



*Spiritual Amnesia*  
**March 15, 2026**  
*Fourth Sunday in Lent*



## MEDITATION

What people don't realize is how much religion costs. They think faith is a big electric blanket, when of course it is the cross. It is much harder to believe than not to believe. If you feel you can't believe, you must at least do this: keep an open mind. Keep it open toward faith, keep wanting it, keep asking for it, and leave the rest to God.

– Flannery O' Connor, Letter to Louise Abbot, 1959

Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace. It is so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times.

- Martin Luther

Faith, without trouble or fighting, is a suspicious faith; for true faith is a fighting, wrestling faith.

- Ralph Erskine

The community which lives by the faith of the Bible will never fit comfortably into any culture.

-Lesslie Newbigin

The Christian motto should not be “Let go and let God,” but “Trust God and get going”.

-J. I. Packer

*These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. Use them along with your worship guide as resources for readings, prayers and hymns. Set in the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), a schedule of daily Bible readings in accord with the Church year, these scripture readings are designed around a three-year cycle that will take you through the Old Testament once, the New Testament twice, and the Psalms frequently.*

	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Monday, March 16th	Psalm 146	Isaiah 59:9-19	Acts 9:1-20
Tuesday the 17th	Psalm 146	Isaiah 42:14-21	Colossians 1:9-14
Wednesday the 18th	Psalm 146	Isaiah 60:17-22	Matthew 9:27-34
Thursday the 19th	Psalm 130	Ezekiel 1:1-3, 2:8-3:3	Revelation 10:1-11
Friday the 20th	Psalm 130	Ezekiel 33:10-16	Revelation 11:15-19
Saturday the 21st	Psalm 130	Ezekiel 36:8-15	Luke 24:44-53

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# WELCOME

*Second City Church is a community that exists to worship the Triune God and to celebrate, in word and deed, the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Harrisburg.*

*Thank you for joining us in worship today. We hope this guide will help you participate in our service. If you have any questions about our worship, faith, or how you can be a part of our mission to serve God and neighbor in Harrisburg, be sure to talk to our pastor.*

## *For Parents:*

Children of all ages are welcome to remain with us as we worship. We like the noise; it helps us remember we are alive. The following services are available for you and your children to get the most out of your time of worship:

### *Infant & Toddler Care*

Infant and toddler care is available on the first floor of the east wing of our building. Ask one of our greeters if you need help locating this room. Nursery staff are well-trained, have required background checks, and maintain a safe environment for your child(ren).

### *Children & Worship*

Children & Worship is for children ages preschool through 2nd grade and meets in a worship space below the sanctuary during the sermon. They are dismissed during the announcements and return during the offertory. New families are welcome to tour the space before or after a service if desired.

## **ADVENT + CHRISTMAS + EPIPHANY + LENT + EASTER + PENTECOST + TRINITY**

Lent is a 40 day season of confession and repentance in preparation for Easter. Christians have been keeping the season of Lent since the 2nd century. During this season Christians typically fast on certain days and abstain from certain things in order shape our hearts and souls towards repentance. The 40 day fast of Lent symbolizes several events in salvation history: Jesus' 40 day fast in the wilderness, Israel's 40 year wandering in the desert, and the 40 days of rain cleansing the earth during the flood of Noah, among others. The liturgical colors for Lent are purple and black, symbolizing mourning and repentance.

*Please note that our services are live-streamed.*



## LITURGY OF PREPARATION

### Words of Welcome

### Call to Worship

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,  
**for his steadfast love endures forever!**

Who can utter the mighty deeds of the Lord,  
or declare all his praise?

**Blessed are they who observe justice,  
who do righteousness at all times!**

*- Psalm 106:1-3*

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy:

**O come, let us adore him.**

### Gathering Hymn - He Is Exalted

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high  
I will praise Him  
He is exalted forever exalted, and I will praise His name

He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign  
Heaven and earth, rejoice in His holy name  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high  
I will praise Him  
He is exalted forever exalted, and I will praise His name

He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign  
Heaven and earth, rejoice in His holy name  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high

## **Confession Hymn - We Cry Mercy (Kyrie)**

Leader: Lord have mercy  
**People: Lord have mercy**

Leader: Christ have mercy  
**People: Christ have mercy**

**Together: O Lord have mercy on us**

[Repeat]

## **Confession of Sin**

Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,**

**by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## **Words of Forgiveness & Peace**

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,<sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,<sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

*Romans 3:23-25*

In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Passing of the Peace**

*[Invitation for congregation to share a sign of peace with one another]*

## **Hymns of Praise and Adoration**

### ***O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus***

O the deep, deep love of Jesus  
Vast unmeasured, boundless, free  
Rolling as a mighty ocean, in its fullness over me  
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of Thy love  
Leading onward, leading homeward, to Thy glorious rest above

