HOLY COMMUNION AT EVENING  
Fifth Saturday in Lent  
Mary anoints Jesus for his burial  
Saturday • April 6, 2019 • 5:00 pm

Christ is a way through the wilderness, a river in the desert

The Lord our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading we recall the transformation of Saul, the persecutor, into Paul, the apostle. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC  “At the Foot of the Cross”  Jeremy Young

At the sound of the bell, please stand if you are able.

Please turn to face the evening prayer candle as it moves throughout the service.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + One God, our life and our salvation.

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kyrie (Lord have mercy)

Creator of life, God beyond us, Holy Beginning;

Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care.

Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy.

Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sin for the sake of + Christ, leading you from death into life.

Amen.

GATHERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert.

Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ; in whose name we pray.

Amen.

The presider continues with words of welcome.

WORD

READING

The LORD gives water in the wilderness to the chosen people  Isaiah 43:16-21

The prophet declares that long ago the Lord performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, the Lord is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new exodus.

The reading concludes: The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.

silence follows for reflection

GOSPEL

The assembly stands and welcomes the gospel, singing:

Mary anoints Jesus for his burial  John 12:1-8

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary’s extravagant act of anointing Jesus’ feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

before the reading:  The holy gospel according to ....  The gospel of the Lord.

after the reading:  Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy; hear our prayer.

HYMN

“O God in Heaven”  (hymn) 748

MEAL

OFFERING

“What Wondrous Love Is This”  arr. Sally Mansing

When bread and wine are broken and shared in the Lord’s Supper an offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set.

Offertory prayer

Let us pray together.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with the words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:

Lord’s Prayer (1975)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Communion

All who come seeking Jesus are invited to receive these gifts of God.
Communion at this service is served standing at stations near the altar. Pick up a cup for wine or filled with grape juice as you approach. Grape juice and gluten-free bread are available upon request. The benefits of the sacrament are fully present in either the bread or the wine, should health reasons prevent you from receiving one of them. Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. Prayer at the chancel kneelers during communion is always welcomed.

“Holy God, Holy and Glorious”

Prayer after Communion

Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, who fills the creation with abundance,
Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness,
Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us,
○ bless you and bring you to life everlasting.

Amen.

SENDING

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

12:15 pm Service of Word and Prayer around the Font with member faith story
12:45 pm Lenten lunch luncheon
1:00 pm God’s Word in our Midst Lectionary Bible Study with the weekend preacher
6:00 pm Creed class
7:00 pm ELW Evening Prayer (Vespers)

I give my heart to...

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Peter Nycklemoe, presiding
The Rev. David Wanggaard preaching
Christopher Haug, assisting minister
Diane Olson, reader
Jane Lien, organist/pianist
Mark Kieffer, sound operator
Varney Kiazolu, Ramisha Jefferson, greeters, hosts & ushers
Richard Steggall, Bruce Bergeson-Meekins,
Bill Masche, Dave West, sacristans

Please join us for fellowship in the fireside room following worship.

This service is being streamed live on the internet. www.centralmpls.org

POSTLUDE

“Heartfelt Thankfulness”

Chris Berge, organist

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

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CLOSING PRAYER

Amen.

WELCOME

You are welcome. No exceptions.

Central Lutheran Church experiences God’s expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God’s family, created in God’s image. We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all. Central Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. We invite guests to complete the “Welcome to Central” card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please contact us at 612-870-4416, or email info@centralmpls.org.

Children are welcome at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at Sanctuary entrances. The nursery may be found near the welcome desk. Nursery staff are provided on Sunday mornings.

Welcome to the Lord’s Table. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome at the Lord’s Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

Welcome to the Holy Baptism. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. A pastor will contact you.

Friends of Central…Stay connected

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Central Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you’re one of them, we invite you to join our network of Friends of Central. Pick up a brochure or visit our website for more information or to join.

Electronic Giving Opportunities: Online at www.centralmpls.org click on Give Today; or text 73256, enter code word centralmpls (lower case), and a numerical amount. Press send and fill in the details. All contributions from members and guests will appear in a contribution statement. WIFI is available as Central Lutheran (password guests). If you give electronically, use the green pew card to drop in the offering plate instead of an envelope. The ministries and mission of Central Lutheran are supported by givers like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-870-4416.

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