

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 17, 2024

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME & OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRELUDEI Want Jesus to Walk with Me, arr. S. Eithun¹

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 51

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love;

People: According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions. Leader: You desire truth in our deepest selves, so teach our hearts wisdom.

People: Let us hear your joy and gladness.

Leader: Create in us clean hearts, O God; put a new and right spirit within us.

People: Sustain in us willing spirits and restore us to the joy of your salvation.

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF ADORATION

*HYMN 247 Now the Green Blade Rises, Noel Nouvelet²

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Living Christ, with whom we journey to the cross, we confess that we are always looking for an easier way. We long for the fullness of life with you, but we are slow to abandon the comforts of the life we know. We seek the fruit of new life, but we are not willing to die to ourselves. You call us to life in community, but we stubbornly cling to "me and mine." Yet you offer the grace of life abundant, even and especially when our best efforts fall short. Transform us, renew us, and free us from our attachment to what was, so that you might bring us into the glory of what will be...(continue with silent confession). Amen.

SONG OF CONFESSION HYMN 577

Lord, Have Mercy, Kyrie Eleison³

After the cantor sings the verse once, the congregation will sing the verse once.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, hear the good news! We worship a God who forgives our iniqui-

ties and remembers our sins no more. Proclaim the good news with me:

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE (please use a fist/elbow bump or wave for your greeting)

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Please stand, turn to the back wall and wave to our online worshippers,

offering them the peace of Christ and then greet each other.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Amy Poland After the message, children may follow the teacher to room 11 for Spiritual Adventures.

SERMON

Altered by Losing Your Life to Save It

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 171

A Sower Came from Ancient Hills, Seachrist⁴

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns Pastoral Prayer The Lord's Prayer

PRAYER RESPONSE HYMN 467 (vs. 5)

Give Us Light, Jyothi Dho⁵

After the cantor sings the verse once, the congregation will sing the verse once.

Give us grace; give us grace; give us grace, O Lord.

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

OFFERTORY

Draw Us to You, arr. M. Burkhardt⁶

*DEDICATION HYMN 716 (vs. 1) God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending, Beach Spring⁷ God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Gracious God, it is our joy to return the gifts of our lives to you. May our offering this morning forever bring glory to your name, and may we continue to work tirelessly for the well-being of your whole creation. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 725

O Jesus, I Have Promised, Nyland⁸

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Beneath the Cross of Jesus, arr. D. Cherwien⁹

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Leaders Today:



Pastor: Rev. Scott Anderson Liturgist: Richard Appen Minister of Music: Joe Chrisman AV/Tech: Josh Mou

Handbells: Dorothy Blotz, Sue Dornfeld, Doug Rouse, Janet Sausen, Ann Rowley Ushers/Greeters: Abe & Carrie Aberle, Judy Graham, Joyce Buseman (Deacon)