



**Bethany Memorial Church
(Disciples of Christ)
March 29, 2020
Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**Prelude
Welcome
Announcements**

John Rodenberg

ENTERING THE STORY

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

Leader: Good morning, church – scattered far and wide, yet together in spirit – and in cyberspace. Each Sunday this Lent at Bethany Memorial, we've been looking at a story or scene from Jesus' last week on earth, following the worship theme suggested by Marcia McFee's Worship Design Studio. Today, we step outside that timeline to just a little earlier, to the heartbreaking story of the death of one of Jesus' closest friends, and the amazing events that followed. We put ourselves in this picture that opens us to treasure each other – to be part of bringing life – even in the most difficult of situations.

People (singing):

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus
Look full in his wonderful face,
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
in the light of his glory and grace.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us pray together:

People:

**Forgive us, O God, if physical distancing becomes spiritual distancing
– from you or from each other.**

**Help us to care for what or who is right in front of us –
And for those far away.**

Help us to care for those who are the most vulnerable in this time.

**You entered our story through Jesus;
now help us to enter fully into the story
of your reign on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND ENTERING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Minister: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father/Mother 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 from debt as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. AMEN.

GETTING PERSPECTIVE

SCRIPTURE

John 11:1-3, 30-44

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.
² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair;
her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus,^[a] "Lord, he whom you
love is ill." ...

³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had
met him. ³¹ The 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. ³² When 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."
³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The 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."

SPECIAL MUSIC

Vicki NeCastro

SERMON

Rev. Sharon Watkins

"Called to Live"

ZOOMING IN – AT GOD’S HOLY TABLE

OFFERING INVITATION

John Rodenberg

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN OF PREPARATION p. 546 vs.1

"Amazing Grace"

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

COMMUNION INVITATION

Jan Forsty

THE THANKSGIVING PRAYER OF THE ELDER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Rev. Watkins

FELLOWSHIP OF COMMUNION

Please partake of the bread and cup – one in the Spirit.

ENTERING THE WORLD'S STORY

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

Rev. Watkins

CLOSING HYMN #546 vs. 4

"Amazing Grace"

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Watkins

POSTLUDE

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PRAYER LIST

All those impacted by the coronavirus virus

Gary Larson

Bob Andrews

Barb Stevenson, mother of Kim Stevenson

Linda Jacobs (Sister of Jan Forsty)

Nancy Pietrangelo (sister of Penny Tittle)

Mike Cunningham (Sydma's Dad) and Dottie Hanners

Jeffrey Yost

Shana Hatzopoulos

Della & Ed Rodgers (Parents of Vicki NeCastro)

Allan and Pam Clifford (Connie McVicar's brother-in-law and sister)

Sharon Poyneer (sister of Vonnie Larson)

Mary Sutherland (sister of Pat Sutherland)

Holly Cramblet Bowman

Caden Knisley

Joanne Sykes

Ellen Sanford

Nancy Sandercox

Mary Jane Jackson

Ruth Tye

Holly, Frank, and Sharley Hillgardner

Elizabeth DeJong

Donna Norman (Becky Ayers' sister)

Dottie Smith

Linda Owens Walters

Kerry Kerr

WELCOME!

Sermon

Rev. Sharon Watkins

Liturgist

John Rodenberg

Elder

Jan Forsty

Music

Vicki NeCastro

Videographer

Connie McVicar

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BMC remains in partnership with the Wheeling YWCA, in an effort to benefit women and children who have experienced violence or human trafficking. The following is a wish list of items particularly helpful. You are welcome to drop any items off at the church leaving them on the front porch.

- Diapers, especially sizes 3, 4, and 5.
- Hypoallergenic baby wipes.
- Baby Lotion and body wash
- Disposable razors and shaving gel
- Deodorant
- Tampons
- Hairbrushes and hair dryers
- Bath loofas
- Body wash
- Underwear
- Alarm clocks
- Towels and washcloths
- Blankets
- AA and AAA batteries
- Food storage containers
- Journals or small notebooks
- Adult coloring books and pens/markers
- Cards and games

Members of the Bethany community have been asked to make surgical masks for medical personnel. Directions can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BCJcE-r7kcg&fbclid=IwAR3rZ6BDFOpMEBRFZwyYVLwKv5GmaLwbmrgzasT6CUX_WwaNr0sQXWnTfM&app=desktop. Once completed, these can be left in the designated box on the left hand side of the front porch.

If you are someone you know is in need of a grocery or prescription pickup, please call the church office or Mayor Shirley Kemp and leave a message. Volunteers stand ready to help. In addition, on the front porch of the church there are some food items, some books, and a couple of puzzles that those who need are welcome to take.

NOTE: The Church building is closed until further notice. BMC staff and volunteers can be reached by calling:

Rev. Sharon Watkins; 317-366-6593 swatkins@bethanwv.edu (Minister)

Sydma Hatzopoulos; 304-639-1600 shatzopoulos@bethanywv.edu (Operations Manager)

Helen Moren; 304-829-4706 moren4391@comcasdt.net (Moderator)