



**MIDWEEK—LENT 1**

**MARCH 1, 2023**

*\*congregation stands*

**THEME VERSE**

*Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment. Matthew 26:6-7*

**\*INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C **Amen.**
- P Let us ever walk with Jesus.
- C **To see the depths of his love.**
- P To behold the gift of his forgiveness.
- C **To gaze upon the heights of his grace.**
- P To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.
- C **We walk with Jesus to Bethany.**
- P And into the house of Simon the leper.
- C **Mary prepares Christ for his burial by anointing him with perfume.**
- P Faithful Lord, with me abide.
- C **I shall follow where you guide!**

**\*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P Our Gospel reading states that, “Mary came up to Jesus with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he reclined at table.” Forgive us, kind Father—

C **For too often, our giving is nothing like this.**

P Our sinful nature prefers another word—

C **Get.**

P Get even, get back and get revenge.

C **Get more, get ahead and get on top.**

P We are consumed with consuming.

C **Driven by selfish desires.**

P Passionate about more possessions.

C **We are too much like the disciples.**

P And too little like Mary.

C **Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

*(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ’s love is greater.)*

P Hear the good news! Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane, Gabbatha and Golgotha—for you. That’s why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Faithful Lord, with me abide!

C **I shall follow where you guide!**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank you for Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus, for through her generosity we catch a glimpse of your joyful and generous kingdom. By your Spirit’s power enable us to live and give like her; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

C **Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Exodus 36:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>“Bezalel and Oholiab and every craftsman in whom the LORD has put skill and intelligence to know how to do any work in the construction of the sanctuary shall work in accordance with all that the LORD has commanded.”

<sup>2</sup>And Moses called Bezalel and Oholiab and every craftsman in whose mind the LORD had put skill, everyone whose heart stirred him up to come to do the work. <sup>3</sup>And they received from Moses all the contribution that the people of Israel had brought for doing the work on the sanctuary. They still kept bringing him freewill offerings every morning, <sup>4</sup>so that all the craftsmen who were doing every sort of task on the sanctuary came, each from the task that he was doing, <sup>5</sup>and said to Moses, “The people bring much more than enough for doing the work that the LORD has commanded us to do.” <sup>6</sup>So Moses gave command, and word was proclaimed throughout the camp, “Let no man or woman do anything more for

the contribution for the sanctuary." So the people were restrained from bringing, <sup>7</sup>for the material they had was sufficient to do all the work, and more.

## EPISTLE READING

*2 Corinthians 8:1–5*

<sup>1</sup>We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, <sup>2</sup>for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. <sup>3</sup>For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own free will, <sup>4</sup>begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— <sup>5</sup>and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

## \*GOSPEL READING

*Matthew 26:6–13*

<sup>6</sup>Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, <sup>7</sup>a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he reclined at table. <sup>8</sup>And when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, "Why this waste? <sup>9</sup>For this could have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor." <sup>10</sup>But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. <sup>11</sup>For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. <sup>12</sup>In pouring this ointment on my body, she has done it to prepare me for burial. <sup>13</sup>Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her."

## SERMON HYMN

## WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

LSB 425

## SERMON

## Places of the Passion: Bethany

## OFFERING

## \*THE PRAYERS

- P Onward in Christ's footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above. Full of faith and hope and love. Let us do the Father's bidding. And so we pray. Gracious God, give us generous hearts.
- C **To give without counting the cost.**
- P To share without expecting anything in return.
- C **To hold all of our treasures with open hands.**
- P To have Gospel priorities and align our life, our love and our time in their light.
- C **To know the freedom that comes with generosity.**
- P To give like the Israelites who continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning.
- C **To give like the Macedonians who urgently pleaded for the privilege of sharing.**
- P To give like Mary, joyfully, exceedingly and lavishly.
- C **To give like Jesus, lovingly, faithfully and abundantly.**
- P Father, we recall the words of our Savior, "I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her." And so we pray,
- C **Take my love, my Lord, I pour.**
- P At your feet its treasure store.
- C **Take myself and I will be.**

- P Ever, only, all for thee.  
 C **Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me. Amen.**

**\*LORD’S PRAYER**

**\*BENEDICTION**

- P The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
 C **Amen.**

**HYMN TO DEPART**

**TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE**

**LSB 783**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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**Serving Our Lord**

		March 1, 6:30pm	March 8, 6:30pm
Supper	5:15pm	served by: WoW Bible study	served by: Teachers
Musician	6:30pm	Diane Streich	Marsha Workman
Cantor	6:30pm	Andy Koch	Dave Workman
Altar Guild	6:30pm	Roxanne Foley	Roxanne Foley
Elder(s)	6:30pm	Jon Peterson	Sam Erdman
Reader	6:30pm	Jon Peterson	Open
Usher Team	6:30pm	Jon Peterson	Brian Nack
Acolyte	6:30pm	Open	Open
Projection	6:30pm	Jean Peterson	Open
Live Stream	6:30pm	Jim Nicklas	Jim Nicklas



**Devotions for Lent**

*Man of Sorrows, People of Joy* paints a revealing picture of Jesus as He winds His way to the cross. Using Matthew’s Gospel as its source, we see Jesus as teacher, healer, comforter, and Savior. Our Shepherd’s crucifixion and resurrection now make joy and true life available to His followers—to those who through faith entrust their lives to Him. Pick yours up in the narthex or access the online version at [lhm.org](http://lhm.org).