

BULLETIN TEMPLATE:

Minnesota Valley Church

Date: Sunday, March 26, 2023

Church Year Date: Fifth Sunday in Lent

Prelude: Rebekah Olson

HYMN #509 “To God Be the Glory”

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 43:5

PASTOR: Why are you downcast, O my soul?

CONGREGATION: Why so disturbed within me?

PASTOR: Put your hope in God,

**ALL: For I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.**

HYMN #404 “And Can It Be”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE:

Reader: Bob Hawksford

Epistle Lesson: *Hebrews 9:11-15* When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of this creation. 12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. 13 The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. 14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

15 For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

Gospel Lesson: *John 8:46-50* Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? 47 He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God." 48 The Jews answered him, "Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?" 49 "I am not possessed by a demon," said Jesus, "but I honor my Father and you dishonor me.

READER: Here ends the reading of God’s Word.

CONGREGATION SINGS: God be praised, for His glad Tidings!

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Acts 17:24-28 (p.52)

Gloria Patri: Ambassador Hymnal p. 4 *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.*

Announcements and Receive Offering

PRAISE AND WORSHIP: Songs to be chosen by Hannah

SERMON: “SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT” Genesis 22:1-14 Pastor Tom Olson; *Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen*

The greatest battle in the church today in my opinion is not over the definition of marriage or gender. It is over the primary doctrine of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation: Substitutionary Atonement: an innocent, spotless Lamb dies to atone for the sins of guilty sinners. It is the reason that the cross of Calvary is front and center

in churches. Without this doctrine, there is no grace, no church and no hope for sinners to have life in heaven with a holy God.

As Joel Carrizales put it so well at our Lenten service last Wednesday night, all of the Old Testament events are SHADOWS pointing to the great atonement of our sins by Jesus and the consummation of His grace in a perfect heavenly home forever.

Today we look at a very powerful shadow of the cross in the account of Abraham sacrificing Isaac on Mt. Moriah, Genesis 22:1-14. Let's talk about it. First of all...

I. THE ULTIMATE TEST: SACRIFICE YOUR GREATEST TREASURE

Genesis 22:1-14 Sometime later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. 2 Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."

II. UNCONDITIONAL OBEDIENCE: TRUST GOD

Genesis 22:3-8 Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. 5 He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you." 6 Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, 7 Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" 8 Abraham answered, "God himself will provide

the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

III. THE LORD SUPPLIES A SUBSTITUTE: AMAZING GRACE

Genesis 22:9-14 When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. 11 But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. 12 "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son." 13 Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

May the peace of God that surpasses all human comprehension, guard your hearts and minds through faith in Christ Jesus. Amen

Hymn #578 "Amazing Grace"
Lord's Prayer
Benediction

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below, Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men. A-men. A---men.

Postlude: Rebekah Olson