

Midweek of Lent 1 - March 9, 2022

12:00 & 7:00 PM

WITNESSES TO CHRIST



ORDER OF VESPERS

AS WE GATHER

Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha, was a witness to Christ as recorded in John's Gospel. As Jesus and many others are gathered for dinner, Mary anoints Jesus' feet with an ointment that was worth a year's wages. What a generous act! Mary's generosity is contrasted with Judas's greed. Judas criticizes Mary's generosity toward Jesus, saying that the ointment could have been sold and the proceeds given to the poor. But John notes something important: Judas did not say this because he cared about the poor. Judas kept the moneybag for the disciples and had been continually stealing from it. While Mary is generous toward Jesus, Judas seeks his own advantage. We remember Mary's generosity and love, which point us to Jesus.

HYMN SING

WELCOME

Stand

OPENING VERSICLES

LSB 229

SERIES HYMN

'Behold! The Lamb of God,' John Said

1. "Behold! The Lamb of God," John said,
"Who takes all sin away."
This Lamb is Christ, who in our stead
For sin would mutely pay.
"Behold your King!" by Pilate scourged;
Sin's hellish sum on Him converged,
While "Crucify!" the hateful urged,
Their Savior to betray.
2. The Way—of justice was deprived;
The Truth—was overrun;
The Life—was all from Christ derived;
God glorifies His Son!
"I am the Bread of Life," Christ said;
"My sacred blood for all, I shed;
Who eats and drinks of Me is fed."
All death by Christ undone.
3. Christ's glory is not seen by those
Who view God's Word as dross,
For worldly wisdom never knows
How gain could come from loss.
Yet, this the glory of the Christ:
His perfect life He sacrificed,
His finished work for all sufficed—
Debt canceled on the cross.
4. May we this holy Lententide
Christ's Passion clearly see;
This somber vision will provide
The truth that sets us free.
Hear John, who speaks of what he knows;
Come, follow on the path Christ chose:
The cross, the tomb from which He rose
In joyous victory!

READING

Proverbs 11:24–28

P A reading from Proverbs, the eleventh chapter.

²⁴One gives freely, yet grows all the richer;
another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.

²⁵Whoever brings blessing will be enriched,
and one who waters will himself be watered.

²⁶The people curse him who holds back grain,
but a blessing is on the head of him who sells it.

²⁷Whoever diligently seeks good seeks favor,
but evil comes to him who searches for it.

²⁸Whoever trusts in his riches will fall,
but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

G **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

The Wonderful Cross

Words & music by Jesse Reeves, Chris Tomlin & JD Walt
Saving Grace

READING

2 Corinthians 9:6–12

P A reading from Second Corinthians, the ninth chapter.

⁶The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹As it is written,

“He has distributed freely, He has given to the poor;
His righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. ¹²For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

READING

John 12:1–11

P A reading from St. John, the twelfth chapter.

¹Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ²So they gave a dinner for Him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with Him at the table. ³Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples (he who was about to betray Him), said, ⁵“Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” ⁶He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. ⁷Jesus said, “Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My burial. ⁸The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me.”

⁹When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of Him but also to see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. ¹⁰So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book.

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Serving the Lord and Us This Evening:

PreachingPastor Mike Ada
LiturgistVicar Zach Roll
OrganistDeb Miller
Acolytes Addison Shelledy & Kelsey Teply



Rev. Joel Schultz, Senior Pastor

Rev. Michael Ada, Associate Pastor

Vicar Zachary Roll, Student Pastor

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