

Prince of Peace
906 North Main St. Brockton, Massachusetts
508-586-7975

Sunday April 3, 2022

Holy Communion

Enough!

The Fifth Sunday in Lent



Faith when life is fragile

Prelude Welcome

The life of Jesus includes many moments around tables. In this fifth week of the Lent season, we will hear a story of love and devotion from the disciple Mary, directed at Jesus at the table. Jesus tries to prepare his friends for his death. Talk of death is like a gut-punch to many of us; we would rather believe we and our loved ones are invincible, always strong. In truth we all know that isn't how the story goes. We are fragile. Our lives, like the plants in the gardens we tend, are susceptible to elemental dangers and a life-cycle of letting go in order to live.

Prayer

Call to Worship “Enough for me”

John Foley, SJ

Verse 1

1. Take, Lord, re-ceive all my lib-er-ty, my
1. mem-o-ry, un-der-stand-ing, my en-tire will.

Refrain

Give me on-ly your love and your grace: that's e-
nough for me. Your love and your grace
are e-nough for me.

2

Text based on *Spiritual Exercises*; St. Ignatius of Loyola, 1491–1556; John Foley, SJ.

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**Holy One, Lover of Souls, we call out to you.
You know our tears and sorrows,
and you bear the seeds of grief with us.
Open us this day to your comfort
that nurtures these seeds into sheaves of joy—
in the simple and good enough moments that fill our days. Amen.**

Time for Confession and Forgiveness

Jesus speaks the words no one wanted to admit: he was not always going to be around. “Oh, don’t say that,” so many of us have said to a loved one who speaks the truth about the fragility of life. Perhaps we get uncomfortable because it reveals the precious nature of the present moment, laying bare the beauty and horror of it all. The indescribable pain of separation that we know we will one day face invades our senses like a pervasive perfume, inescapable. What if we stopped denying the limited nature of our lives and breathed in deeply the fragrance of vulnerability? Let us take a moment of silent reflection...

Silence is kept for reflection.

**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,
looking for more when you are already enough.**

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, hear this compassionate word from Paul's Letter to the Philippians: "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."

Know that already, God is offering us freedom from the need to hide from the fragility of life.

We are invited into the knowledge that Christ's vulnerability in life, death, and resurrection shows us the sacred nature of the heights and depths of sorrow and joy in our own lives.

And know, that despite our sometimes faltering steps,

in the name of Jesus Christ, you are being forgiven, even now.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Glory to God! Amen.

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily in the soprano and alto parts, with the piano providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, corresponding to the four voices. The first line of lyrics is: '1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing', '2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -', '3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and', '4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the'. The second line of lyrics is: 'o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of', 'ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the', 'love up - on my way, from the cross the', 'cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that'. The third line of lyrics is: 'sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.', 'cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.', 'ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.', 'knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.'

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872
Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815-1867

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the day: Let us pray: 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.**

The Word

Children's Moment

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 126

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

²**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with 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.

⁴**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

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

⁶**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

Gospel Greeting for Lent:

**We do not live by bread alone, but by every word
that comes from the mouth of God. (*Deuteronomy 8:3*)**

Gospel: John 12:1-8

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!**

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Message

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

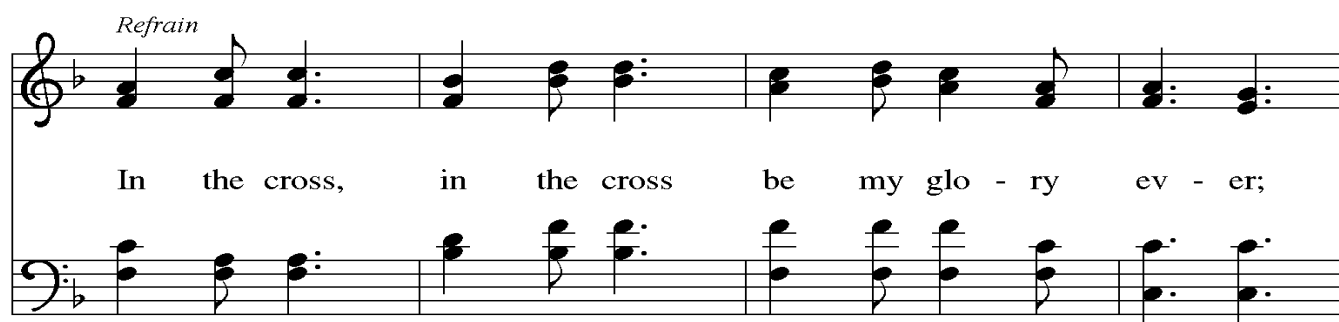


1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

The Peace

Announcements

--Thirsty Thursday theme: **We Follow Jesus! Pictures** toprandall22@gmail.com

--Weds. Bible Study 10 AM-we will be on Facebook live

--Voices of Refugees-Lenten soup and prayer at Holy Trinity N. Easton, soup
begins 5:30, prayer at 6:45

--Lenten Lunches at First –Friday at noon

--Today—Annual Meeting reconvenes following the service

Offering Prayer

Extravagant God,

you have blessed us with more than enough, the fullness of creation.

Now we gather at your feast

where you offer us the food that satisfies.

Take and use what we offer here, come among us,

and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,

in whose name we pray.

Amen.

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 structures 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. 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. 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 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.**

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Holy Communion

We, who are many, are one body, as we share this one bread.

The gifts of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

(Please come forward as you are able to the table of the Lord. We share in communion as household groups or individuals, one on each side of the communion table.)

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion:

Blessed Jesus,

**in this meal of grace, you have fed us with your body,
the bread of life, may it be enough for us.**

Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.

Amen

Blessing:

And now, may the God who loves all of creation, especially the grief-stricken parts,
and Jesus, our companion along this crooked path called life,
and the Holy Spirit, who loves to improvise in surprising ways,
go with you, dwell among you, and give you joy. **Amen**

Christ, the Life of All the Living

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,
 3 Then, for all that bought my par-don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,

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;
 for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;

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.
 thank you for the groan-ing, sigh-ing, for the bleed-ing and the dy - ing,

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.
 for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

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

Dismissal

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way and that is enough.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Join the Journey through Holy Week:

Palm Sunday 9 AM at First Lutheran-900 Main St.

We gather on the church steps to receive palms for the Palm Sunday processional

Maundy Thursday 6:30 PM at Prince of Peace-906 N. Main St.

We gather around tables in the church to share a Mediterranean Feast and remember that night when Jesus was betrayed.

Good Friday 7 PM at Holy Trinity-143 Lincoln St., N. Easton

We gather for the solemn service to commemorate the death and burial of Jesus for the love of you.

Easter Sunday 9:30 AM at Prince of Peace-906 N. Main St.

We gather to sing and celebrate Jesus risen and alive! Guest musician is Susanne Osberg



JOURNEY THROUGH HOLY WEEK WITH US.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

**JOIN US DURING HOLY WEEK
AND THEN CELEBRATE CHRIST'S
RESURRECTION ON EASTER.**

Thank you to Evelyn Reuben and our friends at First for printing this bulletin!

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