**April 2, 2017 8:30 & 10:45**

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

The Apostles’ Creed, an ancient summary of Christian beliefs, includes the phrase, *“I believe in the forgiveness of sins.”* God offers us free grace that is beyond our ability to comprehend. May we forgive the sins of others, as God has forgiven our own.

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

**Hymn 279**   **Filled with excitement** (seated) *Hosanna*

 **Hymn 399 Take my life, and let it be** *Messiah*

**Greeting**

Leader: You who are righteous, rejoice in the Lord and be glad!

**People: All you whose hearts are right, sing out in joy!** *Psalm 32:11 (CEV)*

**Announcements**

**Introit** 10:45 *John Ness Beck*

 How awesome is this place!

 This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!

**Call to Worship**

Pastor: It’s all done! Finished! Settled! God took the whole, long list of our sins and forgave them!

**People: God nailed them to the cross.**

Pastor: Every crime, violation, and sacrilege! Every shortcoming, disgrace and

failure! God eliminated every single record of our godless behavior!

**People: God nailed them to the cross.**

Pastor: There is nothing else to do, but to worship and praise God!

**People: And to be careful not to pull out any of God’s nails!**

*Robert D. Ingram, Worship & Song*

 **…TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymn 73 O worship the King** (standing) *Lyons*

**Opening Prayer (in unison)**

**Gracious God, we come together bringing our shortcomings and our flaws, recognizing our need for forgiveness. We acknowledge the burden of guilt we often carry unnecessarily, as well as the resentment we may harbor for hurts inflicted by others. Open our hearts to receive the love and grace you have to offer. In the name of Jesus Christ, your son. Amen.**

**… TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH …**

**Moment for Missions** Clendenin, WV Flood Recovery Michael Drabick 8:30

 John Esaias 10:45

**Invitation to the Lord’s Table** Bishop George W. Bashore

Bishop: Come to the Lord's Table, all you who love him.

Come to the Lord's Table, confess your sin.

Come to the Lord's Table, be at peace.

**Confession of Sin**

Bishop: We have not believed you or trusted in your power.

**People: Lord, help our unbelief.**

*Silence*

Bishop: We have stained our souls by our action and inaction.

**People: Cleanse us, Lord.**

*Silence*

Bishop: We are broken by disease, bruised by the sins of others, weakened

 and unable to repair ourselves.

**People: Heal us, Lord.**

 *Silence*

Bishop: We ignore your call to center our lives in you, and so are deaf to the hopes and cries of the poor, the sick, the needy, and the earth.

**People: Ground us, Lord!**

 *Silence*

Bishop: When we confess our sinful ways, God abundantly pardons. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven. Glory to God!**

Bishop: By one Spirit we are all baptized into the one body.

**People: Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and**

 **build up our common life.**

**The Sign of Peace** *Please pass the peace to your neighbors as a sign of reconciliation and love.*

 Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
 People: And also with you.

Gathering Song *James Ritchie*

 This, this is where children belong,

 welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.

 Water, God’s Word, bread and cup, prayer and song:

 This is where children belong.

 WORDS AND MUSIC: James Ritchie ©1999 Abingdon Press

**Message for Young Disciples** Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

All children are invited. Please sing as children come forward. After the children’s message at the 10:45 service, children ages 3 - 3rd grade may attend **Kids Praise** in the Welcome Center. Children will be escorted to and from Kids Praise by teachers. They will return to the Sanctuary near the end of the service.

**Anthem** 10:45 Alleluia *Anonymous*

1. Alleluia. 2. He is God’s Son. 3. He’s my Savior.

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

**Hymn 365 Grace greater than our sin** (seated) *Moody*

Scripture Reading 8:30 Marcy Picardi

 A Lesson from the New Testament 10:45 Scott Ulman

 Romans 5:12-21 Grace now rules

**Worship & Song 3094 Come to me** (seated) *Come to me*

**Come to me, come to me, weak and heavy laden;**

 **trust in me, lean on me. I will give you rest.**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**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 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. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

 A Lesson from the Gospels

 Matthew 5:38-48 The law of love

 **Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

**… TO OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TO DEDICATE OUR LIVES …**

**Offertory Solo** 8:30 Jesus, keep me near the cross

**Offertory Anthem** 10:45 The Seven Last Words of Christ: Sixth Word *Theodore DuBois*

‘Father, into Thy hands I commend my soul.’

For Thou art my God and my Father; Thou art my Saviour.

