

Fifth Sunday in Lent April 6, 2025 8:30 am



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

Order of Worship

= Hymn Number, pp. = Page in front part of "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" (ELW) or "All Creation Sings" (ACS)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- C Amen.
- Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Compassionate One,

you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.

We do not always show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.

We do not readily welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.

We can wrongly judge others even though you have set us free again and again.

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

Transform our lives with your love and grace, guiding us in the way of the cross.

Amen.

P Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In + Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

C Amen.

(stand) **GATHERING HYMN**

"As We Gather At Your Table" ELW #522

(stand) **GREETING**

- 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.

(stand) PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

C Amen.

(sit) FIRST 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:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ 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; ⁶ as 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. ⁸ 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 ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if 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. ¹³ 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, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

- **A** Word of God, word of life.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(stand) GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Text: Gracia Grindal, based on Joel 2:13© 1998 Augsburg Fortress

(stand) GOSPEL READING	ın 12:1	2:1-
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- P The holy gospel according to John.
- Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

¹ Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ 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. ⁴ But 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.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

- **P** The gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to you, O Christ.

ANTHEM

(stand) APOSTLES' CREED

- P God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- 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.

(stand) THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

Silence for reflection.

Each petition will close with the words: "Lord, in your mercy,"

The response is "hear our prayer."

- All these prayers we offer to you, O God of boundless compassion, trusting you to care for what we have named aloud or in our hearts.
- C Amen.

PEACE

- P The peace of our Lord be with you always.
- And also with you.

(sit) THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Take Up Your Cross" arr. Edward Broughton

David Singer, organ

OFFERING PRAYER

- **P** Let us pray. Gracious Provider,
- you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world.

 As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

 Amen.

(stand) GREAT THANKSGIVING

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
- 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

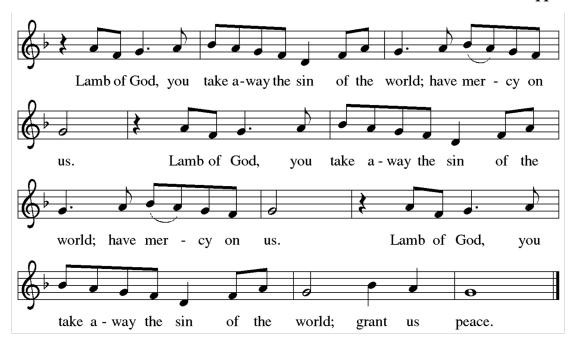
- P All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.
- **G** Thanks be to God.

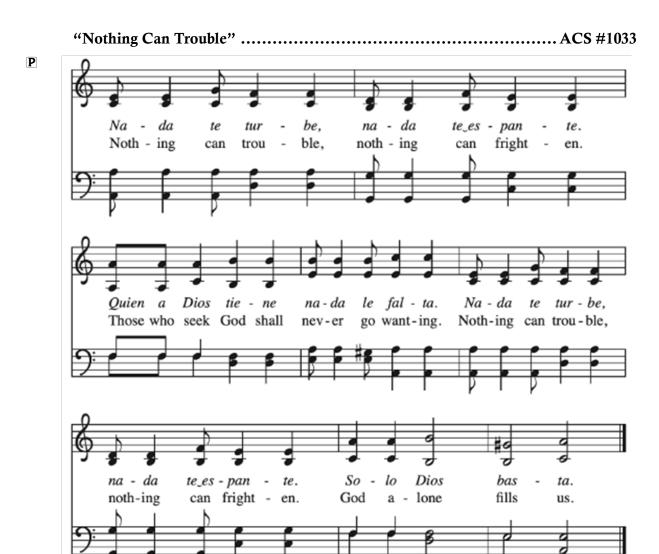
(sit) COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

Communion will be distributed at the altar railing. The usher will indicate when each section of pews should come forward. Whether kneeling or standing, those wishing to receive anointing, cross your arms after reaching the rail. If you are not able or not comfortable coming to the altar, the pastor will bring the bread and wine to you at the pew. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request these from the pastor.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

"Lamb of God" ELW pp135





The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen!

(stand) PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray...

Generous Host,

you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

BLESSING

- ☐ God our tender parent,
 God the crucified one,
 God the reconciling Spirit,
 ☐ bless you now and forever.
- Amen.

SENDING HYMN

God's work, our hands: work - ing to geth trav - 'ling God's work, feet: 2 geth our to er, sing - ing God's work, voice: our to geth cr, God at work is in a and round us: fu - ture, build - ing re pair - ing the world, fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un known, prais - ing, pro all who will hear, - claim - ing to seed - lings are sprout - ing bread's on the rise! and rais - ing gar homes, plant - ing dens, up new walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom, jus - tice, hon - ored, pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for Washed and set free. hum - bled and shelt - 'ring feed - ing the hun - gry and the cold. run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal. claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least. gift - ed by grace, we re spond in God's love. Bless, God, hands as your work in our we name, Bless, God, feet fol - low your our as we way, Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name, Bless, God, our lives an - swer your call, as wc the shar - ing good news your pel. the shar - ing good news of your gos pel.

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DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
- Thanks be to God!

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Contemporary Worship Leader & Handbell Choir Director	LeRoy Kennedy
Organist	David Singer
Director of Youth and Family Ministries	John Parson
Office Coordinator	Kristy Perkins
Community Schools Director	Brenda Moody
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