



GIOTTO di Bondone. Scenes from the Life of Christ: 9. Raising of Lazarus (1304-06) Fresco, Cappella Scrovegni (Arena Chapel), Padua, Italy

Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 26, 2023 — 9:00 am

Christ Church

(Episcopal / Anglican)

Main and Fourth Streets

Riverton, New Jersey 08077-1240

Tel. 856-829-1634 + Fax: 856-829-2663

E-mail: christriverton@juno.com

<http://www.christriverton.org>

The Rev. Don Caron, *Priest*

The Rev. Leslie Mazzacano, *Deacon*

Peter Homon, *Organist*

Joan Sanders, *Parish Secretary*

Christ Church
Fifth Sunday in Lent
Holy Eucharist: Rite II
March 26, 2023 — 9:00 A.M.

Organ Prelude “*What Wondrous Love Is This?*” G. Lynn

Processional Hymn 497 “*Glory Be To Jesus*”

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People His mercy endures for ever.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.
People **Christ, have mercy.**
Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Reading (Lesson) from Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the

Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.” So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act,” says the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 130 *De profundis*

1. Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear my voice; *

***let your ears consider well the voice
of my supplication.***

2. If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, *

O Lord, who could stand?

3. For there is forgiveness with you; *

therefore you shall be feared.

4. I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; *

in his word is my hope.

5. My soul waits for the Lord,
more than watchmen for the morning, *
more than watchmen for the morning.
6. O Israel, wait for the Lord, *
for with the Lord there is mercy;
7. With him there is plenteous redemption, *
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

A Reading (Lesson) from Romans 8:6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

The Gospel Hymn 439 *"What Wondrous Love Is This?"*

Then, all standing, the Deacon:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

John 11:1-45

People: ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he

stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 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. 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."

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 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." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. 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." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 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." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

The Sermon

The Rev. Leslie Mazzacano, *Deacon*

Prayers of the People for the Fifth Sunday of Lent

Prsider: God gives flesh to the dry bones of the dead. As we prepare for the paschal feast, let us earnestly beseech God to breathe on all creatures and call them out of the tomb.

Deacon: For the holy catholic church throughout the world, sharing the death and resurrection of Christ.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, the Presiding Bishop, William, our Bishop, Sally, our Bishop elect, Don our Priest, and Leslie our Deacon. The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, Ministry of Spiritual Directors, The Rev. Marcel Tabone, The Rev. Shelton N. Radix, Members and Ministry of the Youth Council

Youth, The Rev. Philip B. Carr-Jones, Members and Ministry of Diocesan Council, and The Rev. Dr. Sonia Elaine Waters.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the leaders of the nations, especially Joseph the President of the United States, and Phillip the Governor of NJ. For Valimir Putin, the leader of Russia and Volodymyr Zelensky, the President of Ukraine. For the Supreme Court, the Senate, and the House of Representatives. For all nations, peoples, tribes, clans, and families.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all those in danger and need, remembering especially those affected by the conflict in Russia and Ukraine.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who hunger and thirst, especially the poor and the homeless.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who are sick and troubled, remembering especially *Ruth, Ed, Sharon, Annamarie, Susan, Donna, Cheryl, Carol, Jeanette, Susan, Austin, Lynn, Tibor, Cynthia, Katie, Kelly, Eileen, Doris, Don, Sean, Arlene, Barry, Joan*, and all others who have asked for our prayers.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the dying and the dead and those who care and grieve for them.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For our community of Riverton, for all communities represented here this morning, and for all who live and work in them.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For ourselves, our families, our friends, our companions on the way, and those we love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Remembering the blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ.

To you, O Lord, our God.

Presider: Blessed are you, God of Israel, who made us an everlasting covenant. Receive the prayers we offer this day for ourselves in our weakness and for all peoples everywhere, through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence*

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

The Peace *(All stand.)*

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Offertory Solo “I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked” G. O’Hara

The Doxology 380 vs. 3 “Praise God”

All: ***Praise God from whom all blessings flow***

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above the heavenly hosts

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost Amen

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

The people remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings or says

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

It is a right, good and joyful thing, always and everywhere

to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. You brought all things into being and called them good. From the dust of the earth you formed us into your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away in denial, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You made us your covenant people, and your ways are just and true.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S-114 *“Holy, holy, holy”*

All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Most Holy and Gracious God, as we journey with Jesus toward the Lenten cross, we pray not only for ourselves, but for others” known and unknown, named and unnamed” from whose lives health or happiness has fled. Bring them your comfort and peace that surpasses understanding.

Bless our world, O Lord, and by your Spirit let your harmony and justice prevail. Bless our church, uniting us in the truth of your Word and empowering us in ministry to the world. Bless our family and friends, watching over and providing peace to them. Bless all who are suffering by embracing them in your loving arms. Bless each person here this morning, keeping us all faithful to you.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for

you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen.***

Christ will come again.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this cup and joyfully celebrate Christ's dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

AMEN.

Together we pray the prayer taught us: (*spoken*)

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Invitation

Communion Music

“Adagio From Sonata No. 1”

F. Mendelssohn

After Communion, the Celebrant says Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen. Amen.

Birthday Blessings

Anniversary Blessings

Announcements

Final Blessing

Recessional 325 “*I am The Bread Of Life*”

The Deacon, or the Celebrant, dismisses them with these words

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and one another.

*People: **Thanks be to God!***

Organ Postlude “*Epilogue*”

F. Mendelssohn

+ + +

Lector: Fred Hill *Musicians:* Susan Engel, Soprano

Acolyte: Christian Gulbin, Shea Gulbin, Jeff Mack

Ushers: Brad Smith, Bob Engel

Altar Guild: Debbie Sigler, Susan Stevens, Mary Shea

Counters: Joan Atkinson, Marge Conti

Videographer: Linda Yansick

INTERGENERATIONAL STUDY - Please join us today at 4pm for our final session for this school year. The focus this time is on Lent/Holy Week. We will be making Palm Crosses, having children's Stations of the Cross, and will view a video called "The Proud Tree," Of course, we will be discussing the meaning of Lent and what happens during Holy Week. Dinner is included as we meet at 4-6 p.m.. This program is for all ages - grandparents, please bring your grand-

children, or adults just come yourself.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN PROGRAM - We're halfway through our Lenten Journey and the Wednesday dinner and study have been awesome. Join us this Wednesday, March 29 at 6 p.m. for a dinner of Farmhouse Chowder and Broccoli Cheddar. and week five of our study of "Blessed Is She: Living Lent With Mary."

MID-WEEK SERVICE A celebration of the Eucharist is held every Wednesday at 10:00. It includes special mention of the persons on the parish prayer list and asks for God's healing for the world. The Service lasts about 45 minutes, with a conversation on the Person and scriptures of the day.

MEN'S GROUP. We will meet for about an hour every first and third Saturday of each month @ 9:00 am (so you can still have your day), and we will talk about the things that are important for a man's spiritual life. It's an opportunity to deepen relationships with other men of the parish, too.

CONTEMPLATIVE GROUP - a group comprised of women from various churches gathers weekly online to meditate, study and hold a discussion Wednesdays at 10-11:30 am. All are welcome! Info for Zoom Meeting is 895 0808 5891 & password is 702131. For more info contact Mel at 478-234-3698.

