



A Service for the Lord's Day
March 21 2021 ~ 10:00 am
5th Sunday in Lent

To listen to the service on your phone, call 720-647-9623 between 10 am this Sunday and 10 am next Sunday..

Prayer for the Day

O God, grant me clarity of thought to make purposeful decisions, deep joy in breathing to pause and reflect, generosity of heart to love beyond my boundaries, bravery in truth to grow willingly, strength for perseverance in faith to experience grace amidst hardship, and an endless spirit of prayer to sustain me daily. ~ Rachel Hackenberg

Parts of the service in **bold** are for everyone to speak in unison.

Gathering Music

Dr. Jonathan Morris

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Sheri Fry

Call to Worship

Liturgist Garrett Tillery

We gather this day to worship our God, whose words and ways challenge us.
God invites us to lose our selfishness to find ourselves.
God calls us to be fools in the world to show forth the wisdom of Christ.
God urges us to empty ourselves to discover life's fullness.
God bids us to be obedient to a divine will so we might know true freedom.
We come to worship, seeking to have our faith challenged into growth.
We root our faith in worship seeking to find nourishment for our spirits in this growing season of Lent.

Lighting of the Christ Candle (unison)

Garrett Tillery

We give thanks for the light of hope—unrelenting and inexplicable.
We give thanks for the light of peace—strong and unafraid.
We give thanks for the light of joy—persistent and unpredictable.
We give thanks for the light of love—hot and holy.
Let the light we kindle go before us, strong in hope, wide in good will, inviting the day to come.
Amen

Hymn 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I am, Lord)

(next page)

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Rev. Sheri Fry

God, I turn into ashes all my preconceptions about this scripture, all my safe, familiar interpretations. Burn me with its newness. Let it rise like the phoenix with bright wide-winged words. Amen

(continued)

69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky Here I Am, Lord



1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I, who
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin - est



made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Lesson for the Day

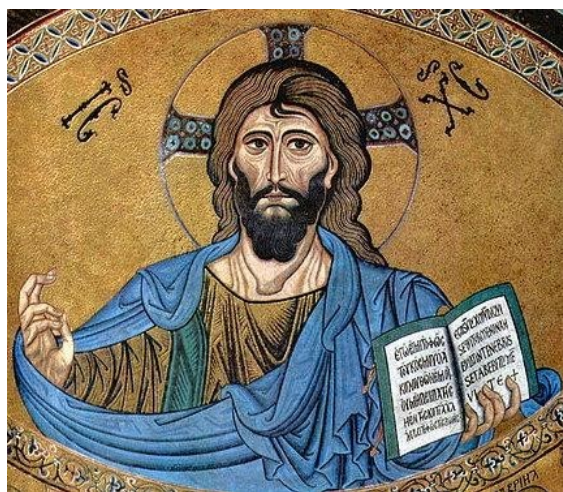
John 12:20-33

Rev. Sheri Fry

Sermon

A Grain of Wheat Must Die

Rev. Sheri Fry



Affirmation of Faith (*unison*)

Garrett Tillery

We believe God is love – unconditional, constant love. We believe this love exists for all, choosing each and every one of us, day after day, again and again and again. We believe that God’s love is like a river. Rivers that flow toward the sea; God’s love cannot help but move toward us. We are swimming in it. We believe that God loved first. We believe that God breathed life into dust. We believe that God said, “This is good,” and because we believe that God loved first, we strive to build lives that reflect God’s love. May we begin again here. Amen.

Anthem

Seek Ye First

Virtual Chancel Choir

Prayer and 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering Ourselves and our Gifts

Hymn 727

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant?

(next page)

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Dr. Jonathan Morris

Good Shepherd Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Sheri Fry
Choir Director: Sara Tyburczy

