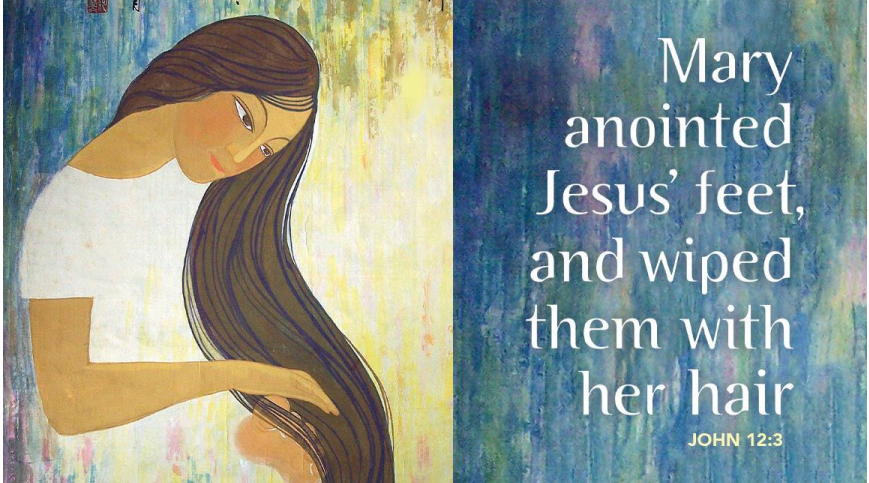


Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

945 W. Round Bunch Rd., Bridge City, TX 77611

(409) 735-4573



Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 3, 2022

PRELUDE

“Voluntary III”

- George F. Handel

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

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.
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.**

ENTRANCE HYMN “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” ELW 324



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



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



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.

GREETING

Please stand if you are able.

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.**

GATHERING SONG

“Now is the Time of Grace”

All worshipers are invited to sing the refrain; the choir will sing the verse.

Refrain

Now is the time of grace, now is the day of sal -
va - tion. Turn now, and seek God's face,
now be-hold God's in - vi - ta - tion.

*This is the fast that God would choose to loose the bonds of injustice, to let the captives go free, and to break the yoke of oppression. **Refrain***

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.**

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON

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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 126

Worshipers are invited to sing the refrain as indicated below. The choir will chant the psalm text.



*When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream. 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 us, and we are glad indeed. **REFRAIN***

*Restore our fortunes O Lord, like the watercourses of the Negev. Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves. **REFRAIN***

SECOND LESSON

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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

Please stand if you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

All worshipers are invited to sing the refrain; the choir will sing the verse.



Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL

John 12:1-8

The 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!**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand if you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Holy God, Holy and Glorious”

ELW 637



1	Ho	-	ly	God,	ho	-	ly	and	glo	-	ri	-	ous,
2	Ho	-	ly	God,	ho	-	ly	and	pow	-	er	-	ful,
3	Ho	-	ly	God,	ho	-	ly	and	beau	-	ti	-	ful,
4	Ho	-	ly	God,	ho	-	ly	and	on	-	ly	wise,	
5	Ho	-	ly	God,	ho	-	ly	and	liv	-	ing	one,	



glo	-	ry	most	sub	-	lime,	you	come	as	one	a	-	mong	us			
pow	-	er	with	-	out	peer,	you	bend	to	us	in	weak	-	ness;			
beau	-	ty	un	-	sur	-	passed,	you	are	de	-	spised,	re	-	ject	-	ed;
wis	-	dom	of	great	price,	you	choose	the	way	of	fol	-	ly:				
life	that	nev	-	er	ends,	you	show	your	love	by	dy	-	ing,				



in	-	to	hu	-	man	time,	and	we	be	-	hold	your	glo	-	ry.
emp	-	tied,	you	draw	near,	and	we	be	-	hold	your	pow	-	er.	
scorned,	you	hold	us	fast,	and	we	be	-	hold	your	beau	-	ty.		
God	the	cru	-	ci	-	fied,	and	we	be	-	hold	your	wis	-	dom.
dy	-	ing	for	your	friends,	and	we	be	-	hold	you	liv	-	ing.	

