

She bought it so that
she might keep it for
the day of my burial.

John 12:7, NRSV



April 07, 2019

The Lord our God makes all things new. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading we recall the transformation of Saul, the persecutor, into Paul, the apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

All invitations to stand or kneel are for those who are able.

Singing Bowl

With the help of the Spirit, look within. See what burdens may be lifted, what obstacles may be removed, what new life and promise await us.

PRELUDE . . . *Leilani Camara*

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Invited into the wilderness of our lives, we follow in the footsteps of our ancestors.

All: We will journey to a land flowing with milk and honey.

L: Invited to wander as we search for deeper meaning, we follow in the footsteps of Christ.

All: We will journey without fear through the temptations of life.

L: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

All: Let us worship with thanksgiving and praise.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross,
the sign marked at baptism.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new.

All: Amen

P: In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: God at the margins,

All: We have wandered far from your home; again and again, we lose our way. We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen.

P: Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces us in tender care.

All: Like manna in the desert, God feeds us with surprising mercy.

P: Like a loving parent, God runs to meet us again this day,

All: forgiving our sins for the sake of Christ, leading us from death into life. Amen.

HYMN . . . "Christ, the Life of All the Living" vs 1, 2

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg - Tune: *Das Grosse Cantional* - ELW #339



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.



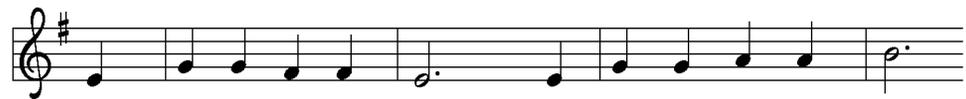
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.

GREETING

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

All: Amen.

KYRIE



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert.

All: Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Be Seated

CHOIR ANTHEM . . . "A *Servant's Heart*"

GATHERING . . . **WORD** . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

Reader: Lead us in your truths, O God.

All: Teach us your ways and your paths.

Reader: Into whatever journey lies before us,

All: lead on, Holy Spirit; lead on.

READING . . . *Philippians 3:4b-14*

Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.

[Paul writes:] If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the twelfth chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL . . . John 12:1-8

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S TIME . . . "Growing into Lent" - Carmen Blair



Please Stand

HYMN . . . "My Song Is Love Unknown" vs. 1, 7

Text: Samuel Crossman - Tune: John D. Edwards - LBW #94

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,
 7 Here might I stay and sing no sto - ry so di - vine!

love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.
 Nev - er was love, dear King, ne - ver was grief like thine.

Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail
 This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could

flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?
 glad - ly spend, I all my days could glad - ly spend!

Be Seated

HOMILY . . . Pastor Tim

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

Please Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

L: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

L: With grateful hearts, let us share a portion of the bounty
 God has given us.

All: We do so as an act of faith, and in support of God's
 work in this congregation and the world.

Be Seated

THANKFUL OFFERING



Please Stand

OFFERTORY RESPONSE . . . "We Place upon Your Table, Lord" vs. 1, 3

Text: M. F. C. Wilson – Tune: W. Walker – LBW #217

1 We place up - on your ta - ble, Lord, the food of
 3 Ac - cept them, Lord; they come from you; we take them

life, the bread and wine, as sym-bols of our dai - ly
 hum - bly from your hand. These gifts of yours for high - er

work, ac - cord - ing to your grand de - sign.
 use we of - fer up as you com - mand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Generous God, you feed us with the harvest of the land,
 and you provide for our every need.

All: Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor,
 and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in
 Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

L: Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we
 offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and
 for all of creation. God of resurrection and new life,
 inspire your church to reconsider what makes us holy.
 When we focus on our own piety or others' sin, show us
 Christ's faithfulness. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: Wherever destruction by flood, famine, or fire has
 devastated land and lives, cause green shoots to spring
 up, giving hope and vision for your promised future.
 Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: Wipe away the tears of those who weep under the burdens of hard labor and despair. Restore them, and bring them into the joy of your presence. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: Permeate this world with the sweet perfume of Christ's anointing. Fill your people with such gratitude that it spills over into service of those who are poor or in any need. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: God of all, hear the prayers of our heart said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

L: Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: God is with you.

All: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given

for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ has prepared the feast.

All: We come to the table where all are welcomed home.

Be Seated

The ushers will invite you to the Lord's Table after the Lamb of God is sung.

LAMB OF GOD

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Holy Communion is open to all.
 Grape juice is white, wine is red.
 Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.
 If you desire communion brought to you,
 please let an usher know.



COMMUNION HYMN . . . "I Am the Bread of Life"

Text & Tune: Suzanne Toolan - ELW #485

1 "I am the Bread of life. You who
 2 "The bread that . . . I will give is my
 3 "Un - less . . . you . . . eat of the
 4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion,
 5 Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that . . .

come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man and . . .
 I am the life. . . . If you be -
 you are the Christ, the . . .

lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
 eat of this bread, and you shall . . . live for -
 drink of his blood, and drink of his
 lieve in . . . me, e - ven . . . though you
 Son of . . . God, who have . . .

me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
 ev - er, you shall live for - ev - er."
 blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
 die, you shall live for - ev - er."
 come in - to the world. . . .

Refrain

"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,
 and I will raise you up on the last day."

COMMUNION HYMN . . . “In God Alone”

Text & Tune: Taizé Community

in God a - lone my soul can find rest and peace, in
God, my peace and rest. On - ly in God my
soul can find its rest, find its rest and peace.

Singing Bowl

Please Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy.

All: Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation,

P: mending broken hearts, working for justice,

All: and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

L: Compassionate God, you have fed us with bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage:

All: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Be Seated

GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

BLESSING

P: God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, bless you and bring you to life everlasting.

All: Amen.

SENDING HYMN . . . “Lead On, O King Eternal!” vs 1, 3

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff - Tune: Henry T. Smart - ELW #805

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,
hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.
Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;
and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

DISMISSAL

L: You are marked with the cross of Christ.

All: We go forth to love and serve God.