

HEARTS @ HOME



A Worship Service for Your Household

Sunday March 21, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Lent

RCL: John 12:20-33

+ LITANY FOR LENT+¹

Most holy and merciful God,

We confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.
Have mercy on us, O God.

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.
We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
Have mercy on us, O God.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.
Have mercy on us, O God.

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.
We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship,
and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.
Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.
Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments,
our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.
Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation,
and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.
Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.
Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

+ PRAYER +

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

+ SCRIPTURE +

+ **John 12:20-33**

+ **Spark Story Bible:** Serve and Follow (Pages 446-447)

+ **Northwest Synod of Wisconsin App:** Click the 'Bible' tab at the bottom.

+ REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD +

Option 1: Click on your congregation's sermon video or live worship link

Option 2: Use the following questions for in-home conversation or personal reflection

Option 3: Use questions for reflection + Coloring Sheet (page 4)

Questions:

- + Under what circumstances do you seek out Jesus?
- + What does it mean for you to serve Jesus? What does that look like in your life?
- + If you were in this gathered crowd, how do you think you would have responded to hearing God's voice? Do you believe God speaks to people today? If so, how? If not, why not?

+ APOSTLES' CREED +

I believe in God, the Father Almighty
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, And he will come to judge the living 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.

+ PRAYERS +

With all the people of God, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

- + Generous Creator, we are thankful for all the ways that you provide for us, and we praise you for the food, relationships, shelter, and care that sustain us; knowing that your creation provides enough for all your children, help us to notice when there is injustice and insecurity of these essentials, and remind us that Jesus calls us to do something about it so that no one should suffer. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + We hold closely all those whose identity is ever questioned, misunderstood, ridiculed, shamed or rejected; remind us of the glorious diversity that is found in the human race that bears your image and who you have created and called to bear witness to your unconditional love. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + Holy God, we are grateful for all those who serve in the church's ministry of word and sacrament. Uphold all pastors and deacons with your strong and loving arms. Empower ministers to serve your people with the word of scripture, the water of life, and the meal of grace. Equip them with both beloved traditions and fresh ideas; grant them joy in their tasks; and renew them daily by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, the Word among us, now and forever. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + Loving God, inspire by your Holy Spirit those who are afraid of losing hope. Give them a fresh vision of your love, that they may find again what they fear has been lost. Grant them your powerful

deliverance; through the one who makes all things new, Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

+ *Add your own prayers here...*

Loving God, we give all these prayers to you, trusting in your mercy and grace. **AMEN.**

+ OFFERING +

As people of faith we are called to continue strengthening the ministry of the church, even when we are physically distant. We invite you to prayerfully consider a gift to your congregation or the synod – as the body of Christ we work together to serve our neighbors.

+ LORD'S PRAYER +

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.**

+ BLESSING EACH OTHER +

Using your pointer finger, dip it in the bowl of water and make the sign of the cross on another's forehead or the back of their hand saying, "**You are a beloved child of God.**"
Take turns until all in the household have been blessed.

*+ Text, tune, and arrangements used by permission of Augsburg Fortress License #12387-S +
1 Lenten Litany found: <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/filebin/pdf/resources/LentPenitence.pdf>*

Other Lenten Ideas can be found here:
<http://nswi.org/worship-faith-formation-at-home/lent-easter-planning>