**Doxology 95**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise God all creatures here below;

praise God above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Sermon** “I Believe in Forgiveness” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**The Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**  *The Apostles’ Creed (ecumenical version)*

**Hymn 71 Glory be to the Father**  *Greatorex*

The Sacrament of Holy Communion *Bishop George W. Bashore, Celebrant*

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you**

Bishop: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to you, Lord.**

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

**People: It is right to praise you, Lord.**

 Bishop It is right, and a good and joyful thing,

 Always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

 Holy Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

 From the rising of the sun to its setting

 your name is praised among all peoples.

 Therefore we praise you,

 joining our voices with your people on earth

 and all the company of heaven

 who forever sing this hymn to the glory of your name:

 (Musical Setting E, U.M. Hymnal, p. 25)

**People:** **Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Bishop: You are holy, Almighty One!

Blessed are you, Jesus Christ!

In the power of the Spirit

you created all things, blessed them, and called them good.

You called to yourself a people

To make your mercy and truth known in all the world.

Bishop: We betrayed your calling;

**People: You were faithful.**

Bishop: We wandered from the way;

**People: You called us to return, and led us home.**

Bishop: And still we turned from your ways,

 abused your creatures,

 and made ourselves slaves to sin and death.

 At the right time

 you came and dwelt among us,

 as one of us,

 bringing good news to the poor,

 healing the sick, raising the dead,

 sharing table with the unrighteous,

 and teaching the way that leads to life.

 By your incarnation, life, suffering, execution and resurrection

 You gave birth to your church,

 delivered us from slavery

 and made a new covenant with us

 by water and the Spirit.

 On the night of your betrayal, Lord Jesus,

 you took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to your disciples and said,

 "This is my body which is given for you.

 Do this in remembrance of me."

 You did the same with the cup after the supper, saying,

 "This cup that is poured out is the new covenant in my blood."

 Blessed Trinity, in remembrance of all you have done to save us,

 we offer ourselves to you in praise and thanksgiving

 as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,

 as we sing the mystery of our faith:

 *[Musical Setting E, U.M. Hymnal, p. 25]*

**People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Bishop: Pour out your Spirit on us

**People: Pour out your Spirit on us**

Bishop: Pour out your Spirit on these gifts

**People: Pour out your Spirit on these gifts**

Bishop: Make these gifts the body and blood of Christ

**People: Make us, through them, Christ's body alive in the world.**

Bishop: Abba, Father!

**People: Let your kingdom come!**

Bishop: Glory to you!

**People: Glory to you!**

Bishop: Come, Lord Jesus!

**People: Be our daily bread.**

Bishop: Glory to you!

**People: Glory to you!**

Bishop: Holy Spirit!

**People: Send us to the world.**

Bishop: Glory to you!

**People: Glory to you!**

Bishop: Holy, Blessed Trinity!

**People: One God forever!**

Bishop: Glory to you!

**People: Glory to you!**

**Breaking the Bread**

**Giving the Bread and Cup**

During the distribution of the elements at the 10:45 service the Chancel Choir will sing :

The Seven Last Words: Third Word – ‘See, O woman! Here behold thy Son beloved.’

Introduction – ‘…was there ever sorrow like my sorrow?’

 **Giving Thanks (in unison)**

**Lord, you now have set your servants free**

**to go in peace as you have promised.**

**For these eyes of ours have seen the Savior**

**whom you have prepared for all the world to see!**

**Blessing and honor and glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Hymn 358 Dear Lord and Father of mankind** (standing) *Rest*

**Sending Forth**

Pastor: You have seen the Savior. Go now in peace.

And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

One in Three and Three in One,

Go with you.

**People: Amen.**

**Today’s Services**

**The flowers on the altar and in the chancel** are given by Steve Stockton in memory of loved ones.

**Special music at 10:45** is provided by the Youth Choir; and the Chancel Choir, with soloists Robert Richards, Kathleen Whittaker and Kirby Dilworth; conducted by Richard Minnotte.

**Greeters 8:30** Gale Seymour **10:45**  Jim and Linda Hoover

**Acolytes** Anna Rhoton and Xavier Sanchez **Cross Bearer** Bradley Shoff

**Worship options for children** We encourage children to participate in the **Children’s Sermon** at both services, and in **Kids Praise** during the 10:45 service. **Nursery services** are offered in Room 204 of the Education Building. Ask ushers or greeters and follow signs for direction.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Romans 5:12-21**

12Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— 13sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. 14Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. 15But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. 16And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. 17If, because of the one man’s trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. 18Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. 19For just as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous. 20But law came in, with the result that the trespass multiplied; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, 21so that, just as sin exercised dominion in death, so grace might also exercise dominion through justification leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord

**Matthew 5:38-48**

38“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ 39But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; 40and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; 41and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. 42Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

43“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. 46For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? 48Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.