

Fifth Sunday in Lent – 3.26.10am



Bible Study – March 29th @7pm - “The Chosen”! Season 3. Connie Pinkowski’s home – 4E 26th St.

Mid-Week – Soup/Supper with Devotions – Come and join us the Tuesday evenings during Lent @6pm. Fun and Fellowship, Prayer and Reflection.

Family Promise – We had a great week with our two families. Thanks to everyone who pitched into help. A special word of gratitude to LouAnn Preston for leading our hospitality and arrangements this week. Let us remember these families in our prayers and thoughts this week! God bless us one and all!

Date Saver – Friday, April 14 from 10 – 11am in our Fellowship Hall. **Sara Gonzalez, Health Specialist and LBI Health Dept. Rep.** will be speaking at Zion covering a multitude of topics and information for us all to keep healthy and in the know about what is available for our community. The Event is FREE. _____

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God’s mercy. (*Silence*)
 Holy God, **we confess to you our faults and failings.**
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you!
 God embraces you with divine mercy, ✝ forgives you in Christ’s name, and revives you in the Spirit’s power. **Amen.**

HYMN: #834 - Immortal Invisible God Only Wise

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD." The Word of the Lord...**Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 130

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;

²**O LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

³If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand?

⁴**Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.**

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

⁶**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

⁸**For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**



A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John 11:1- 45 – **Glory to You, O Lord!**

Narrator: Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said,

Jesus: "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

Narrator: ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this Jesus said to the disciples,

Jesus: "Let us go to Judea again."

Narrator: ⁸The disciples said to him,

All: "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?"

Jesus: "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him."

Disciples: "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right."

Narrator: ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly,

Jesus: "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

Narrator: ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples,

Disciples: "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

Narrator: ¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus,

Martha: "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him."

Jesus: "Your brother will rise again."

Martha: "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus: "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Martha: "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

Narrator: ²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately,

Martha: "The Teacher is here and is calling for you."

Narrator: And when Mary heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.
³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him,

Mary: "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

Narrator: ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said,

Jesus: "Where have you laid him?"

Narrator: They said to him,

All: "Lord, come and see."

Narrator: ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said,

All: "See how he loved him!"

Narrator: ³⁷But some of them said,

All: "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Narrator: ³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said,

Jesus: "Take away the stone."

Martha: "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days."

Jesus: "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"

Narrator: ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and prayed,

Jesus: "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me."

Narrator: ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice,

Jesus: “Lazarus, come out!”

Narrator: ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them,

Jesus: “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Narrator: ⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord...**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

REFLECTIONS

HYMN: 619 – I Know that My Redeemer Lives – verses 1-4

Prayers of Intercession

Sustained by God’s abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. (*A brief silence.*)

O God, our God, Your Spirit brings life to all creation. Enliven the natural world and restore ecosystems in need of healing. **Uplift prophetic voices that turn us to understand the needs of the soil beneath our feet and the air which we all breathe.**

You redeem the world and its peoples. Free us from systems of oppression. **Raise up leaders at all levels of government who work to promote the dignity of every human life.**

O Lord, You weep when we weep. Be present with those who grieve or who are troubled by illness. **Bless those who are sick and free us from the worries that bind us.** By name we pray for these sisters and brothers of ours. (the names of our sick and those in need are spoken aloud or quietly before the Lord.)

Your Spirit of life dwells in our assembly. **Bless Zion’s musicians. By name we remember, Earl Hem, Carole Schneider, Harold Hawkes and our choir and our praise music group.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY

Offering Prayer - God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

Invitation to Communion

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

*[Ushers will escort you to the Communion Rail to receive.
After receiving the wafer, (GLUTEN FREE WAFERS AVAILABLE)
you will be able to take a small cup of wine (red) or grape juice
(white) from a tray. Deposit the empty cup in the basket. Then
return to you seat.]*

COMMUNION HYMN: Lord Be Glorified

- 1 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in my life, Lord, be glorified today.
- 2 In our song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in our song, Lord, be glorified today.
- 3 In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in your church, Lord, be glorified today.
- 4 In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

Prayer after Communion - Lord God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. **Amen.**

Blessing - The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod ✝ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN – #823 – Praise the Lord, O Heavens

Dismissal – Go in peace to Love and Serve the Lord...**Thanks be to God!**

***"God calls us to share our faith in Christ
with the community in all seasons!"***



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