

**Fifth Sunday in Lent  
April 6, 2025**

**Gathering**  
*God invites us to enter His presence*

**Prelude**                      *His Robes for Mine*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Preparation for Worship** (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

**✠ Call to Worship** (*Responsively*)

*Susan Obenschain*

Let us contemplate Jesus the Lord:  
Instead of the joy meant for him,  
he endured the cross, disregarding its disgrace.

**We worship you, Lord.**

O Jesus Christ, born in humility  
to confound the proud and to raise the humble:

**We worship you, Lord.**

You lived among us, healing the sick,  
proclaiming good news to the poor and freedom to prisoners.

**We worship you, Lord.**

You came to unbind the chains of every slavery,  
O friend of the humble, bread of hungry hearts.

**We worship you, Lord.**

Jesus, full of patience and goodness,  
you showed forgiveness and kindness to the very end.

**We worship you, Lord.**

Jesus, gentle and humble of heart,  
you call to yourself all who are weary and burdened.

**We worship you, Lord.**

Jesus, you came into the world to serve and to give your life;  
you were betrayed for money, dragged before judges,  
and nailed to a cross.

**We worship you, Lord.**

Jesus, Lord of the universe,  
by your resurrection from the dead you are alive at the Father's side,  
and there you prepare a place for us.

**We worship you, Lord.**

**✠ Invocation** (*Responsively*)

*Susan Obenschain*

Lord Jesus, we walk with you through the valley of the shadow of  
death.

**Let us find our life in you, O Lord.**

Banished from the Garden of Eden for our rebellion,  
**we long for the garden of Paradise.**

O Lord, you are the Christ.

**Remember us in your kingdom.**

We come to hear you speak of your love for us.

**You have the words of eternal life. Amen.**

 **Opening Hymn 6**

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

**Confessing**  
***God invites us to be honest with Him***

**Call to Confession**

*Susan Obenschain*

The very stone that the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone. Come now to Christ, that living stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious. Whoever believes in him will not be put to shame. Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

—based on 1 Peter 2:4-7, NRSV

**Prayer of Confession** (*Responsively*)

*Susan Obenschain*

**Lamb of God, we are burdened: We do not love you as we should.**

We forget our dependence on you and do not honor you.

Instead of glorifying you, we try to bring ourselves glory.

**Lamb of God, we are burdened:**

**We do not love others as we should.**

We hurry through our days and miss opportunities to be your hands and feet. We judge quickly and respond thoughtlessly.

**Lamb of God, we are burdened: We do not love ourselves as we should.**

We disparage our appearances, criticize our best efforts, and misuse our bodies.

**Lamb of God, we are burdened: We are weighed down by the bad things that are done to us.**

We hold grudges, harbor bad feelings, and believe lies told about us.

**Lamb of God, we are burdened: We are overwhelmed by sin.**

Man of sorrows, you know our pain and suffering.

By your wounds we are healed.

**Take our burdens, we pray, and free us from sin. Amen.**

**Time for Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

*Susan Obenschain*

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:  
everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!  
All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ,  
and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Receive the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

—based on 2 Corinthians 5:17-18, NRSV

*Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord*

**All: Thanks be to God!**

 **Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
A-men, A-men.*

 **Passing of the Peace**

*Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You  
All: **And also with you***

**Offering**

***Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him***

**Invitation**      God has shown us the meaning of generosity in the beautiful diversity of creation, in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ, in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit. God has abundantly blessed us and called us to be a community that honors each other, to serve others with joy, to share our love and material possessions. Let us rejoice in what we have been given and in what is ours to give.

**Offering**

**Offertory**                      *Behold the Lamb*                      *Getty/Townend*  
*(Pamela Johnson, flute/Steven Hoopes, piano)*

 **Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

 **Prayer of Dedication**

Compassionate God, we offer you these gifts as signs of our time and labor. Receive the offering of our lives and feed us with your grace, that in the midst of death all creation might feast on your unending life in Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

 **Praise Song**

*We Will Feast in the House of Zion*

*Chorus*

*We will feast in the house of Zion  
We will sing with our hearts restored  
He has done great things we will say together  
We will feast and weep no more*

*Verse 1*

*We will not be burned by the fire  
He is the Lord our God  
We are not consumed by the flood  
Upheld protected gathered up*

*Verse 2*

*In the dark of night before the dawn  
My soul be not afraid  
For the promised morning oh how long  
Oh God of Jacob be my strength*

*Verse 3*

*Every vow we've broken and betrayed  
You are the faithful one  
And from the garden to the grave  
Bind us together bring shalom*

**Proclaiming**

***God speaks to us through His Word***

**Scripture Reading**

*John 12:1-8*

**12** Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany where Lazarus was, the one Jesus had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup> So they gave a dinner for him there; Martha was serving them, and Lazarus was one of those reclining at the table with him. <sup>3</sup> Then Mary took a pound of perfume, pure and expensive nard, anointed Jesus's feet, and wiped his feet with her hair. So the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

<sup>4</sup> Then one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot (who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup> "Why wasn't this perfume sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup> He didn't say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief. He was in charge of the money-bag and would steal part of what was put in it.

<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered, "Leave her alone; she has kept it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup> For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

**Sermon**

*"The Supper at Bethany"*  
*Rev. Paul Toms*

 **Hymn of Response 176**

*Lead Me to Calvary*

## Sacrament of Communion

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise!**

## Invitation to the Table

Leader: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you  
proclaim the Lord's death until He comes Again!

**People: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come  
again!**

### Responding

*We respond to God's Word*

## Profession of Faith *(In Unison) Apostle's Creed*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
Born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, died, and buried;  
He descended into hell;  
The third day he rose from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

### Commissioning

*God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*

## Commission Hymn 262 *Holy, Holy, Holy*

## Benediction & Blessing

## Postlude *Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery*