



Fifth Sunday in Lent

*We extend love and extravagant welcome
to all of God's children without judgment,
no matter who they are or
where they are on life's journey.*

April 3, 2022

Welcome!

Masks are required and must always cover nose and mouth.
Contact tracing information is requested to contain virus transmission.
Please extend a respectful courtesy by silencing your cell phone.
Sign Language interpretation is available in the front.
Assistive listening devices are at the Welcome Table in the back.
Offering plates are in the front and rear of the Church.

Gathering Music & Lighting Candles (10:20a)

Steve Milloy, piano; Adeline Palm, Acolyte

"Fairest Lord Jesus" -arr. Teresa Wilhelmi

"The Faithful" -R. Kevin Boesiger

"Here's One" -Spiritual, arr. Mark Hayes

Centering Prayer

God of grace and demand, you challenge us to reclaim our baptismal identity as those whose lives are built on your call and your promises—not on the easy, seductive forces around us. Stir our hearts that we may engage your transforming word anew and rediscover its power to save. Amen.

Greeting and Call to Worship (10:30a)

Keith M. Haithcock

One: We have gathered in the presence of God our creator, who sets before us the ways of life and death.

All: We have gathered in the presence of Jesus the Christ, who calls us to accept the cost of discipleship that we may know its joy.

One: We have gathered in the presence of the Spirit, who sustains us in trial and rejoicing.

All: In our living and in our dying, we belong to God. In the shadow of God's wings, we sing for joy. Let us worship God.

Introit

"Pero Queda Cristo"
(My Soul Overflows with Praise)

Theo Baldwin, vocal

At early dawn we sing a song of adoration
to God who is our only hope and our salvation.
At early dawn we raise our longing invocation;
For God's sweet calm we beg in fervent supplication.

God's heart is full of love and mercy for us,
From all our brokenness God will restore us.
Our God is strong and will forsake us never,
From death itself God sets us free forever.

Opening Our Heart

Keith M. Haithcock

One: Let us open our hearts to God.

(Silence is kept.)

**All: Loving God, we own up to the mark that you have given us to live by.
You come to us in Jesus, revealing your love for all people
and suffering pain for us;
still we do not turn in love and obedience to you.**

**We do that which we ought not to do,
and we leave undone those things we ought to do.
Aimless and rebellious as we are,
we cannot trust in ourselves;
we can trust only in your grace.**

**Speak the word, O God,
and we shall be made free.
Forgive us, receive us,
and give us courage to serve you
with renewed hearts and wills. Amen.**

Assurance of Grace

One: Be assured, in the name of Jesus Christ:

**All: Our sins are forgiven.
Our faith and God's love has made us free.
In Christ we are a new creation. Thanks be to God!**

Opening Hymn

"Said Judas to Mary"

Theo Baldwin, vocal

Said Judas to Mary, "Now what will you do
with your ointment so rich and so rare?"
"I'll pour it all over the feet of the Christ
and I'll wipe it away with my hair," she said,
"I'll wipe it away with my hair."
"Oh Mary, Oh Mary, oh think of the poor --
this ointment, it could have been sold,
and think of the blankets and think of the bread
you could buy with the silver and gold," he said,
"you could buy with the silver and gold."
"Tomorrow, tomorrow I'll think of the poor
Tomorrow," she said, "not today;
for dearer than all of the poor in the world
is my love who is going away," she said,
"my love who is going away."
Said Jesus to Mary, "Your love is so deep
today you may do as you will.
Tomorrow you say I am going away,
but my body I leave with you still," he said,
"my body I leave with you still."
"The poor of the world are my body," he said,
"to the end of the world they shall be,
the bread and the blankets you give to the poor
you will know you have given to me," he said,
"you'll know you have given to me."
"My body will hang on the cross of the world
tomorrow," he said, "not today,
and Martha and Mary will find me again
and wash all my sorrow away," he said,
"and wash all my sorrow away."

Community Prayer

Keith M. Haithcock

John 12.1-8 (Rise in body or spirit.)

Lonnie Fields

¹ Six days before Passover, Jesus went to Bethany, the village of Lazarus, who Jesus had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a banquet in Jesus' honor, at which Martha served. Lazarus was one of those at the table. ³ Mary brought a pound of costly ointment, pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus, wiping them with her hair. The house was full of the scent of the ointment.

⁴ Judas Iscariot, one of the disciples—the one who was to betray Jesus—protested, ⁵ “Why wasn't this ointment sold? It could have brought nearly a year's wages, and the money been given to poor people!” ⁶ Judas didn't say this because he was concerned for poor people, but because he was a thief. He was in charge of the common fund and would help himself to it.

⁷ So Jesus replied, “Leave her alone. She did this in preparation for my burial. ⁸ You have poor people with you always. But you won't always have me.”

One: Here ends the reading inspired by God.

May God grant to us wisdom and courage for interpretation.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“JESUS AND THE POOR”

Keith M. Haithcock

Ministry of Music

"Take My Life" -Scott Underwood, arr. Steven V. Taylor

Theo Baldwin, Stephanie Dalsfoist, and Steve Milloy, vocal trio

An Invitation to Share our Gifts -Mathew 5.14-16

Lonnie Fields

One: “You are the light of the world. You don't build a city on a hill, then try to hide it, do you?”

