

Fifth Sunday In Lent + March 29, 2020 + 10:00 a.m. Service

Live streaming on www.Facebook.com/CLOKCDotChurch + on Zoom – Meeting ID 236-716-120

Announcements

Greeting

We gather in our hearts and minds on the Fifth Sunday in Lent, to worship in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Confession & Forgiveness

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone.

Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

There is no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus. Grace abounds for you and for all, for the sake of Jesus ✝ Christ, the one God sent to save the world. **Amen.**

Apostolic 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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Giver of life, You are the resurrection and the life. Awaken us with the breath of your Spirit, and call us forth in faith as your disciples. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Ezekiel 37:1-14

A reading from the book of Ezekiel.

¹ 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. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ 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."

⁷ 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. ⁸ 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. ⁹ 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." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹ 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." ¹² 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. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ 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."

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This is the Word of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 130

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

² Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

³ If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

⁵ I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

⁶ my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

⁷ O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

⁸ It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

This is the Holy Gospel, according to St. John, from the 11th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 11:1-3, 5-6, 14, 15b-45

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."

⁵ Accordingly, Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ ... But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." ²⁸ 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." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.

³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ 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. ³² 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." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.

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³⁹ 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." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² 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." ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ 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." ⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Apostle's Creed

Let us join with others in the Body of Christ, and confess our Christian faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

Prayers of Intercession

We bring the needs of the church, the world, and all in need, to God's loving care.

We pray for our Bishops Elizabeth Eaton & Mike Girlinghouse.

We pray for Pastor Liz Albertson and the staffs of the Synod and Churchwide Offices.

We pray for our Pastor. We pray for the 3 Covenant churches: Ascension & Redeemer & St. Mark, and our work at being Church Together.

We pray for other churches in our communities and in our conference; this week we especially pray for *Trinity in Oklahoma City*. Lord of life, **Hear our prayer.**

Your word stirs the breath within us. May our every utterance be a proclamation to your glory, a witness of what our God can do. Lord of life, **Hear our prayer.**

Everything gets its life from you, from the moment of its birth until its final breath. So fill us with a love for your world and all that dwells within it, that we dedicate our lives to the care of all that you have made. Lord of life, **Hear our prayer.**

With all the saints who dwell in your eternal resurrection, unite us at length, and keep us in communion with your whole church on earth. Lord of life, **Hear our prayer.**

O God our Healer, show your compassion for the whole human family that is in turmoil and burdened with illness and with fear. Come to our aid as the coronavirus spreads globally, heal those who are sick, support and protect their families and friends from being infected. Heal our self-centeredness and indifference that makes us worry only when the virus threatens us, open ways beyond timidity and fear

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that too easily ignore our neighbor. Inspire, give insight and hope to all researchers focused on developing a vaccine. Light of the world, **Hear our prayer.**

God, you answer all who call on you. As you eased the grief of Mary and Martha, so comfort those who have lost someone dear to them. Be with those who face the end of their lives. And bless all who suffer with your healing touch, **especially we lift up in prayer** ... Lord of life, **Hear our prayer.**

Now, we lift up to God the people and concerns in our hearts and on our minds, knowing God knows what we need, but sharing with God where we ask God to intervene. *<pause>* Light of the world, **Hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and our thanksgiving for your daily blessings. For the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Sharing Of Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

REMEMBER: *While we are not gathering together, church expenses continue.*

It is essential for our churches that you mail your offerings to your church.

A Prayer For Grace

Let us pray. God of mercy, You are full of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in mercy, and always ready to forgive. Grant us grace to renounce all evil and to cling to Christ, that in every way we may prove to be your loving children, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

We pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.

Benediction

Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior **+** and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Blessing

Go in peace. Christ has restored you. **Thanks be to God.**

following our service, join us on Zoom (Meeting 236-716-120) for virtual fellowship.