



**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church  
Fifth Sunday in Lent Live Stream Worship  
March 29, 2020**

*Jesus said to them, "Unbind him and let him go." --John 11:44b*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH FAMILY NEWS**

**Bold text is spoken or sung by everyone.**

**We Prepare to Hear God's Word**

**INTROIT "God Welcomes All" (Sing twice.)**

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends; God's love is strong and it never ends.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, listen for a word from our God who offers hope when we have lost our way.

**Our souls wait for the refreshment God offers. Our spirits are filled with great expectations.**

Christ came as a light to all the world. Christ comes among us today to light our way.

**We hear the teacher calling for us. Christ unbinds us that we may see and believe.**

**HYMN #39 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

**Great is Thy Faithfulness, O God, Creator; there is no shadow of turning with thee.**

**Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

***Refrain:***

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see.**

**All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and right hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

***Refrain***

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**O God, we come to you because you are the Creator of all that is good. We come to you as broken and bound human beings asking you to restore us. Forgive us when we fail to see our neighbor and your earth as you see them. We ask you, O God, to restore us to yourself with your blessing of new life. We pray in the name of Jesus who is the resurrection and the life.**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

*Silence is held for personal confession.*

We offer our prayers in the name of the One who lights the way, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY**

Jesus says to us, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"  
Arise, in faith and trust, knowing that God will give us life to our mortal bodies through the spirit who dwells in us and among us. Believe this Good News: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SONG OF ASSURANCE #576 "Kyrie" (Sing twice)**

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we were called as members of a single body.  
*Let us share the peace of Christ by holding in our hearts the ones we find easy to love, those we struggle to love, those we don't know. (Pause.)*

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

## **MINUTE FOR MISSION**

## **One Great Hour of Sharing**

Dan Crump

## **We Hear God's Word**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us by your Word through these forty days, and minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

**John 11:1-16**

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

### **RESPONSE**

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 11:17-45

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"<sup>37</sup> But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

## RESPONSE

For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God within us, for the word of God among us.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** "Encountering Jesus: Martha, Mary and Lazarus"

The Rev. Dr. Laurie Brubaker Davis

## We Respond to God's Word

### TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

*Two bell tones will signal the beginning and the end of a brief period of silence for your individual meditation and reflection.*

**HYMN #792 "There Is a Balm in Gilead"**

**Refrain:**

**There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sinsick soul.  
Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.**

**Refrain**

**Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend, and if you lack for knowledge, he'll not refuse to lend.**

**Refrain**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

## **A TIME FOR GENEROSITY**

**Jesus says: Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.**

## **OFFERTORY**

*Focus for a moment on dedicating your self and substance to the body of Christ right where you are, and all over creation.*

## **#708 "We Give Thee But Thine Own"**

**We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Lift us up, O God, from the graves of our self-interest as we invest ourselves in sharing your Divine Love with the world. Increase our gifts of time and treasure, that all who are drained of hope might be renewed. Holy Spirit, raise them to new life as we celebrate the glory Jesus promised to all who trust and follow where God leads. Amen.**

## **HYMN #286 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,  
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.**

## **BENEDICTION**

### **LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES WITH US**

(We carry the Christ Candle out of the sanctuary as a reminder that God's love is with us, even as we go out in peace, guided by the Spirit to bring healing and hope to a broken, hurting, and grieving world.)

## **BENEDICTION RESPONSE #526 Let us Talents and Tongues Employ**

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

## **POSTLUDE**

### **PARTICIPATING IN THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP SERVICE**

Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Laurie Brubaker Davis
Organist	Dan Kayhart
Lector	Janet Singer
Live Stream Video Tech	Greg Walsh

**WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS!** We would be delighted if you would let us know that you joined the "Livestream" service. Were you just checking out our service, are you are looking for a home church or would you would like Pastor Laurie to contact you or something else? Please let us know by email, website, or give us a call.

**Email:** [secretary@fpcmarshfield.org](mailto:secretary@fpcmarshfield.org) ~ **Website:** [info@fpcmarshfield.org](http://info@fpcmarshfield.org) ~ **Phone:** 715-387-2484

**DO YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?** Please email or call the church with your "Prayer Request"

**Email:** [secretary@fpcmarshfield.org](mailto:secretary@fpcmarshfield.org) ~ **Phone:** 715-384-2484

**Our Mission Statement...**"First Presbyterian Church, Marshfield, Wisconsin seeks to welcome all to join us on our journey of faith, denying no one, based upon his or her particular human condition, participation in the life of the church. We want to be a safe place, a sanctuary where people are accepted, included, and cared for as they are. We will be agents of God's transforming power, aligning ourselves with the Holy Spirit as we pray, worship, learn, share fellowship and serve together. By attending to the love of Jesus Christ in our midst, we discover a deepening faith that makes a difference in our lives. As a community based on God's love, we strive to be of service to our neighbors and to the world."

**In accordance with current health guidelines and best practices to slow the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak, all in church activities have been suspended until at least April 5<sup>th</sup>. We are sending e-blasts twice weekly, on Mondays and on Fridays, to help us stay current and informed.**

**YOUR IDEAS NEEDED!** As a congregation, FPC sponsored a room in the new PDC Orenda Center, and now we have the opportunity to NAME that room. The room is used as temporary housing for those seeking escape from domestic violence and sexual assault. Please send your ideas to the church office at [secretary@fpcmarshfield.org](mailto:secretary@fpcmarshfield.org). The Outreach committee will use entries in naming the room.

**GREEN TEAM LENTEN SUGGESTIONS:** During the Lenten season, many people look to give up something or find ways to do extra good until Easter. You can give up single use plastics or other disposable items. If that is too difficult you could try just a couple items at a time. It could be bringing your own travel coffee mug and water bottle, bringing your own reusable shopping bags every time you shop, or using food storage containers instead of plastic baggies and wrap. These are all great ways to give up something and to help create a more sustainable future.

**HOME BOUND MEMBERS:** Each week we list one of our members or friends and encourage you to send a card or note. This week is Audrey Hokenson, 610 N. Juno Ave., Marshfield, Wi. 54449. Please make any special efforts to reach out to anyone who you think may need a little uplifting with a friendly chit chat. Lift a spirit with a phone call, email, FB message, etc.

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Amy Zais, Sarah and Curt Hanson, Karen Jones & family (friends of Bob Davis), Danielle Redding, Adele Heller, Tammy Reigel (a friend of Therese Brooks), The Walsh family, Jolene Marshall Nowak (a friend of Jan Frauenheim), and Jennifer Wierzbicki. Names for the prayer list should be given to the church office. Names will be kept on the prayer list for two months.

**GREEN TIP:** Save the Oceans from shedding – 1/3 if the microplastics in the ocean are coming from polyester, spandex, nylon and other fabrics that are basically plastic.