

St. Andrew Worship

March 17, 2024

5th Sunday in Lent

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

Threshold

"Woman, Weeping in the Garden" (vs. 5)

No. 241

*Woman, dancing from the garden,
find the others and proclaim
Christ is risen as he promised;
tell the world he knew your name!*

*Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

Jesus said, "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?"

Yes, Lord we believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.

The grace and assurances of God, the deep love of Jesus Christ, and the unbinding power of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

*Hymn 452

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.

Open the eyes of my heart;

I want to see you;

I want to see you;

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.

Open the eyes of my heart;

I want to see you;

I want to see you;

*To see you high and lifted up,
shining in the light of your glory.*

*Pour out your power and love
as we sing "Holy, holy, holy."*

Holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy,

I want to see you.

Prayer of Confession (*Responsive*)

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection.

God of resurrection, we confess that we wrap ourselves in a shroud of sin by all those things that we have done and left undone. We stumble and turn from the light by the ways we treat our neighbors and in the ways we seek our own glory rather than yours. Have mercy on us, come to us, weep with us, then take away the burden of our guilt so that we may live as resurrected people, loving and serving you in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Grace (*Joel 2:12-13*)

“Even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love.

Response: *Gloria Patri* (*Unison*)

Anthem

“In the Valley Flows a River”

St. Andrew Choir

Prayers of the People

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Song of Prayer

Come and Fill

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly." The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!" The lyrics are written below the notes.

Prayers Lifted to God

*Hymn 522

“I Am the Bread of Life” (v. 1, 4, 5)

“I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger, and who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father beckons.”

Refrain: *“And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up, and I will raise you up on the last day.”*

*“I am the resurrection;
I am the life. If you believe
in me, even though you
die, you shall live forever.”*

Refrain

*Yes, Lord, I believe that
you are the Christ, the
Son of God, who has
come into the world.*

Refrain

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination (*Unison*)

Holy God, Word made flesh, let us come to this word open to being surprised. Silence our agendas; banish our assumptions; cast out our casual detachment. Confound our expectations; clear the cobwebs from our ears; penetrate the corners of our hearts with this word. We know that you can, we pray that you will, and we wait with great anticipation. Amen.

First Lesson:

John 11:17-27

¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

Second Lesson:

John 11:28-39a, 43b-44

²⁸When 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." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The 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. ³²When 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." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." ⁴⁰He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴¹The 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."

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

The Worship of God Through Giving

Offertory Music

Don Adkins, Piano

Doxology

Offering Prayer (*Unison*)*God whose giving knows no ending,**We know how to say thank you when we receive.**Right now, we say thank you as we give. In our giving, hear our heartfelt gratitude for all that you are and all that we have.**Bless these gifts for your mission in the world, In Jesus' name, Amen.*Communion (*Responsive*) (See Insert)

WE LIVE TO SERVE

*Hymn 229

*"In the Darkness of the Morning" (alt tune Kingdom)**In the darkness of the morning, just before
the hint of dawn, Mary Magdalene discovered
Jesus Christ, her friend, was gone.**Days before, she faced his suffering; she stayed
with him as he died. Seeing now his tomb was
empty, she remained outside and cried.**As she wept, the warmth of sunrise filled the
waiting world with light. Then she turned and saw a
stranger, though her tears obscured her sight.**Asked the man, "Why are you weeping?" in a
voice she vaguely knew. "He is gone, and I must
find him," she replied as morning grew.**"Mary!" said the smiling stranger as her
vision was restored. She cried "Teacher!" and she
touched him: Jesus Christ, her risen Lord.*

Benediction

The service of worship ends, the service of neighbor and world begins!