

The First Sunday in Lent
“It Happened at Bethany”
February 21, 2021
9:00 a.m.

PRELUDE “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” by Paul Manz Carla Barrows, Organ

WELCOME Pastor Michael P. Dorn, Senior Pastor

INVOCATION

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

- P** Let us ever walk with Jesus.
- C** To see the depths of His love.
- P** To behold the gift of His forgiveness.
- C** To gaze upon the heights of His grace.
- P** To marvel at the magnitude of His mercy.
- C** We walk with Jesus to Bethany.
- P** And into the house of Simon the leper.
- C** Mary prepares Christ for His burial by anointing Him with perfume.
- P** Faithful Lord with me abide.
- C** I shall follow where You guide!

OPENING HYMN “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” LSB 685, vs. 1, 2

Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father’s bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Our Gospel reading states that, “Mary came up to Jesus with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on His head as He reclined at table.” Forgive us, kind Father—

C **For too often, our giving is nothing like this.**

P Our sinful nature prefers another word—

C **Get.**

P Get even, get back and get revenge.

C **Get more, get ahead and get on top.**

P We are consumed with consuming.

C **Driven by selfish desires.**

P Passionate about more possessions.

C **We are too much like the disciples.**

P And too little like Mary.

C **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ’s love is greater.)

P Hear the good news! Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane, Gabbatha and Golgotha—for you. That’s why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Faithful Lord, with me abide!

C **I shall follow where You guide!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You for Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus, for through her generosity we catch a glimpse of Your joyful and generous kingdom. By Your Spirit’s power enable us to live and give like her; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 36:1-7

R The Old Testament Reading is from the 36th Chapter of Exodus.

R “Bezalel and Oholiab and every craftsman in whom the Lord has put skill and intelligence to know how to do any work in the construction of the sanctuary shall work in accordance with all that the Lord has commanded.”

And Moses called Bezalel and Oholiab and every craftsman in whose mind the Lord had put skill, everyone whose heart stirred him up to come to do the work. And they received from Moses all the contribution that the people of Israel had brought for doing the work on the sanctuary. They still kept bringing him freewill offerings every morning, so that all the craftsmen who were doing every sort of task on the sanctuary came, each from the task that he was doing, and said to Moses, "The people bring much more than enough for doing the work that the Lord has commanded us to do." So Moses gave command, and word was proclaimed throughout the camp, "Let no man or woman do anything more for the contribution for the sanctuary." So the people were restrained from bringing, for the material they had was sufficient to do all the work, and more. (ESV)

- R** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING 2 Corinthians 8:1-5

- R** The Epistle Reading is from the 8th Chapter of 2nd Corinthians.
- R** We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own free will, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. (ESV)

- R** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 26:6-13

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 26th Chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**
- P** Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came up to Him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on His head as He reclined at table. And when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, "Why this waste? For this could have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor." But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to Me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have Me. In pouring this ointment on My body, she has done it to prepare Me for burial. Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her." (ESV)

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CONFESSION OF FAITH Nicene Creed

- C** **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the

virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Matt Meier, Director of Discipleship

MESSAGE HYMN "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" LSB 425

ALL: When I survey the wondrous cross
 On which the Prince of Glory died,
 My richest gain I count but loss
 And pour contempt on all my pride.

SOLO: *Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
 Save in the death of Christ, my God;
 All the vain things that charm me most,
 I sacrifice them to His blood.*

ENSEMBLE: *See, from His head, His hands, His feet
 Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
 Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
 Or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

ALL: Were the whole realm of nature mine,
 That were a tribute far too small;
 Love so amazing, so divine,
 Demands my soul, my life, my all!

MESSAGE "It Happened at Bethany" Pastor Michael P. Dorn

OFFERING

(Offerings may be submitted online to www.trinitydt.org, by mail to Trinity Downtown, 800 Houston Ave., Houston, TX 77007 or dropped off at the office, M-F, 8:30 - 2:30.)

MUSICAL OFFERING "And Can It Be?" by Dan Forrest Randy Boatright

*And can it be, and can it be?
Amazing love, how can it be?*

*And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me who caused His pain?
For me who Him to death pursued?*

*Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou my God, shouldst die for me?*

*He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace;
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race;*

*Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For O my God, it found out me.*

And can it be? Amazing love, how can it be?

*No condemnation now I dread,
Jesus and all in Him is mine.
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine.*

*Bold I approach th' eternal throne,
And claim the crown through Christ my own.*

*Amazing love how can it be?
That Thou, my God shouldst die for me?*

Amazing love!

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

DISMISSAL

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P Jesus invites us to walk with Him to Bethany, a place of great suffering and a place of great love. We will walk with Jesus all the way to the empty tomb—and resurrection victory.

C **Let us ever walk with Jesus!**

CLOSING HYMN “Take My Life and Let It Be” LSB 783, vs. 1, 3, 4, 6

ALL: Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

SOLO: *Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.*

ENSEMBLE: *Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.*

ALL: Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

POSTLUDE “Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated” Carla Barrows, Organ
by Emma Lou Diemer

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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