O the deep, deep love of Jesus  
Spread His praise from shore to shore!  
How He loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore  
How He watches o'er His loved ones, died to call them all His own  
How for them He intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne

O the deep, deep love of Jesus  
Love of every love the best  
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest  
O the deep, deep love of Jesus, 'tis a heaven of heavens to me  
And it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to Thee

## **God Be Merciful To Me**

God, be merciful to me  
On Thy grace I rest my plea  
Plenteous in compassion Thou  
Blot out my transgressions now  
Wash me, make me pure within  
Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin

My transgressions I confess  
Grief and guilt my soul oppress  
I have sinned against Thy grace  
And provoked Thee to Thy face  
I confess Thy judgment just  
Speechless, I Thy mercy trust

I am evil, born in sin  
Thou desirest truth within  
Thou alone my Savior art  
Teach Thy wisdom to my heart  
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow  
Wash me whiter than the snow

Broken, humbled to the dust  
By Thy wrath and judgment just  
Let my contrite heart rejoice  
And in gladness hear Thy voice  
From my sins O hide Thy face  
Blot them out in boundless grace

Gracious God, my heart renew  
Make my spirit right and true  
Cast me not away from Thee  
Let Thy Spirit dwell in me  
Thy salvation's joy impart  
Steadfast make my willing heart



## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### **Living Our Faith**

### **Blessing Our Children**

Jesus called the children to him and said,

**Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them,**

for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

**Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.**

*March Memory Verse*

What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?

*Mark 8:36*

### **Psalm Reading**

*Psalm 106:4-8; page 598*

### **Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen. Amen.

### **Old Testament Reading**

*Isaiah 17:9-11; page 689*

The Word of the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

### **New Testament Reading**

*1 Corinthians 10:1-4; page 1137*

The Word of the Lord:

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark:  
**Glory to you, O Lord!**

*Mark 8:1-21; page 1002*

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ!**

## **Sermon**

Pastor Peter Rowan - Spiritual Amnesia

## **Creed**

Let us affirm the faith of the Church:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,**

**his only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended into hell;**

**on the third day he rose again from the dead;**

**he ascended to heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;**

**from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.**

*- The Apostles' Creed*

## Offering of Prayers of the People

“God, thank you for your presence during the hard and mean days. For then we have you to lean upon. Thank you for your presence during the bright and sunny days. For then we can share that which we have with those who have less.”

- Maya Angelou

“Help us to be mindful that we are not alone. When we need wisdom, we need only to ask for it. You have promised to bestow it liberally... Teach us to know that if we are to be successful stewards, we must be your servants.”

- Barbara Jordan

For what else shall we pray?

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## Offering of Gifts

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

Acts 20:35

*Friends and members of Second City Church support the extension of God's Kingdom with gifts of bread, wine, talents and resources. Guests are not expected to contribute. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering plates, boxes on the wall as you leave, or can be made electronically. Instructions for setting up online giving are available at the donation boxes.*



## Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him all creatures here below  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.



## LITURGY OF THE TABLE

### **The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving**

#### **Invitation**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

#### **Praise God for His Mighty Acts**

It is indeed right to thank you and praise you, holy and gracious God, creator of all things, ruler of heaven and earth, sustainer of life, for you are the source of all goodness, rich in mercy and abounding in love; you are faithful to your people in every generation, and your word endures for ever. Therefore with angels and archangels, with the fellowship of saints and the company of heaven, we glorify your holy name, evermore praising you and singing,

#### **Sanctus**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might

Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is the one who comes, in the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest

#### **Praise for Christ's Sacrifice**

Therefore we proclaim our faith as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

## Calling on the Holy Spirit and Lord's Prayer

We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us:

**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, the power and the glory,**

**for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**

## Invitation to the Table

Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed for us once for all upon the cross.

**Therefore let us keep the feast!**

## Sharing Holy Communion

*Second City Church welcomes all baptized Christians who have made a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ in a Christian church to join us in this sacrament. Non-communicants can come forward and ask for a blessing. If you need to receive communion in your seat, ask a fellow worshiper to let the communion servers know. If you are unable to receive wine, you will find a chalice containing non-alcoholic grape juice at the station the pastor is serving. The communion bread is gluten-free.*

## Closing Prayer

**Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities that may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Benediction**

May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit, give to you a contrite heart.

**Amen.**

May Christ, who bore our sins in his body on the tree, heal you by his wounds.

**Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, who leads you into all truth, speak to you words of pardon and peace.

**Amen.**

And may the blessing of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.

**Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn - Nothing But The Blood of Jesus**

What can wash away my sin?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
What can make me whole again?  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
Oh! precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow;  
No other fount I know  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

For my pardon, this I see  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
For my cleansing this my plea  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
Oh! precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow  
No other fount I know  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Nothing can for sin atone  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
Nothing good that I have done  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
Oh! precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow  
No other fount I know  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

This is all my hope and peace  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
This is all my righteousness  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus  
Oh! precious is the flow  
That makes me white as snow  
No other fount I know  
Nothing but the blood of Jesus

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Amen.**



## ATTRIBUTIONS

### **He Is Exalted**

Words and Music by Twila Paris

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Music

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### **We Cry Mercy (Kyrie)**

Words and Music by Gregory W. LaFollette

© 2018 Late Model Leadfoot Music

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### **O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus**

Words by Samuel Trevor Francis (1834-1925)

Tune: EBENEZER

Adapted by Thomas John Williams (1869-1944)

### **God Be Merciful To Me**

Words by Richard Redhead (1853)

Music by Christopher Miner

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### **Sanctus**

Words from the Liturgy

Music: American folk melody

### **Come Ye Souls by Sin Afflicted**

Words by Joseph Swain (alt. Twit)

Music: by Kevin Twit

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### **Nothing But The Blood of Jesus**

Words and Music by Robert Lowry (1876)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Potluck Luncheon After Church Today**

Join us in the Social Hall immediately after worship today for our March potluck lunch! Once again, the focus is to encourage our congregation to get to know each other better. Today Pastor Peter will interview Karen Rogers about her life and spiritual journey.

### **Next Senior Saints' Lunch March 18**

The next Senior Saints' lunch gathering is at 12:15 this Wednesday, March 18. We will meet in the Orange Room and the Sanctuary. Please join us if you can!

### **March Children's Sunday School Classes Through Next Sunday, March 22**

Next Sunday is the last week of this month's children's classes. Classes begin at 9 am Sunday mornings. As a reminder, the age groups and classroom locations are:

Age 3 - 1st grade, meeting in the Children's Worship space, behind the Orange Room, at the ground level of our building.

2nd - 4th grade, meeting in an upstairs Logos classroom, above the Social Hall.

5th - 8th grade, meeting in an upstairs Logos classroom, above the Social Hall.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

### **Holy Week Events**

- March 29 - Palm Sunday worship service at 10 am in the Sanctuary
- April 2 - Maundy Thursday Seder dinner at 6 pm in the Social Hall
- April 3 - Good Friday worship service at 6 pm in the Sanctuary
- April 5 - Easter Sunday worship service at 10 am in the Sanctuary, followed by a champagne toast and light refreshments in the Social Hall

### **Easter Lilies**

If you'd like to sponsor an Easter lily, please complete an order form (available outside the church office and the Narthex) and drop it off at the office. You can also contact the office by phone or email. Please include the name of anyone you'd like to honor or memorialize, as well as any text you want to include in the list of sponsors. The cost is \$8 per plant.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to pray for:

Dottie Roden  
Darwin Leshar  
Virginia Anderson  
Greg Nies  
Wes and Cynthia VanderArk

Chuck Bagley and Bagley/Gazsi families  
Sophia James, USAF  
Elizabeth James  
Christine Zubrod Perrin  
Jon Yawger  
Dawn Benner  
Donna Weatherly

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Please consider liking, following and subscribing to our social media! Also, when you see, read or watch something you like, share it with your friends. It's a helpful way to let others know we are here!

Facebook



Instagram



YouTube



## Your contact information

If you are our guest and would like to indicate your presence with us, or if you'd like to make us aware of a change in your contact information, fill out this form and place it in the offering plate.

\_\_\_\_\_ Visitor  
\_\_\_\_\_ Regular Attendee  
\_\_\_\_\_ Member

Name(s):

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Address (please include city and zip):

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer

Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Contact us

(717) 232-0604  
251 Verbeke St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17102  
[www.seconddcitychurch.org](http://www.seconddcitychurch.org)

### **Office hours:**

Tues. & Thurs., 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

### **Pastor**

Peter Rowan  
[peter@seconddcitychurch.org](mailto:peter@seconddcitychurch.org)

### **Music Coordinator**

Jess Reapsome  
[jess@seconddcitychurch.org](mailto:jess@seconddcitychurch.org)

### **Children's Ministry Director**

Hannah Hollander  
[hannah@seconddcitychurch.org](mailto:hannah@seconddcitychurch.org)

### **Administrator**

Sylvia Olimpi  
[office@seconddcitychurch.org](mailto:office@seconddcitychurch.org)

### **Elders**

Dan James  
Jonathan Hendrickson (Clerk)  
Dave Tanis  
Bruce Weatherly