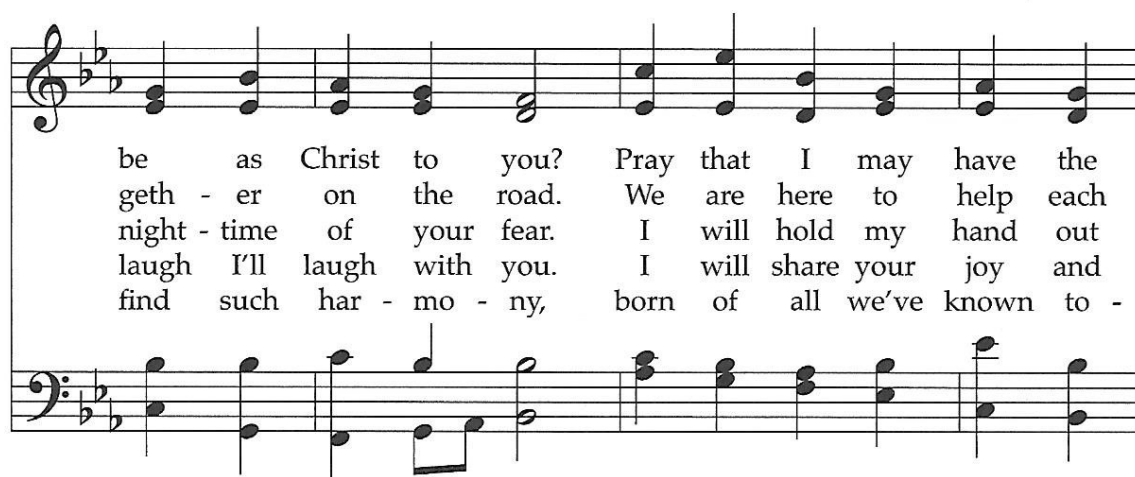
Office Admin: Teddie McConnell
Accompanist: Dr. Jonathan Morris

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant 727

The Servant Song



1, 6 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; we're to -
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you
 5 When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall



be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the
 geth - er on the road. We are here to help each
 night - time of your fear. I will hold my hand out
 laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and
 find such har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to -



grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
 oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
 to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
 sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.
 (repeat stanza 1)

The opening and closing stanza expresses the essence of this folk-style song about the mutuality of servant ministry: those who serve must also be willing to be served. This is what Christ intended when he commanded the disciples to "wash one another's feet" (John 13:14).



GoodStuff@GoodShepherd



Sermon Musings

Lent 5 ~ John 12:20-33 *"But If It Dies..."*

The Last Word



Pinto bean seedling with cotyledon

[Jesus said]
Very truly, I tell you
unless
a grain of wheat
falls into the earth
and dies,
it remains
just a single grain;
but if it dies,
it bears much fruit.

- John 12:24

We know that all our mothers bear us for pain and for death. O, what is that? But our true Mother Jesus, he alone bears us for joy and for endless life, blessed may he be.

~Julian of Norwich c.1342-c.1416. *Revelations of Divine Love (ch.60)*

To bear much fruit

The grain of wheat must die in order to bear much fruit:

fruits of unity and universal peace.

Jesus is speaking of his own death,

and he is also speaking for each one of us.

We, too, are called to die to selfishness

in order to bear fruit and be messengers of peace:

we are called to die to some things that may be good in themselves

but that hinder us on our path towards unity, peace

and greater openness in the Spirit of Jesus. ...

~Jean Vanier *Drawn into the Mystery of Jesus through the Gospel of John*

(continued)

The End was the Beginning

Christ was in the tomb; the whole world was sown with the seed of Christ's life; that which happened thirty years ago in the womb of the Virgin Mother was happening now, but now it was happening yet more secretly, yet more mysteriously, in the womb of the whole world. Christ had already told those who flocked to hear Him preach that the seed must fall into the earth, or else remain by itself alone. Now the seed of His life was hidden in the darkness in order that His life should quicken in countless hearts, over and over again for all time. His burial, which seemed to be the end, was the beginning. It was the beginning of Christ-life in multitudes of souls. It was the beginning, too, of the renewal of Christ's life in countless souls.

~Caryll Houselander 1901-1954

HOLY WEEK ~ *March 28 -April 4*

Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunday

We invite you to join us in the sanctuary to watch the following services:

Palm Sunday, March 28 at 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday at 5:00 p.m. - Communion will be available at the church

Easter Sunday, April 4 at 10:00 a.m.

We will watch the services on the sanctuary screen and be sitting in the pews with appropriate distance between us and with our masks on.



In-person live worship will begin Sunday, May 2 at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Night Virtual Lenten Service

We hope you will join us on-line for two more Taize Lenten Services.

Tonight, Wednesday, March 17 and March 24 at 7:00 pm. These services are filled with beautiful music, scripture, prayer and word.

We hope these services offer you some sustenance in this season.

InstaLent Photo Opportunity

We have a few more weeks to share the themes of Lent on a visual and personal level. Even if your Lenten practice has fallen behind...it's never too late to ponder what the themes and the day mean to you.

