

Order of Worship • March 26, 2023 • 9:00 AM

+ Indicates the congregation should stand as able.

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ OPENING HYMN SING PRAISE TO GOD, THE HIGHEST GOOD LBW #542

+ INVOCATION

- WL: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- All: Amen.

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- WL: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- WL: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

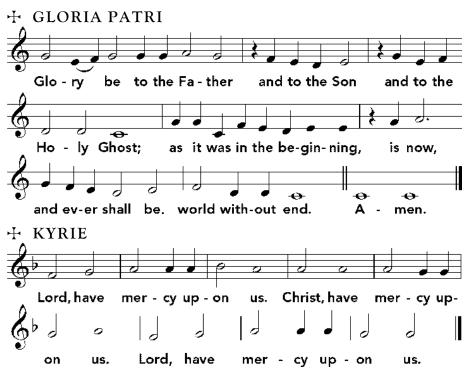
All: Who made heaven and earth.

WL: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

All: And You forgive the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- WL: O almighty God, merciful Father,
- All: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- WL: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- All: Amen.



+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

- WL: Let us pray: Almighty God, Your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us with the power of Your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ, and serve You in holiness and righteousness all our days; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- All: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

R: The Old Testament lesson for this fifth Sunday in Lent comes from the book of the prophet Ezekiel, the thirty-seventh chapter.

¹ The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! ⁵ This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.""

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet–a vast army.

¹¹ Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴ I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

R: Today's Epistle lesson is from St. Paul's letter to the Romans, the eighth chapter.

¹ Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵ Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶ The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

+ HOLY GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 11:1-45

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord!

¹ Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, ⁷ and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

⁸ "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?"

⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. ¹⁰ It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light."

¹¹ After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

¹² His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." ¹³ Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep.

¹⁴ So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, ¹⁵ and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

¹⁶ Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

 $^{\rm 24}$ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

²⁸ After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." ²⁹ When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. ³² When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. ³⁴ "Where have you laid him?" he asked.

"Come and see, Lord," they replied.

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<sup>35</sup> Jesus wept.
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³⁶ Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"
⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, O Christ!

TODAY'S MESSAGE

+ MESSAGE HYMN

LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS LBW #487

+ PROFESSION OF FAITH

- Apostles' Creed
- All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- WL: Out of the depths we cry to You, O Lord.
- All: Lord, hear our voices and be attentive to our prayers.
- WL: We pray for those whose hope is lost, who feel dried up and cut off from You.
- All: By Your grace, open their graves; bring them back to the land of the living.
- WL: We pray for those who are oppressed, held captive by the power of death.
- All: Release them from their chains; unbind them and let them go!
- WL: We pray for those who weep, lost and lifeless in fear and regret.
- All: Grant them the peace of Your presence; show them what Your love can do.
- WL: We pray for those who are dying, the light of life fading in their eyes.
- All: Help them to believe in You so that they may live and never die.
- WL: We thank You, O Lord, for having heard our prayers.
- All: Enable us to trust in You, and thus to see Your glory; through Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life. Amen.

GATHERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

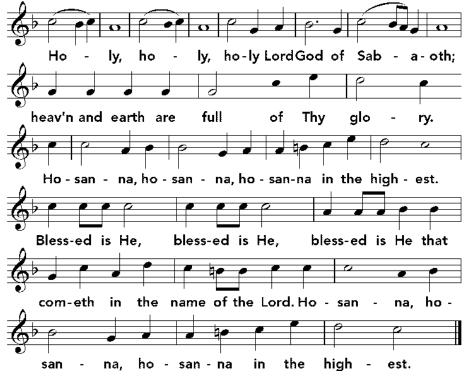
Giving Envelopes are available in the back of each pew Give online at www.poporlando.com/give Text-to-Give by texting an amount to 407.543.1011



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

+ PREFACE & SANCTUS

- WL: The Lord be with you.
- All: And with your spirit.
- WL: Lift up your hearts.
- All: We lift them up unto the Lord.
- WL: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- WL: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

- WL: Together we pray as our Savior has taught us:
- All: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.

+ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- + PAX DOMINI
- WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- All: Amen.



DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

CHRIST, THE LIFE OF ALL THE LIVINGLBW #97BE STILL, MY SOULLSB #752

+ THE DISMISSAL

WL: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

All: Amen.

+ CHARGE & BLESSING

WL: Arise, dry bones, and live! Come out of your tombs and give glory to God!

May the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life, bless and keep you in this life and the life to come.

All: Amen.

+ SENDING HYMN LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

LBW #315

+ SENDING

- WL: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- All: Thanks be to God.

TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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