

**Created for Community: March 24, 2021**

**Overview**

On Ash Wednesday, we began: God created us to experience joy in communion with him, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all of his creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, and so we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended for us. Also, by our sin we grieve our Father, who does not desire us to come under his judgment, but to turn to him and live.

As disciples of the Lord Jesus we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love—the discipline of Lent—help us to wage our spiritual warfare. I invite you, therefore, to commit yourselves to this struggle and confess your sins, asking our Father for strength to persevere in your Lenten discipline.

Tonight we will reflect on scripture, exploring what stands out to us in the texts, explore how God is speaking to you personally, and how God is speaking to us as a community.

**Gathering Song**

**Jesus, We Are Gathered**

*Jesu, tawa pano*



Je - su, ta - wa pa - no, Je - su, ta - wa pa - no,  
Je - sus, we are gath-ered, Je - sus, we are gath-ered,



Je - su, ta - wa pa - no, ta - wa pa - no mu zi - ta re - nyu.  
Je - sus, we are gath-ered, we are gath-ered, Lord Je - sus, for you.

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**Prayer**

Let us pray: Mysterious One, in Jesus you redeem us and invite all people to a place in your glory. Draw us closer to you, and in so doing, draw us closer to one another, that we may be strengthened to follow in the way of Jesus' cross and resurrection. In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

## Scripture

### Week 5 - In community with Christ

Mark 10:32-45 *Jesus reminds us that we are walking the way of the cross*

Tonight we are reminded where we are headed in this season and always—to the cross. When we are at the limits of our own power, overwhelmed by guilt or shame, or confronted with death, we find ourselves in the company of Jesus, who is our community even when all else fails. In Mark 10:32-45, Jesus once again reminds the disciples and us that our call will lead us to the cross.

### Read text 3 times: Lectio Divino

Each time invite the assembly to listen in a different way.

- Reading the first time: Listen for a word or short phrase that stands out to you.
- Reading the second time: Listen for a way in which God is speaking to you personally.
- Reading the third time: Listen for a way in which God is speaking to the

community/communities of which you are a part.

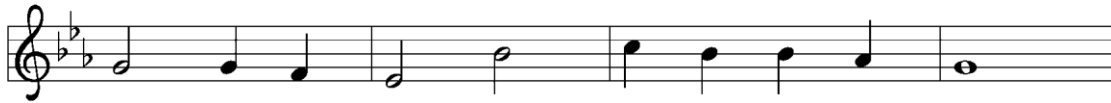
They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.'

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.'

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

“Abide with Me” (ELW 629)

Abide with Me



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
change and de - cay in all a - round I see;  
Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.  
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.  
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!  
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

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**Prayers**

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church, in every expression..... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for creation and for the world..... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all who are sick and in need..... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### Blessing

The Creator who fashions us together with all things, the Christ who leads us into a new beloved community, the Spirit who holds us in the communion of saints, one God, ✝ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

### Sending Song

#### Ubi caritas et amor *Where True Charity and Love Abide*

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, / Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,". The piano accompaniment starts with a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues with: "u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est. / God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there." The piano accompaniment continues with the same bass clef and key signature. There are triplets in the vocal line for "i - bi" and "dwell - ing".

Text: Latin antiphon, 9th cent.;  
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Voice*, Text © 1979 Les  
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### Dismissal

Go in peace, joined together in Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**