All: No!

One: You don't light a lamp, then put it under a bushel basket, do you?”

All: No!

One: No, you set it on a stand where it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, your light must shine before others so that they may see your good acts and give praise to your God in heaven.”

All: May it be so!

One: Offering plates are available at both the front and back of the Sanctuary. You may place your offering there as you leave. May God bless you as you give your gifts generously to continue this ministry of justice, diversity, and inclusion, a beacon of hope and inspiration.

Unison Blessing of our Gifts

Lonnie Fields

God, we present these offerings that they may be used to extend your liberating reign. With them, we offer our varied ministries in the days ahead that each of us may be part of your answer to the cries of the world. Amen

Communion Liturgy for the Season of Lent

Invitation to Communion

One: Friends we are going to Jerusalem with Jesus,

All: who is our pardon, our healing, and our peace.

One: We will suffer the trial with Jesus, resisting evil.

All: We will walk the path to life with Jesus.

One: Come first to the table where there is food for the journey.

All: With hearts full of joy, we come with thanks and praise to our maker!

Praise

One: We are right to praise you, faithful God!

You answer sin with grace; you guide our wayward steps toward home.

You are mending

for the broken,

safety for the poor,

belonging for the outcast,

strength for the weak,

and pardon for the sinner.

You reveal your kindness in every sorrow and your mercy even in death.

All your creatures see your works; they sing your steadfast love.

We too declare your wonder and grace as with angels and saints we sing:

All: Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, God.

Remembering and Giving Thanks

One: Now, O God, we remember Jesus.

Silence is kept...

One: He fasted and prayed and was tempted and tried.

All: Relying on you for everything.

One: Jesus was obedient to you and scorned by the powers of this world.

All: Jesus confounded the haughty and gave hope to the humble.

One: Jesus, betrayed and deserted, died between thieves, and laid in a borrowed grave.

All: You gave new life through Christ who lives even now, our healer and friend.

One: Christ loves us well, loved us to the end, and loves us to new beginnings.

All: Even on the night of betrayal, Christ ate supper with friends.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

One: Holy Spirit, come! Make all things new.

Bless this bread which you have given, and human hands have made.

All: Let it become for us the bread of life.

One: Also bless this cup, fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

All: Let it become for us the cup of salvation.

One: Bless us also who eat and drink,

All: that in this meal we may know the living Christ in our lives, in each other, and in all for whom Christ came. Amen.

Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: Let us give thanks!

**All: Thank you, merciful God,
for gladness in this bread and cup,
for love that cannot die,
for peace the world cannot give,
for joy in the company of friends,
for the splendors of creation,
and for the mission of justice, you have made our own.**

**Give us the gifts of this holy communion —
oneness of heart,
love for neighbors,
forgiveness of enemies,
the will to serve you every day,
and life that never ends.**

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Masks remain on and all may sing together.)

Parting Song, 76 (Rise in body or spirit.) Congregation and descant, vocalist
"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

Send Out (Rise in body or spirit.) Keith M. Haithcock

Going Forth Music Steve Milloy, piano
"Walk Worthy of the Lord" -Lani Smith

Stay Connected at St. John Church!

For more information about St. John Church go to: www.StJohnChurch.net.

To receive *The e-Weekly* or Prayer List, email Office@StJohnChurch.net.

To meet with the Pastor call: 859.261.2066, ext.202; email Pastor@StJohnChurch.net.

To make a prayer request for the Prayer List, email PrayerList@StJohnChurch.net.

No online connection? Call the office at 859.261.2066, ext. 201.

Office hours: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10:00am to 4:00pm.

Contact Tracing Information

In an effort to keep everyone healthy, contact the Church office at 859.261.2066 ext. 201 or Office@StJohnChurch.net if you are diagnosed with COVID after this service.

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2022 Easter Flowers Memorials & Honorariums

St. John United Church of Christ
520 Fairfield Avenue, Bellevue, KY 41073

Donate \$20 (or more) in honor or memory of a loved one.

Your donation will make it possible for the Church to be decorated with Spring flowers and other seasonal trimmings for the Easter season.

USE THIS THIS FORM TO PLACE YOUR ORDER.

Checks should be payable to St. John UCC

Write: "Memorial Fund: Spring Plants"
in the notation section of your check.

Make sure your check (or cash) is attached to the order form
and place both in the offering plate or mail to the Church.

The balance of your donation will be credited to the Memorial Fund.



Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Offering Envelope Number _____ Email _____

I give this donation in (circle one) Honor | Memory of (Print name of loved one):

I will take my plant home after the Easter Sunday service (circle): YES | NO

Please use a separate form for each donation.

Payment must be made at the time the order is placed.

Last date to order: Friday, April 8th

Questions?

Contact Pat Giglia (pgiglia3@gmail.com or 513-262-8716)

Thank you!



Use this QR Code to place
your order online.