



“Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together. . . . 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.” (Genesis 22:8 & 13 - NIV)

Prayer: Lord, You are my strength. The battle of good and evil rages within and around me, and my ancient foe the devil, tempts me with his deceits and empty promises. Keep me steadfast in Your Word dear Lord, and when I fall, raise me up again and restore me through Your Son, Jesus Christ my Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. AMEN



Order of Worship – The Common Service Without L.S. – pg. 15

- Greetings by the Pastor

- Invocation (Liturgy pg. 15)

Opening Hymn **C.W. 223**

- Confession of Sins

- Absolution

- Prayer and Praise (pg. 16)

- Prayer of The Day (pg. 17)

First Lesson – Genesis 22:1-19 – Abraham Tested

PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 6 (Lit. pg. 66–Sung by Monica McInnis)

Second Lesson– Romans 8:31-39 – God’s Son – For Us.

Gospel Lesson– Mark 1:12-15-Jesus Tempted, Jesus The Prophet

The Apostle’s Creed – (Pg. 19)

Sermon Hymn: **C.W. 128**

Sermon Text: Genesis 22:8 & 13

Sermon Theme: The Substitute.

"Create in Me" – (pg. 20)

Offering (The plates will not be passed but are at the entrance doors)

Offering Prayer

Prayer of The Church

Lord’s Prayer (Traditional Version)

Hymn **C.W. 419 vss. 1-4**

Collect / Prayer (pg. 25)

Benediction

Closing Hymn **C.W. 572**

SERMON TEXT: Genesis 22:8, 13 (NIV)

Vs. 8 – Abraham answered, God Himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering my son.” And the two of them went on together.

Vs. 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.

GREETING: Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. (Hebrews 11:1-2 - NIV)

The Adrenaline is flowing.

Abraham has the knife in hand. He is raising his arm / hand to bring it down upon his only son – Isaac.

Was Abraham looking his son in the eyes, or did he close them as he was about to strike the blow of death upon his son? Was Abraham shaking with grief, or was he calm and collective? Scripture does not tell us. What we do see, is Abraham’s faith and willingness to carry out what God said.

Before it came to that point on Mt. Moriah, Abraham and his wife Sarah had waited many years for this son, promised by God Himself. Abraham was 75 years old when God first promised Abraham: “I will make you into a great nation.” (Genesis 12:2)

God renewed the promise to Abraham that he would be the father of many nations, and that it would be an everlasting covenant when Abraham was 99 years old. (Genesis 17:1)

The Lord God had also made an in person visit with two angels and the Lord promised Abraham at the age of 99, that his wife Sarah would have son one year later. (Genesis 18:10)

God fulfilled the promise to send a son. That son was Isaac. Abraham was then 100 years old. (Genesis 21:5)

All that waiting, and now God instructs Abraham to sacrifice his one and only son Isaac!

As Abraham and his son Isaac are on the way, Isaac notices that there is no lamb to sacrifice to the Lord. Isaac asks:

Vs. 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?”

Imagine the thoughts racing through Abraham’s mind. “How do I answer?”

It is in the answer which Abraham gives that he again demonstrates his faith in God.

Vs. 8 – “God Himself will provide.”

The writer to the Hebrews gives us some insight

Hebrews 11:17-19 - By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.

Abraham reasoned that somehow, some way, God would raise Isaac from the dead.

And so we go back to that point in time. Abraham has his arm raised with knife in hand ready to strike Isaac dead as God had directed him, when suddenly:

Genesis 22:11-12 - 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.”

Talk about suspense!

Vs. 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.

In this account of Abraham, we see Abraham’s faith.

How many times in your life have you looked intently, unknowingly into the future or directly at the present not knowing how it will all turn out?

Yet your mind keeps going back to the Word of the Lord.

I Am with you always to the very end of the age. (Matthew 28:20)

During those times when you are afraid and uncertain, yet, your mind keeps going back to the Promises of God ...I will not give you more than you can bear. (I Corinthians 10:13)

Even as your mind goes back to God's Word, - It is with much trial and tribulation that you will enter into the kingdom of heaven. (Revelation 7:14, I Peter 1:6, I Peter 4:12)

– We cannot help but shake inside, the adrenaline is flowing, Satan the World and our own sinful flesh keep on putting doubts before us, causing us to tremble inside and perhaps even on the outside.

Our study of Scripture and the Faith which God has given us by the power of the Holy Spirit working through Word and Sacrament leads us to think of passages which describe for us heaven such as Revelation 21:1-8 as we look forward to the New heavens and the new earth which God has given us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

In this account of Abraham and Isaac, we see a foreshadowing of Christ Jesus.

As a loving father – Abraham - offering up his only son Isaac.

God the Father offered up His only son Jesus.

Isaac carries the wood upon which he would be sacrificed.

Jesus carried the cross upon which He would be sacrificed.

But the similarities stop there. Isaac could not pay for the sin of the World.

And so, God provided a Lamb without blemish. That Lamb is Jesus Christ.

As your look into the eyes of Jesus through your eyes of faith, you see Jesus born of a virgin, you see God Who has taken on flesh and blood.

As you look into the eyes of Jesus through your eyes of faith, you see Jesus as His heart is filled with compassion throughout his earthly ministry, upon the cross, and after His resurrection as He showed Himself to the believers.

Jesus who is our substitute – The Substitute – Who suffered hell in our place, Who took our sin upon Himself.

And one day we shall see Jesus on the Last Day, the Lamb of God Who taketh away the sin of the world, coming again with all His holy ones to take me, you and all believers to our heavenly home. AMEN

THEME: The Substitute