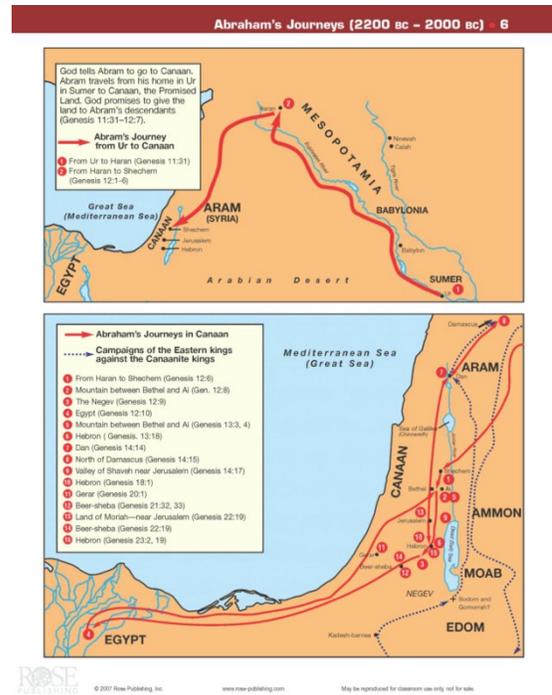


Lectionary Overview – Year C
 2nd Sunday in Lent
 3-13-2022

Old Testament – **Genesis 15:1-12,17-18**

After the great flood, Shem, the eldest son of Noah, had several sons. Seth was one, and he in turn had Abram. Abram journeyed 1500 miles from Ur (in what is now southern Iraq) to the land of Canaan. In Canaan, God assured Abram he would be the Father of Many Nations and whose descendants would be as many as the stars in the heavens. Abram and Sarah, though quite old and childless at the time, were assured of having descendants. They were Isaac and Jacob. Abram’s name was changed to Abraham because of his faithfulness and is listed in the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew 1 and Luke 3.



Psalm 27

This Psalm continues the sense of protection found in last week’s Psalm 91, “Eagles’ Wings”. There are three divisions:

Verses 1-6: Statement of Confidence and Security.

Verses 7-12 Petition for God’s Attention and Instruction

Verse 7 parallels the Taizé music we heard a couple weeks ago.

“Oh, Lord, hear my prayer, Oh Lord, hear my prayer,
 When I call, answer me. Oh, Lord, hear my prayer, Oh, Lord, hear my prayer,
 Come and listen to me.”

Verses 13-14: Testimony and Encouragement of others

Epistle of Paul to the **Philippians 3:17 – 4:1**.

This is Paul’s epistle of joy and encouragement in the midst of trouble, while he was in prison in Rome. As he considers all of life and death, Paul warns against living for the flesh. (3:17). He promotes peace but resilience against false teachers or enemies of the cross. He considers Philippians to be the crown jewel of the success of his ministry, despite the false teachers that were around at the time. Paul feels that after he dies, “wolves” will come to destroy his firm teachings.

Gospel – Luke 13:31-35

This portion of the Lectionary for this second Sunday in Lent will be the only Scripture read.

Jesus presents a problem for both the Pharisees and Herod Antipas. Herod was the local ruler, regarded as king of provinces of Galilee and Perea.

He had had John the Baptist beheaded, but was interested or sensitive to the beliefs of the Jews. Yet, the miracles that Jesus had performed posed a problem for Herod's authority. Herod was regarded as a cunning ruler.

The Pharisees', although no friend of Herod, were also challenged by Jesus' ministry, miracles, and healings. So they worked to have Jesus sent back to the Sanhedrin in Judea.

While it was unwise to disparage any ruler, Jesus nevertheless, referred to Herod as "the fox". Jerusalem had seen, in the distant past of the Old Testament, prophets of God rejected. So, it was noteworthy that he should say in verse 33 that "...it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.

Jesus also mourns for Jerusalem in verse 34 and mentions its distancing themselves from Him. The mention of the analogy of a hen gathering her chicks should bring special meaning to today's hymn, Thy Holy Wings.

Second Gospel lesson – **Luke 9:28-36, 37-43a**

The Epiphany of our Lord and bestowment of the Holy Spirit with Peter and James present. After this, a man came with a son who, from birth, had suffered seizures. His disciples could not drive out the possessing spirit. Jesus appeared frustrated at the crowd's disbelief. So, he rebuked the spirit and cured the boy.

It was reports such as these which intrigued and perhaps worried Herod Antipas and the Sadducees as a threat to their power and authority over the people.

