

Welcome and Announcements: March 21, 2021

Lenten Speaker Series TODAY at 11 a.m. on Zoom. Sam Zeigler and her Union Presbyterian Seminary colleagues Madison Winters and Sommer Jordan – talking about The Future of the Church: Social Justice and Diversity.

Meeting ID: 831 6464 3603 Passcode: 736553

Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. – Facebook Live – “Letting Go for Lent” – and the devotional will also be emailed out in written form.

GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

Prelude: **Cross of Sorrow* – Schubert

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Opening Prayer:

O God, who gave us birth, you are ever more ready to hear than we are to pray. You know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking. Show us now your grace, that as we face the mystery of death, we may see the light of eternity. Speak to us once more your solemn message of life and death. Help us to live as those who are prepared to die. And when our days are ended, enable us to die as those who go forth to live, so that living or dying, our life may be in Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn: *Jesus Shall Reign*

1. Jesus shall reign where-e’er the sun
Does its successive journeys run,
His kingdom spread from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2. To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And praises throng to crown His head;
His name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.

Jesus Shall Reign, as in The Presbyterian Hymnal, © 1990 Westminster John Knox Press. Words: Isaac Watts, 1719. Music: John Hatton (d. 1793). Used by permission. CCLI #[20516410](#) Size A, Streaming #[20516427](#) Size A.

GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture: Mark 14: 1-9

The Plot to Kill Jesus

14 It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; ² for they said, “Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.”

The Anointing at Bethany

³ While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. ⁴ But some were there who said to one another in anger, “Why was the ointment wasted in this way? ⁵ For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.” And they scolded her. ⁶ But Jesus said, “Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. ⁷ For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. ⁸ She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. ⁹ Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.”

Sermon: Preparing for Death

Rev. Kerra Becker English



“One day Son all this will be yours.”

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer

...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 debts, 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.

Offering

Response: *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.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound, as in the Presbyterian Hymnal, © 1990 Westminster John Knox Press. Words: John Newton, 1779. Music, *Virginia Harmony*, 1831. Used by permission. CCLI #[20516410](#) Size A, Streaming #[20516427](#) Size A.

SENDING US OUT TO BE GOD'S WORD IN THE WORLD

Closing Hymn: *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*

1. Where cross the crowded ways of life,
Where sound the cries of race and clan,
Above the noise of selfish strife
We hear Thy voice, O Son of Man.

2. O Master, from the mountainside,
Make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
Among these restless throngs abide,
O tread the city's streets again;

3. Till all the world shall learn Thy love,
And follow where Thy feet have trod;
Till glorious from Thy heaven above
Shall come the city of our God.

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life, as in The Presbyterian Hymnal, © 1990 Westminster John Knox Press. Words: Frank Mason North, 1905. Music: Attr. Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827). Used by permission. CCLI #[20516410](#) Size A, Streaming #[20516427](#) Size A.

Charge and Benediction

The God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus,

Make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will,

Working among us that which is pleasing in God's sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Postlude: * O Sing Unto God – Donald Lee Moore

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