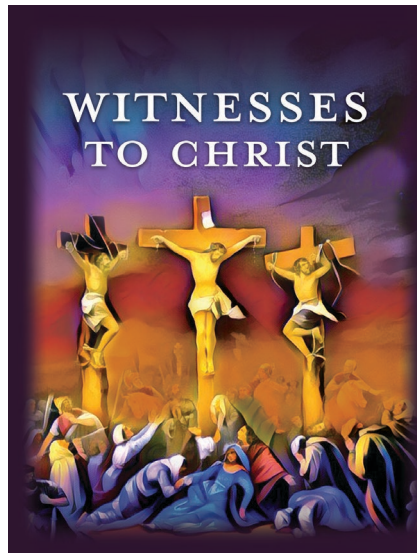


# Zion Lutheran Church



March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Afternoon Service

Lent – Week 1

## **Mary, the Sister of Lazarus and Martha**

Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha, was a witness to Christ as recorded in John's Gospel. As Jesus and many others are gathered for dinner, Mary anoints Jesus' feet with an ointment that was worth a year's wages. What a generous act! Mary's generosity is contrasted with Judas's greed. Judas criticizes Mary's generosity toward Jesus, saying that the ointment could have been sold and the proceeds given to the poor. But John notes something important: Judas did not say this because he cared about the poor. Judas kept the moneybag for the disciples and had been continually stealing from it. While Mary is generous toward Jesus, Judas seeks his own advantage. We remember Mary's generosity and love, which point us to Jesus.

**P:** In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

**P:** O Lord, open my lips,

**C:** and my mouth will declare Your praise.

**P:** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

**C:** make haste to help me, O Lord.

**C:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now,

and will be forever. Amen.

Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** While we would like to think of ourselves as generous, joyful, and giving, we admit that our lives do not live up to the perfect standard God expects. Still, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him, confessing our shortcomings and sins.

**C** Heavenly Father, we confess that we have committed sins of greed, jealousy, and selfishness. We have sinned against You in thoughts, words, and actions. Have mercy on us, Lord. Forgive us, renew our generosity, and lead us out of greedy selfishness. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation.

**P** Almighty God, in His generous mercy, has given His Son to die and rise for you. On account of Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection from the grave, God has forgiven us all. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen. We are generously forgiven and joyfully restored.

### First Reading – Proverbs 11:24-28

One gives freely, yet grows all the richer;

another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.

Whoever brings blessing will be enriched,

and one who waters will himself be watered.

The people curse him who holds back grain,  
but a blessing is on the head of him who sells it.  
Whoever diligently seeks good seeks favor,  
but evil comes to him who searches for it.  
Whoever trusts in his riches will fall,  
but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

**P**: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C**: **Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Reading – 2 Corinthians 9:6-12**

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, “He has distributed freely, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.”

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.

**P**: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C**: **Thanks be to God.**

### **Third Reading – John 12:1-11**

Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So they gave a dinner for Him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with Him at the table. Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples (he who was about to betray Him), said, “Why

was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. Jesus said, "Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me."

When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of Him but also to see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

**P**: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C**: **Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORY

**P**: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

**C**: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

**P**: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

**C**: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

**P**: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

**C**: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

## SERMON

## KYRIE

**C**: Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** With repentant hearts, let us turn to God in prayer for the Church, the world, and all who are in need, trusting that God is gracious and merciful to us in Jesus, abounding in steadfast love.

For the Church, that this Lenten season draws us closer to God and to one another as we focus on Jesus' redemptive acts for us and the life that He calls us to live—marked by repentance, fasting, prayer, and acts of love toward our neighbors. In prayer,

**C we return to You, O Lord.**

**P** For those who are sick, hospitalized, or dying, [*including . . .*], that they experience healing according to Your will, and that in the midst of their suffering they would experience the presence of Jesus in words of hope and acts of care. In prayer,

**C we return to You, O Lord.**

**P** For this congregation, that our intensified repentance, fasting, and prayer lead us to live in renewed ways, dying to sin with Christ in Holy Baptism each day, and being raised to new life as well every day and into eternity. In prayer,

**C we return to you, O Lord.**

**P** For our loved ones who faithfully followed Jesus in this life and are now with Him in heaven, we give thanks. Bring us to that day when all Your saints, past, present, and future, are returned to You for all eternity. In prayer,

**C we return to you, O Lord.**

**P** By the words of the prophets and by the living voice of Jesus in our ears, You call us to return to You, O Lord. According to Your gracious mercy and abounding love, hear these prayers that we this day have spoken, as well as the prayers we have that are too deep for words; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**G:** 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.**

**P:** In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## DISTRIBUTION

### COLLECTS

**P:** O Lord, hear my prayer.

**G:** And let my cry come to You.

**P:** God our Father, You promise to hear our prayers, whether spoken or even too deep for words. During these Lenten days, breathe the breath of Your Spirit into our mouths, that we learn to pray without ceasing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**P:** Let us bless the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**P:** The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: Amen.**