3/17 St. Patrick's Day

3/19 Family Time

3/21 Places to Pray

3/23 Luck

3/18 Love

3/20 First Day of Spring

3/22 Good News

Wednesday Worship in Lent

If you need some mid-week spiritual encouragement, I hope you'll consider accessing our on-line Taize style worship service on Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm. You will enjoy beautiful music, prayer, and some thoughts to ponder. Hope to see your virtual presence!

Peace, Sheri



Jan Myers, long-time member of Good Shepherd, passed away on February 4th. Jan was also a Ghost Ranch friend and instructor and an accomplished pastel artist. Her landscapes captured the vibrant colors and the endless space of the Southwest. Jan was truly one of the sweetest, kindest people we have known. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Ghost Ranch Education & Retreat Center, Abiquiu, NM.

Jan was an accomplished pastel artist. Her landscapes captured the vibrant colors and the endless space of the Southwest. Her passion for art and travel provided an unlimited opportunity for inspiration. Jan will continue to delight people in the community with her artwork in both public and private collections.

A memorial service will be held at a date yet to be determined.

ZIMBABWE MISSION PARTNERSHIP

March is traditionally the time when we receive donations to pay school fees for children at the HEATHER CHIMHOGA CARE CENTER in Zimbabwe. This year, since schools are closed, again, due to the increased cases of COVID 19, the Mission Committee has decided to take a year off from that specific offering. Instead, we will focus on the In-Person, Elephant Rock Ride, scheduled to take place on Sunday, June 6 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. Good Shepherd already has 3 excited bike riders ready to ride for Team GSPC, which will be a part of the larger Team Zimbabwe. As always, donations may be made on-line by going to the Zimbabwe Mission Partnership website and following their directions OR by making your check out to GSPC, noting Team GSPC and the rider's name in the memo space and mailing or delivering to the church (hopefully into the offering plate in the near future!!) Please watch for more information, including names of our riders. If you, or a friend or family member would like to join the Team please contact Mary McCarron or Pastor Sheri.



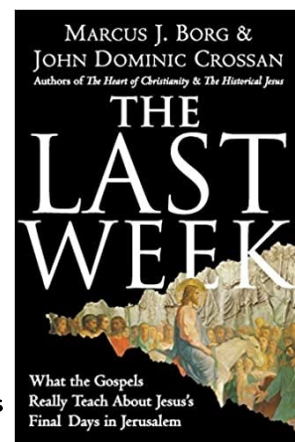
Lenten Book Study – Adult Education Opportunity
WEDNESDAYS @ 12:15 pm in Fellowship Hall – March 24 & 31
Bring your lunch & I will provide beverages!

The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus's Final Days in Jerusalem

Using the gospel of Mark as their guide authors Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan join together to reveal a radical and little-known Jesus and they present a day-by-day account of Jesus's final week of life.

This book is easily ordered on Amazon for \$10.99 in paperback. I have a few copies of the book in the church office if you would like to purchase the book from Good Shepherd.

Please read the "Wednesday" chapter of this book and come prepared to share your thoughts.



The cenotaph in the memorial garden has name plates on it for those of us who wish to be remembered in a special way.. Olinger Mortuary is giving a discount on the purchase of name plates to our members during March.. The cost is \$362 plus taxes and fees (so about \$400 per name plate). Or if a payment plan is preferred, with \$40 down, the 12- month payments would be \$33.33 each month The prices will go up in April to \$500 per plate. Call Denise at 303-451-6674. Any questions, call Robin Kelly at 303-460-7621.

The Food Bank needs donations of pet food and toilet paper the most, then hand soap and other toiletry items, laundry detergent, and large-size diapers. In February the food bank served 80 households totaling 260 Individuals. Of those, 81 were children.



Joys and Concerns

Please pray for Art and his family, grieving the loss of Jan; for the Bennett family who are grieving the loss of Diana's parents; for Wava V. is home now and on hospice care; the family of Barb W., who is now living with her daughter due to severe Alzheimer's disease; for the family of Burton K., who is in memory care and hospice care; Pee Wee and the family of Sue H.; Norm R.'s family, for Bill and Gayle, H.; for Jim S. and Michelle W; for communities affected by COVID-19 or by human rights violations here in the United States and throughout the world; for our church, that it may thrive as it brings the good news to our area.