hear them.

L: My praise is of you in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship you.

P: The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek you shall praise you: "May your heart live for ever!"

L: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to you, and all the families of the nations shall bow before you.

P: For yours is the royal power, O God; you rule over the nations.

L: To you alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before you.

P: My soul shall live for you; my descendants shall serve you; they shall be known as yours for ever.

L: They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn

P: the savings deeds that you have done.

THE FIRST READING Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him,

"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

THE SECOND READING Mark 8:31–38

Then he began to teach them that the Anointed One must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Anointed One will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

HOMILY

“What Do You Get In Return?”

Rev. Corzine

(Part three of the eight-part Lenten sermon series, *Forgiveness*)

MISSION INVITATION

Cash and designated checks go to **Faith in Public Life Ohio**. Faith in Public Life is a strategy center for the interfaith community, and has played an important role in changing the narrative about the role of faith in policy discourse, winning major progressive policy victories, and empowering new religious leaders to fight for social justice and the common good. Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERTORY HYMN 211

Lord Jesus, who through forty days

St. Flavian

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, *celebrant*

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, *preacher*

Nancy Livingston, *pianist*

Geoff Dean, *liturgist*

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 4

Liturgist: Joe Baszynski

Communion Preparation:

Refreshments: