

St. Andrew Worship

Sunday, March 10, 2024

4th Sunday in Lent

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

Welcome and Announcements

Threshold Hymn 241

"Woman, Weeping in the Garden" vs. 4

*Woman, weeping in the garden,
weep for joy, for you have seen
Jesus, the Messiah, risen;
Christ, of whom the prophets dream.*

*Call to Worship *(Responsive)*

Lazarus, though dead, was called to life by Jesus.

May we be called to the light of righteousness.

As others witnessed this resurrection, they believed in Jesus.

May we, who have heard, believe in the power of Jesus to conquer our fears and doubts.

Praise be to God who has given us Jesus.

Praise be to Jesus who has given us life. AMEN.

*Hymn 39

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
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!*

*Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.*

Refrain

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

Refrain

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

*Forgive us, O God, when we see the world through rose-colored glasses
rather than as it really is, much less the way you seek it to be.*

*Forgive us, Holy One, when we forsake lively and risky faith
calling us to be agents of change in our world
for the bland conviction that all will be well.*

*Renew us with your grace and ground us with your Spirit,
that we might be empowered to live, in word and deed,
as testimonies to the power of your love over the grave.*

In Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

(Time for silent reflection)

Assurance of Grace (*Responsive*)

As sure as Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, we are assured of God's grace through our relationship with Jesus.

Praise be to God we are forgiven and loved!

Response: *Gloria Patri* (*Unison*)

Anthem "O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" arr. by Larry Sue

St. Andrew Bells Choir

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Song of prayer

Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying

The musical score is written on three staves in a 2/2 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: Lord, lis-ten to your chil - dren pray - ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place; Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - ing, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Prayers lifted to God

*My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.*

*O who am I that for my sake my Lord
should take frail flesh, and die?*

*He came from heaven's throne salvation to bestow;
the world that was his own would not its Savior know.*

*But O my Friend, my Friend indeed,
who at my need his life did spend!*

*Sometimes we strew his way, and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day hosannas to our King.*

*Then "Crucify!" is all our breath,
and for his death we thirst and cry.*

*Unheeding, we will have our dear Lord made away,
a murderer to save, the prince of life to slay.*

*Yet steadfast he to suffering goes,
that he his foes from thence might free.*

*Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine:
never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.*

*This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.*

Prayer for Illumination (*Unison*)

Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Lesson: John 11:43-48, 53

⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The 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." ⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. ⁴⁶But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what he had done. ⁴⁷So the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the council, and said, "What are we to do? This man is performing many signs. ⁴⁸If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and destroy both our holy place and our nation." ⁵³So from that day on they planned to put him to death.

Second Lesson: John 11:1-6

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But 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." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

*Affirmation (*Unison*)

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

*who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.*

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

*to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.*

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks to be God. Amen.

Offertory

"Meditation in G minor" by Eileen Mihm

St. Andrew Bells Choir

Doxology

Offering Prayer (*Unison*)

God of unwavering love, you have held nothing back in your love for us, not even your Son. How we marvel at that kind of love, and how we long to reflect a portion of that devotion back to you. As we dedicate our offerings to you, lead us away from our tendency to hold back and worry that there will not be enough. Help us to live as the people of love and abundance you have called us to be. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

*Hymn 203

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

Refrain { *Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love; show
us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.* }

*Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their
feet, Master who acts as a slave to them.*

Refrain

*Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and
race; neighbors are near us and far away.*

Refrain

*These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should
love; all these are neighbors to us and you.*

Refrain

*Loving puts us on our knees, willing to wash others'
feet; this is the way we should live like you.*

Refrain

Benediction