

The Father of the Faithful

On the role of the faithful there are many names; but among these one name stands out above all others. This is the name of Abraham, the father of the faithful.

If the name of Moses is most closely associated in the Bible with the law of God, the name of Abraham is the one that is most closely associated with the heart of the biblical message of salvation, which is of grace through faith. Abraham is the father of the faithful. As the Bible says, those who are of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

Abraham's life moved in the environment of faith. As a lion stalks in the high plateaus of the wilderness and as an eagle soars in the currents of the air, so Abraham lived in the atmosphere of faith. His life is an exposition of faith as it is understood by the revelation of God in the scriptures. As the scriptures say, "Abraham believed God and it was counted to him for righteousness."

Abraham believed God when he was told to leave his country and his kinsmen and to go into a land which God would show him. Abraham believed God when he was told that he would have a son, even though he and his wife were beyond the proper age. Abraham believed God when he was told to take this child of promise and to offer him on Mt. Moriah as a sacrifice.

Because of this faith, God blessed Abraham. Even as all the faithful, he died in faith, not having received the promises; but even as God promised, he has become the father of more people than can be numbered.

The true child of Abraham knows that he is saved not by works but by faith. Righteousness is not by the law but by the gospel of grace, "the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes... For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith." (Romans 1:16-17).

*The righteous
shall live by faith.*

Romans 1:17

Covenant Presbyterian Church
1623 University Avenue, Berkeley, California 94703
www.berkeleyopc.org

MORNING WORSHIP – 11:00 A.M.

THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

Salutation and Call to Worship

*Hymn of Praise # 368

“The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear”

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise # 515

“How Lovely Shines the Morning Star!”

CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE

The Law of God

Matthew 22:37-40

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

Lord God, Eternal and Almighty Father: We acknowledge before your holy majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil, unable of our own power to do good. Because of our sin, we endlessly violate your holy commandments. But, O Lord, we repent and turn away from all our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways, asking you, through your grace, to relieve our distress. Remind us of your compassion, O Father of mercies. Remind us of all the benefits that are ours in Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. We also ask that you grant us daily increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, and produce in us the fruits of holiness and of righteousness, which are pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Matthew 11:28-29 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 510

“Thou Hidden Source of Calm Repose”

Worship in Prayer

Interlude

*Congregation Standing

We extend a cordial welcome to each visitor!

Wayne K. Forkner, Minister

510-928-8024

THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*Hymn of Preparation # 338

“Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

Sermon Text

Luke 22:39-46

Sermon

ENTERING TEMPTATION

*Hymn of Response # 98

“Now Thank We All Our God”

THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord)

734

*The Lord's Benediction

Announcements

Today, 12:30pm. Potluck luncheon following the morning worship service. All are welcome.

Today and Sunday, November 24. Thank Offering 2024-*Rejoice in the Lord Always*. Each year the General Assembly of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church sets a Worldwide Outreach budget for the following year which represents the denomination's commitment to missionary and educational work. Each year the denomination has a Thank Offering to help meet that budget. If you wish to designate your gift for the Thank Offering, you may simply mark your check “Thank Offering.”

Tuesday, 7:30pm. Weekly Bible Study at the church or via Zoom. Our Bible study at the church begins with dinner at 7:00pm, followed by a time of study at 7:30pm. For information on attending the study via Zoom, please send an email to Pastor Wayne at wforkner86@mac.com.