Worship Plan for April 3, 2022: Fifth Sunday of Lent

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. **Amen.** Holy One,

we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day,

we have squandered our inheritance of grace,

we have failed to recognize you in our midst.

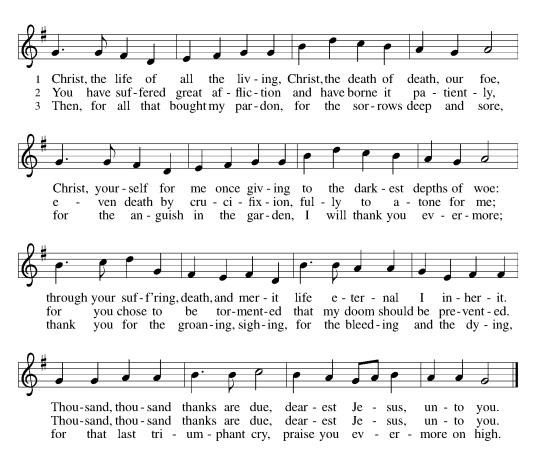
Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor.

Amen.

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love.

In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

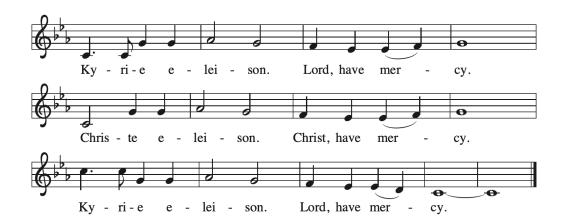
GATHERING SONG Christ, the Life of All the Living (ELW 339)



Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

KYRIE

The words "kyrie eleison" are an ancient prayer meaning "Lord have mercy" The term "Kyrie/Lord" usually referred to a worldly ruler such as an emperor and asking the Kyrie for mercy was a legal plea. It was a subversive thing for the early church to proclaim that Jesus is Lord and not the imperial power.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

The prophet declares that long ago God performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, God is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new Exodus.

- ¹⁶Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,
- ¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior;
- they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
- ¹⁸Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.
- ¹⁹I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
- I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.
- ²⁰The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches;
- for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,
- ²¹the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

PSALM: Psalm 126



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

When the LORD restored the for- tunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

²Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with 1 shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

³The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

⁴Restore our for-1 tunes, O LORD, like the watercourses 1 of the Negeb. R

⁵Those who | sowed with tears will reap with | songs of joy.

⁶Those who go out weeping, carry-1 ing the seed, will come again with joy, shoulder-1 ing their sheaves. R

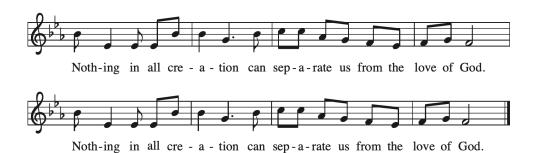
SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised 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; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More 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 ⁹and 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. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead

¹²Not 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. ¹³Beloved, 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, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: John 12:1-8

The holy gospel according to John.

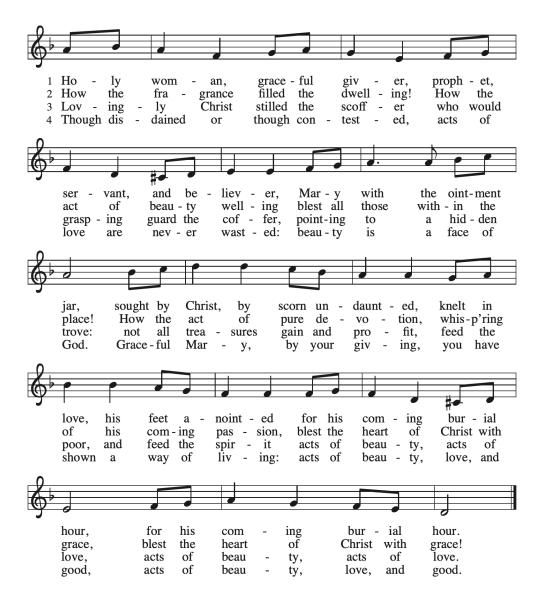
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary 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. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(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.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me." The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY Holy Woman, Graceful Giver: John 12 (ACS 1002)



Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953 Music: ALABASTER JAR, Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960 Text © 2016 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress Music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Do a new thing in the church. Free us from paradigms that no longer serve the gospel and bring forward leaders who imagine fresh ways of doing ministry. Give us courage in the face of change. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Do a new thing for creation. Reverse the trajectory of climate change and environmental catastrophe. Revive habitats already impaired by human disregard. Amplify the voices of climate scientists and researchers working to chart a new course. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Do a new thing in our world. Break barriers that prevent political enemies from working together for the well-being of all. Make a way for peace and collaboration among the nations. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Do a new thing for those who suffer. Reveal a path for any who are unemployed or underemployed, for those experiencing homelessness, and for all who struggle with money. Comfort those who grieve and restore those who are sick (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Do a new thing within us. Direct us into encounters that broaden our understanding of the human experience. Amplify voices that are ignored or devalued (*especially*). Deliver us especially from the scourge of racism. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Do a new thing in our death. Fill us with the knowledge of Christ and the power of his resurrection as we give thanks for (*names* and) all the saints who have attained the prize of their heavenly call. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



HOLY COMMUNION

You are invited to prepare your table with the food and drink that will be the Body and Blood of Christ for us,

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

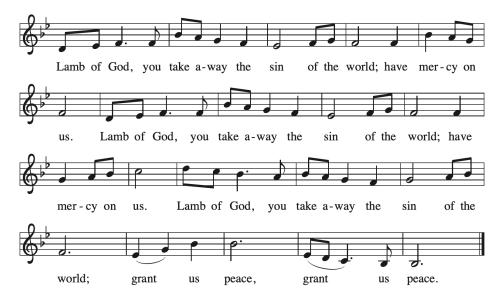
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled, for this is the Body and Blood of Christ, given and shed for you.

(At this time you are invited to receive communion, having heard the words of Christ's promise in this meal. If you are with someone else you can commune one another with the words "Body of Christ, given for you" and "Blood of Christ, shed for you". If you are alone, you have heard them from the pastor.)

COMMUNION SONG:



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. **Amen.**

BLESSING

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, + bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG Beneath the Cross of Jesus (ELW 338)



Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869 Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927