



Who will you invite



March 21, 2021. Fifth Sunday of Lent. Narrative Lectionary reading 35 of year 3.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Prelude

Greeting

Unison Call to Worship

Psalm 51:1-12

Have mercy on me, God, according to your faithful love! Wipe away my wrongdoings according to your great compassion! Wash me completely clean of my guilt; purify me from my sin! Because I know my wrongdoings, my sin is always right in front of me. I've sinned against you—you alone. I've committed evil in your sight. That's why you are justified when you render your verdict, completely correct when you issue your judgment. Yes, I was born in guilt, in sin, from the moment my mother conceived me. And yes, you want truth in the most hidden places; you teach me wisdom in the most secret space. Purify me with hyssop and I will be clean; wash me and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and celebration again; let the bones you crushed rejoice once more. Hide your face from my sins; wipe away all my guilty deeds! Create a clean heart for me, God; put a new, faithful spirit deep inside me! Please don't throw me out of your presence; please don't take your holy spirit away from me. Return the joy of your salvation to me and sustain me with a willing spirit.

Psalm Song

"Make a New Heart"

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

Prayer of Confession

Holy and Gracious God, we too often treat religion as a source for answers. We look for simple answers that belittle your deep mystery. During this season of Lent, push us to ask deeper questions. Help us to ask about our neighbors. Lead us to ask questions about our sorrow. Inspire us to ask questions about our role as disciples. Forgive us for our complacency and lack of curiosity. Forgive us for allowing our faith to stagnate in easy assumptions. Stir in us questions that lead us to a deeper relationship with you.

Pause for Silent Reflection and Confession

Words of Assurance

Share the Peace of Christ with others

Hymn #351

"Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior"

Offering and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn #95

"Praise God"

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Musical Offering

"I Surrender All"

Nancy Schwegler, piano.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD



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Luke 18:31—19:10CEB)

Jesus took the Twelve aside and said, “Look, we’re going up to Jerusalem, and everything written about the Human One by the prophets will be accomplished. He will be handed over to the Gentiles. He will be ridiculed, mistreated, and spit on. After torturing him, they will kill him. On the third day, he will rise up.” But the Twelve understood none of these words. The meaning of this message was hidden from them and they didn’t grasp what he was saying.

As Jesus came to Jericho, a certain blind man was sitting beside the road begging. When the man heard the crowd passing by, he asked what was happening. They told him, “Jesus the Nazarene is passing by.”

The blind man shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, show me mercy.” Those leading the procession scolded him, telling him to be quiet, but he shouted even louder, “Son of David, show me mercy.”

Jesus stopped and called for the man to be brought to him. When he was present Jesus asked, “What do you want me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, I want to see.”

Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight! Your faith has healed you.” At once he was able to see, and he began to follow Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they praised God too.

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through town. A man there named Zacchaeus, a ruler among tax collectors, was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but, being a short man, he couldn’t because of the crowd. So he ran ahead

and climbed up a sycamore tree so he could see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When Jesus came to that spot, he looked up and said, “Zacchaeus, come down at once. I must stay in your home today.” So Zacchaeus came down at once, happy to welcome Jesus.

Everyone who saw this grumbled, saying, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”

Zacchaeus stopped and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord, I give half of my possessions to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone, I repay them four times as much.”

Jesus said to him, “Today, salvation has come to this household because he too is a son of Abraham. The Human One came to seek and save the lost.”

Spoken Word

Blind Faith
Aubrey Barnes, poet

Sermon

Who will you invite?
Rev. Robb McCoy

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

Hymn #339

**“Come, Sinners,
to the Gospel Feast”**

Blessing

Hymn #592 “When the Church of Jesus”

See screen for new text

Postlude



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Ministers

All of us



WEEKLY GPS

GROW

PRAY

STUDY

Current series: "Who?"

March 28	Triumphal Entry	Luke 19:29-44
April 1	Maundy Thursday	Luke 22:1-27
April 2	Good Friday	Luke 23:32-47
April 4	Easter Sunday	Luke 24:1-12

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THE WEEK: Luke 21:34

"For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday	Luke 19: 11-27	The Parable of the Ten Pounds
Tuesday	Luke 20:1-8	Jesus' Authority
Wednesday	Luke 20:9-19	The Parable of the Wicked Tenants
Thursday	Luke 20: 20-26	The Question about Paying Taxes
Friday	Luke 20:27-40	The Question about the Resurrection
Saturday	Luke 21:1-4	The Widow's Offering

CARING CONVERSATIONS or REFLECTIONS

- **Thinking About This Week's Story:** In today's story, Jesus healed the sight of a man who was blind. Where have you seen people in need of healing today?
- **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** Next week, we begin Holy Week with the people celebrating Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. What is something that you can celebrate about today?