

Fifth Sunday of Lent
 April 6, 2025
 The Last Supper: Risking the Loss of Friends

PREWORSHIP MUSIC

PRELUDE *Entering the Passion* (Bell) **Kevin Crone, piano**
CANDLELIGHTING & CHOIR PROCESSION

GREETING & WELCOME

Pastor: We continue our journey through Lent as we step inside the heartbreaking story of saying goodbye to friends. We put ourselves in the picture of Holy Week, so that we might take a closer look and let the ancient story open us to listen to one another and treasure each other—all equal and precious in the eyes of God. Jesus’ words at the Last Supper were shocking to those in attendance. His words can seem familiar, even comforting to us because we hear these words every time we have communion. But at the moment of their utterance, they were anything but “usual.” This week we enter the scene of that Last Supper long enough to get a grasp of the shock that would have rippled through Jesus’ friends. Partaking of body and blood? Not kosher! A “Lord” washing feet like a servant? Unbelievable! Breaking bread with the enemy? What?! But Jesus knew his time was up. And it was time for the disciples to get the message, even if it came in a shocking way: love one another as I have loved you—by serving, forgiving, freeing, communing—becoming one with—God.

INTROIT

Entering the Passion

En - ter. En-ter the pas - sion. En-ter the place we be-long,
 not just look-ing on. For this is our pas - sion. En-ter the pas - sion.
 En-ter the sto - ry... En-ter the pas - sion... En-ter His pas - sion...

INVITATION TO THE CONFESSION

Pastor: As God's beloved children, we are invited to come to our God with the fullness of our lives, to admit our love and our hate, to admit our faith and our fear. Trusting in God's mercy, let us make our confession, first in silent prayer. (Silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All people: Holy God, you know us better than we know ourselves, and you see us more clearly than we see ourselves. Sometimes we pretend to be better than we are. We do things we know will hurt others and act as though we are blameless. But we aren't. We are complicit, and we are guilty, and we are broken. So we ask for your forgiveness, because you love us more than we can imagine, and you can make us whole beyond our wildest dreams. This we ask in the name of Jesus, who came to show us The Way. Amen.

OPENING HYMN *Community of Christ* **Blue Hymnal #655**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS & PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor: Beloved children of God, know this: Our lives contain continual opportunities to be in humble service to friends and strangers. You are forgiven and freed, encouraged and loved by a God who wants you to live fully. Let us enter the passion of Christ, and pass the peace of Christ with each other using the words: Peace be with you

All people: And also with you.

WELCOME HYMN TO CHILDREN *I Love to Tell the Story* **Blue Hymnal #480**

THROUGH A CHILD'S EYES *Jesus Washed Disciples' Feet* **John 13:12-16**

HYMN *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love* **Blue Hymnal #600**

GOSPEL READING **Luke 4:16-21**

A CHARACTER EMERGES FROM THE STORY **Catherine Fuhrman, Dramatist**

SUNG RESPONSE *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love* (Verse 4, only) **Blue Hymnal #600**

SERMON **Rev. Laura C. Baker**

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER (using "sins")

All people: 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

ANTHEM

Love Consecrates the Humblest Act (Currie)

Chancel Choir

OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist: Your generosity in time, talent and treasure is witness to our deeply held values. Jesus says: Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Let us offer our lives to the Lord with a song and prayer.

OFFERING SONG *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love* (Verse 5, only) **Blue Hymnal #600**

OFFERING PRAYER

All people: O Lord, you graciously pour out your blessings on us. Your gifts surround us. Despite our abundance, help us see Mary's gift, for we long to give as she did, gladly giving generously. All we have are gifts from your hand. Help us loosen our hands, giving to work of this church on your behalf, for in giving freely to you, we gain the opportunity to live abundant lives! Amen.

HYMN

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

Blue Hymnal #385

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

Pastor: Christ the Feet Washer and the Friend of Sinners is your only King, therefore, no menial service for others is beneath your dignity. and no individual is unworthy of your concern and respect.

All people: Let it be so, dear Lord, let it be.

Pastor: You cannot be a mini-Christ to everyone who is in trouble but you can be Christ's agent for some.

Therefore, I charge you in the name of Christ to keep your eyes and hearts open, and you will recognize those in whom Christ comes to you for mercy.

All people: Let it be so, dear Lord, let it be.

Pastor: Now may the blessings of the God of life, the Christ of love, and the Spirit of Grace be upon you this day and forevermore.

All people: Amen

POSTLUDE

Exiting the Passion (Bell)

CANDLE EXTINGUISHING

ACOLYTE

WORSHIP LEADERS & CHOIR RECESS

THE BODY OF CHRIST EXITS THE SANCTUARY AND ENTERS THE WORLD