THE NICENE CREED

Let us profess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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 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. Deliver us especially from the scourge of racism. Be with the people of Ukraine as their country's sovereignty is threatened. We pray for those who have been injured; we pray for the families of those who have died. We pray for those who have lost homes and places of work. We pray for peace and an end to the aggression. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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.**

Please be seated.



SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

RECEIVING OUR OFFERINGS

ANTHEM “Lenten Meditation” - Jay Althouse

OFFERING PRAYER *Those who are able shall stand.*

Let us pray. Extravagant God, you have blessed us with 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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and

merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

WOV S36

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

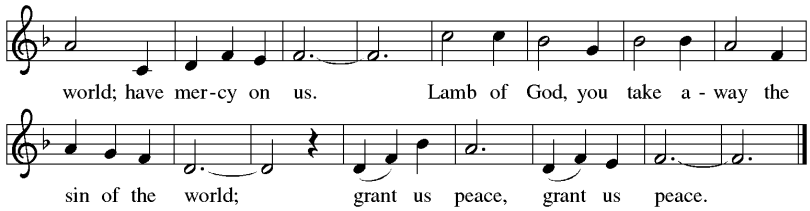
Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD

WOV S39

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the". The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating that a single note spans multiple syllables.



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Variations on *Nelson*

- Robert B. Farlee

Please stand.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. 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

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

ELW 338



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

DISMISSAL

Go in love and peace to serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Dialogue”

- Louis Marchand

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Opportunities for Service



Good Shepherd congregation is involved in the following activities each month and always welcomes additional help. Check with the church office for more information.

Preparing and serving lunch at First Presbyterian Church, Orange

Serving lunch at Some Other Place, Beaumont

Preparing sack lunches and distributing them in Orange, First Presbyterian Church

Operating the Seek and Find resale shop

Supporting the Bridge City Orangefield Ministerial Alliance

Storm Relief

Canned goods for the Bridge City Orangefield Ministerial Alliance Pantry

Worship Opportunities for Holy Week and Easter



Sunday, April 10, 9 and 11 am – Sunday of the Passion
with Holy Communion

Thursday, April 14, 5:00 pm – Family Dinner with Holy
Communion and Maundy Thursday rites

Friday, April 15, 6 pm – Good Friday – Adoration of the
Cross

Sunday, April 17, 9 and 11 am – The Day of
Resurrection (Easter) worship with Holy Communion

Open Your Hand

“You always have the poor with you,” Jesus told the disciple who complained about the extravagance of Mary’s anointing (John 12:8). It’s not a callous dismissal. In fact, he is likely quoting Deuteronomy 15:11, which continues: “I therefore command you, ‘Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.’”

No one has ever lived in a world that has solved the crisis of poverty. It can be disheartening to see the same social problems we have addressed for years continuing to grow.

Throughout Jesus’ life and teaching, he repeatedly offered examples of our ongoing responsibility to care for each other. “You will always have the poor with you” may feel deflating when we focus on *always*, but what if we put the emphasis on *with*? How are we *with* people who are poor, in diverse communities of various experiences, incomes, needs, and insights?

We live in a time and place of considerable financial instability without much room for error. One health crisis or job loss can sink us into poverty, so we need each other. Mary’s extravagant generosity shows us we are not on our own. As members of the body of Christ, we are in this together. We can let generosity flow through us because God pours life into us, fragrant and overflowing, bursting with possibility.

We pray not for “*my* daily bread” but for “*our* daily bread” (Matthew 6:11), so we must be *with* each other, to share, to give and receive, to love and be loved. We are children of a God who, like Mary with her perfume, does not hold back but lets love flow. This love flows richly through us, through the body of Christ that gathers together and cares for each other and for others. Together we have enough.