

Sunday, March 16, 2025 - Second Sunday in Lent

Welcome to worship at Shepherd of the Bay. If you are visiting today, Hello! We are so glad you are here. Whether you are here for a week, a month, or the whole summer season, we hope that you will find this community to be a warm and welcoming spiritual home while you're in Door County. If you have questions, please ask. If you are interested in a more formal affiliation with Shepherd of the Bay, contact Pastor Honig.

Enter to worship. As the prelude begins, worshippers are encouraged to conclude conversation and quietly prepare to enter into the experience of worship.

PRELUDE *Petit Canon* Nadia Boulanger
 Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee Friedrich Wilhelm Zachow

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

everything [in] between faith & works

The assembly stands

(Congregation recites **bold** print responses.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come as you are.

If you have deep faith or your faith has run dry,

if you know every scripture or none at all,

if you have calloused hands and live your faith through good works,

or if you kneel at God's feet, with a million hungry questions,

come as you are.

This is God's house.

None are turned away.

All are welcome here.

CHORAL INTROIT Here is Bread for the Hungry Soul (sung 3 times)

Here is bread for the hungry soul.

Here is wine for the thirsty heart.

**Here is forgiveness full and free,
here at the table of the Lord.**

Text: Mary Kay Beall c. Hope Publishing Co.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The story of Mary and Martha is often painted as a story where one does right and one does wrong.

We know that life is often more complicated than that.

We know that faith is embodied through being present and taking action—and everything in between.

Knowing this, like Mary and Martha, let us draw near to God. Let us be honest about our lives, our hopes, and our mistakes. For even in our messy middle, God meets us with grace

Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Grace,

We long to do the "right" thing. We long to make the "right" choice.

We long to stand on the "right" side of the dividing line.

In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us.

In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show love.

Show us how to hold our heart's desire for perfection loosely.

Show us how to lead with grace and love, over anything else.

For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to you. Show us the way.

Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Faithful friends, God knows your heart.

When you mean well and lose your way, God knows.

When you try to do the right thing and miss the point, God knows.

When you long to be close to God, and doubt your worth, God knows.

You are seen. You are loved. You are forgiven. You have been sent to serve.

This is the good news of the gospel!

Nothing can separate you from God's love.

Thanks be to God!

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

HYMN 831 The God of Abraham Praise sts. 1-4

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

Pastor **ALL**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer-cy.

Pastor

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us

ALL

pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

ALL

Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Pastor

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

ALL

A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: God of the covenant,

in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated

CHOIR *A Welcome Place* Joel Raney (2010 Hope Publishing)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God,

**When our anxiety hovers close,
when fear clings to our bones,
when our stress rises like the tide,
see us.**

Speak to us.

Call us by name.

See us in the kitchen, in the classroom, in the hospital waiting room.

Speak to us in the quiet, in the crowd, in the inky black of night.

Call us beloved. Call us by name. Call us your child.

**Whatever you do, speak to us,
for we cannot live on bread alone.**

Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:1-10a

...

P: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

GOSPEL : Luke 10:38-42

C: Glory to you, O Lord

...

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

The assembly stands.

HYMN OF THE DAY

HYMN 613 Thy Holy Wings

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a Christ who
teaches, sees, affirms, and celebrates all of who we are.
We believe in a Christ who
invites us to use our gifts for good and celebrates every step we take in that direction.
We believe in a Christ who
understands our anxieties and is gentle with our concerns.
And we believe in a Christ who
looks at us with undiluted love.
The world will try to rank, rate, and declare winners,
but we know love has no limit.
So with God's help,
may we nurture our faith
and do good work.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Congregational response to

P. God, in your mercy,

C. receive our prayer.

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need. We remember especially those whom we name aloud... **Marie** Becker, **Carole** Bergner, **Wally** Brandt, **Bob** Bridges, **John** Carlson, **Sharon** Cobb, **Brett** Eckdahl, **Connie** Kretzmann, **Carenn**a Reisen, **Braden** Sitte, **Sandy** Weckler, and all whom we remember in our hearts and lift before you... (*silence for reflection*) ... May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us (especially). Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *O God, Thou Faithful God* Ethel Smyth

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider,
you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world.
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***About Communion:** This is Christ's table and meal of grace! All are welcome! Ushers will guide you forward. Receive the bread (gluten free available); wine or white grape juice is received from a cup from the gold tray. If you have difficulty coming forward for the distribution, please let one of the ushers know and they will ask the pastor to bring you communion in the pew. Children may come forward for a blessing.*

COMMUNION DIALOG

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

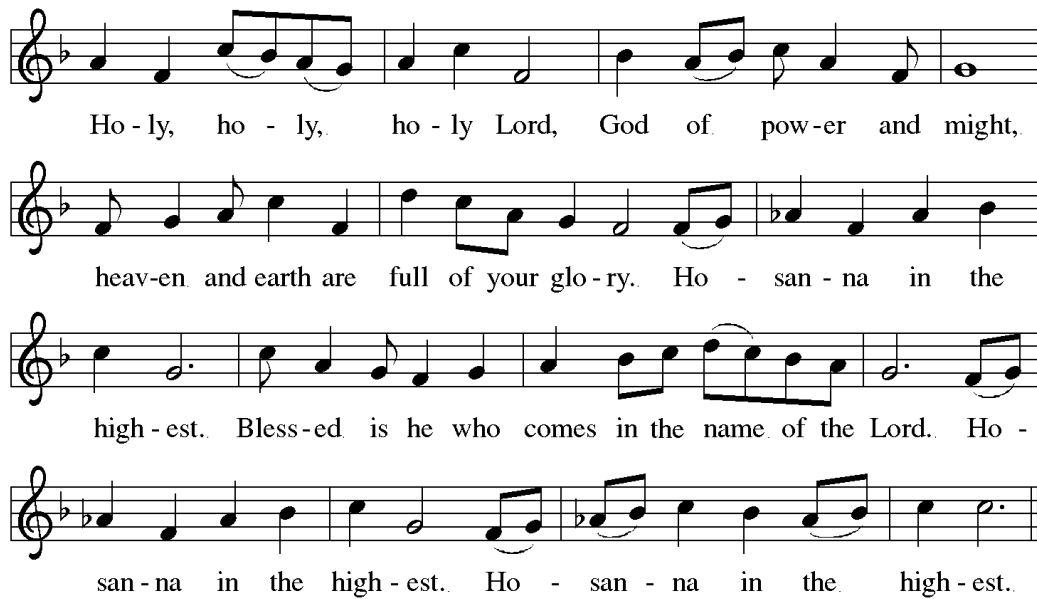
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

About Communion: This is Christ's table and meal of grace! All are welcome! Ushers will guide you forward. Receive the bread (gluten free available); wine or white grape juice is received from a cup from the gold tray. If you have difficulty coming forward for the distribution, please let one of the ushers know and they will ask the pastor to bring you communion in the pew. Children may come forward for a blessing

The assembly is seated.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

HYMN 471 Let Us Break Bread together

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

HYMN 831 The God of Abraham Praise sts. 5-8

DISMISSAL

As you leave this place,
may you find God in every messy middle.
May you know that the world is bigger than two sides.
May you trust that you are made in the image of God, and therefore, you contain multitudes.
So may you move through this world with an open heart,
with a curious mind,
and with the confidence that you do not go alone.
God is with you in the mountains,
in the valleys,
and everywhere in between.
Believe that good news, and go in peace.

Thanks be to God.

DEPART TO SERVE

POSTLUDE *Jesus, My Treasure* (BWV 1105) Johann Sebastian Bach

Liturgy adapted from a prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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