



April 3, 2022
Fifth SUNDAY IN LENT
Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church

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Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you. Pastor Russel has an open door policy. Anyone wishing to speak to the pastor, is welcomed and encouraged to call. He is available 24/7.

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11:15AM

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CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

PRELUDE 'O Lord, We Praise Thee, Bless Thee, and Adore Thee' H. Scheidemann

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMES AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

GATHERING WORDS

On this Fifth Sunday in Lent we once again enter God's sanctuary. A sanctuary is a place set aside for sacred things. It is a place of refuge and protection. The season of Lent is a kind of sanctuary, extended in time. And one of the things Lent teaches is that you, too, are a sanctuary. There is inside you a place for sacred things, a place where God abides.

SILENT REFLECTION

As we extinguish the fifth candle, we invite God into our inmost being, only to find God is already there. We pray that God will strengthen us in our quiet places and then lead us into the work of justice and peace.

HYMN 'Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross' No. 301 (Refrain only)

In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever, till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

THE FIFTH CANDLE IS EXTINGUISHED

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

*OPENING HYMN 'The Lord Went to a Dinner' Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
7.6.7.6 D ("O Jesus, I Have Promised")

**The Lord went to a dinner, and Mary took perfume.
As she anointed Jesus, the fragrance filled the room.
She'd sat as a disciple, she'd been a faithful friend,
and now, with costly fragrance, she honored Christ again.**

Soon Judas was complaining, "This gift could have been sold;
We could have helped the poor here — the young ones and the old.

Yet Jesus said, "My people will always help the poor,
but Mary chose to give this — to me, her dying Lord."

Her gift was her expression of thankfulness and praise,
and so it makes us wonder, in these long Lenten days:
What would we give to Jesus if he sat at our meal?
What gift would be our kindness and what would it reveal?

O Lord, today we offer the best that we can bring —
our worship as a fragrance, our love, an offering.
And now, as we're reminded the poor are with us still,
we pray that we may serve them — to honor you, as well.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Come to Jesus this day. Bring with you all the pain that you feel.

People: Lord, bring to us healing and hope

Pastor: Come to Jesus this day. Bring with you your confusion and doubts.

People: Lord, bring to us restoration and renewal of life

Pastor: Come to Jesus this day and he will make something beautiful happen in your life.

HYMN

'Something Beautiful'

No. 394 (Sing 2 X)

OPENING PRAYER

We come into your presence, O Lord, with so many burdens and concerns on our hearts.
Help us to be open to your words of healing and restoration. Bring us closer to you.
Enable us to discern your will for us that we may serve you more faithfully by serving
others in need. In Christ's name, we pray. AMEN.

INTROIT

'El Shaddai'

No. 123

El Shad-dai, El Shad-dai, El El-yon na A-do-nai;
age to age you're still the same by the power of the name.
El Shad-dai, el Shad-dai, Er-kahm-ka na A-do-nai;
We will praise and lift you high, El Shad-dai.e

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

CELEBRATION THROUGH THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears our minds, and our hearts.
People: **that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.**

CHORAL RESPONSE

'Thy Word'

No. 601 (Refrain only)

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 43: 16-21

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

'Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus'

No. 349

*"Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace."*

Pastor: The Lord be with you,
People: **and also with you.**
Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. John.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*THE GOSPEL IS READ

John 12: 1-8

*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the Living Christ.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*GLORIA PATRI

No. 70

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

SERMON

"Do You Smell Handsome?"

Rev. Russel Shuluga

CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSION

GENERAL CONFESSION

Loving God, as we recognize your presence in our lives, made possible through the gift of Christ, we become aware of our own faults and the times where we may not have put love first: the occasions where our own fears have meant we focused more on ourselves than the needs of others; the occasions where our own defensiveness has meant we've reacted in ways which have hurt others. Forgive us God for the times we've got it wrong.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God understands our weaknesses, and through Christ and the Holy Spirit, God's love remains in our hearts, and we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

'He Touched Me'

No. 367

CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

At the dinner party for Jesus in Bethany, Mary anointed Christ with expensive perfume, pouring out her love and devotion. Jesus accepted Mary's gift gladly and graciously. Trust that Christ will never reject our gifts, offered with love and devotion, so let us present our offering with glad and generous hearts.

THE LORD'S OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY

'O My Soul Be Glad and Joyful'

G. Bohm

*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God, even as Mary poured out her love for Jesus, he was preparing to pour out his life on the cross for her and for us all. We are grateful for such love, given and received, then given again. Accept the gifts we bring and anoint them with your Spirit so that they will flow into the world, refreshing others with your mercy and love.

CELEBRATION THROUGH THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

Dear friends, we are going to Jerusalem with Jesus. He is our pardon, our healing, and our peace! We will suffer the trial with him, resisting evil. With him, we will walk the path to life. But come first to the table where there is food for the journey. With hearts full of joy we come, giving thanks to God, our maker, and offering our praise!

HYMN 'We Come to This Table' Carolyn Winfrey Gillette KREMSER 12.11.12.12 ("We Gather Together")

**We come to this table, O God, with thanksgiving.
We lift up our hearts, we remember, we pray.
We hear Jesus' welcome — inviting, forgiving;
we know your Spirit's peace as we feast here today.**

**We dine at your table as sisters and brothers,
Diverse in our cultures, yet nourished as one.
The bread and the cup that we share here with others
are gifts uniting all who are claimed by your Son.**

**We grieve for your world here; we cry, "How much longer?"
We pray for the cycles of violence to cease.
Yet here, in Christ broken, we're fed and made stronger
to labor in his name for a world filled with peace.**

**We rise from this table with new dedication
to feed the world's children, to free the oppressed,
to clear out the minefields, to care for creation;
we pray, O God of peace, that our work will be blest.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: May God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. When our ancestors were slaves in Egypt, strangers in the land, you saw our suffering, heard our cries, and came to deliver us— bringing us out of captivity into a land flowing with milk and honey.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna
in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, whose feet were generously and extravagantly anointed by Mary. Her example invites us to worship you extravagantly and generously.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, unite us with Christ and with your church in all the world. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thank you, merciful God, for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the splendors of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Give us the gifts of this Holy Communion —oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and life that never ends. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

*BENEDICTION

May our service to others become a fragrant gift in God's name. Go with God, the one who is about to do a new thing in and through us. Amen.



*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

'Jesus, Remember Me'

No. 488

*Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

*RECESSIONAL HYMN

'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross'

No. 298 V. 1 & 4

*POSTLUDE

'Recessional In D'

J. Mansfield

'WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD'