



Centenary  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**April 3, 2022**

**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

*(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)*

**The Prelude**

*Iste confessor Domini* (The Witness of Christ)

Thomas Tallis

**The Call to Worship**

Leader: The days ahead are dark and full of foreboding.

**People: We watch as Jesus journeys to the cross.**

Leader: There is no way to change what is to come.

**People: Yet death has not the final word.**

Leader: Let us bear witness to God's new life  
moving within and among us.

**People: God is doing a new thing.**

**Let us rejoice and give thanks!**

**The Hymn No. 2182**

*When God Restored Our Common Life*

RESIGNATION

1. When God restored our common life, our hope, our liberty,  
at first it seemed a passing dream, a waking fantasy.  
A shock of joy swept over us, for we had wept so long;  
the seeds we watered once with tears sprang up into a song.
2. We went forth weeping, sowing seeds in hard, unyielding soil;  
with laughing hearts we carry home the fruit of all our toil.  
We praise the One who gave the growth, with voices full and strong.  
The seeds we watered once with tears sprang up into a song.
3. Great liberating God, we pray for all who are oppressed.  
May those who long for what is right with justice now be blest.  
We pray for those who mourn this day, and all who suffer wrong;  
may seeds they water now with tears spring up into a song.

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**The Opening Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Holy Sustainer,**

**you were ever in and with Jesus  
on his journey to Jerusalem,  
guiding his choices and  
strengthening his courage  
each step of the way.**

**As your beloved children,**

**be with us and strengthen us on our journeys.**

**Through our time of worship and our**

**companionship with one another,**

teach us to recognize Christ  
in everyone we meet.

Help us offer holy hospitality wherever it is needed,  
and free us from our fears of scarcity,  
that we may share from our abundance  
and be a blessing for others. Amen.

The Psalter page 847

Psalm 126

*[The first response will be sung by the choir and then by everyone.  
All other responses will be sung by everyone.]*

Ps. 30:5cd  
French carol melody



For the night weep - ing may tar - ry;  
with the morn - ing light comes joy.

- 1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dream.
- 2 **Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;**  
then they said among the nations,  
“The Lord has done great things for them.”
- 3 **The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are glad.**

*Response*

- 4 Restore our fortunes, O Lord,  
like the watercourses in the Negeb!
- 5 **May those who sow in tears  
reap with shouts of joy!**
- 6 Those who go forth weeping,  
bearing the seed of for sowing,  
**shall come home with shouts of joy!  
carrying their sheaves.**

*Response*

The Homily

*Praying Our Way Home*

Dr. Matthew Bates

The Invitation

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,  
who earnestly repent of their sin  
and seek to live in peace with one another.  
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

## The Confession and Pardon (in unison)

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

We have not done your will, we have broken your law,

we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors,  
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*All pray in silence.*

Leader: Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
that proves God's love towards us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**

**All: Glory to God. Amen.**

## The Offertory Prayer

### The Offertory Anthem

*When Jesus Sat at Meat*

Richard Nicolson

Emily Downey, Lynn LaBarre; sopranos  
Megan O'Brien, alto; Jeffery Simon; bass

When Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house,  
behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner:  
Mary called Magdalen.  
She brought an alabaster box of ointment,  
and stood behind him weeping.  
And began to wash his feet with tears,  
and wiped them with the hairs of her head,  
and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment.  
Jesus turned to the woman, and said:  
Thy sins are forgiven; thy faith hath saved thee.  
Go thy way in peace.

Luke 7:36-38, 48, 50

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## The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts,

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

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

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

*The pastor gives thanks appropriate to the occasion,  
remembering God's acts of salvation, and concludes:*

And so,

with your people on earth

and with all the company of heaven

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Carlton R. Young

5 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might.

8 Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

11 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.

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*The pastor continues the thanksgiving. The institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled. The pastor concludes:*

And so,  
 in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
 we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
 as a holy and living sacrifice,  
 in union with Christ's offering for us,  
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Carlton R. Young

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain!

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*The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding:  
 All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.*

Carlton R. Young

A - men, a - men, a - men.

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## **The Lord's Prayer No. 895**

**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 that 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.**

## **The Giving and Receiving of Communion**

### **The Hymn No. 129**

*Give to the Winds Thy Fears*

FESTAL SONG

1. Give to the winds thy fears;  
hope and be undismayed.  
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears,  
God shall lift up thy head.
2. Through waves and clouds and storms,  
God gently clears thy way;  
wait thou God's time; so shall this night  
soon end in joyous day.
3. Leave to God's sovereign sway  
to choose and to command;  
so shalt thou, wondering, own that way,  
how wise, how strong this hand.
4. Let us in life, in death,  
thy steadfast truth declare,  
and publish with our latest breath  
thy love and guardian care.

## **The Benediction**

### **The Postlude**

*He Leadth Me*

William B. Bradbury

*Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us this morning  
and throughout the week to make this worship possible.*

*The altar flowers this week are in loving memory of Beth Smethie.  
Mrs. Smethie was the organizer of Centenary's UMW Smethie Circle in May, 1961*

## Holy Week Schedule

April 10	10:00 am	The Blessing of the Palms <i>(downtown churches will meet at Centenary)</i>
	11:00 am	Palm Sunday Worship
April 14	7:30 pm	Holy Thursday Worship
April 15	7:30 pm	Good Friday Worship
April 17	11:00 am	Easter Worship

***On Easter Sunday, please bring fresh flowers to adorn our cross in celebration of Easter.***

For more details about Holy Week, please see the newsletter. If you don't receive the newsletter, please contact the church office to be added to the mailing list.

## Altar Flower Ministry

Honoring life's events or remembering loved ones who have passed is a wonderful way to celebrate God's many gifts. Our flower ministry also supports Coleman Brothers Flowers, a small local business. Flowers that have graced our altar can then be recycled for our church shut-ins or taken home by the donors to remember a special day.

Your memory or celebration will be noted in the bulletin on the Sunday of donation. As you can see flowers celebrate in many ways.

How can you rush to participate?

1. A flower calendar sign up is outside the church office.
2. Email [mevetrovec@aol.com](mailto:mevetrovec@aol.com) or call 804-320-4349 and leave a message.
3. Leave a note in the offering plate.
4. Answer a phone call if you have been a flower sponsor in the last 3 years.
5. 1st Sunday 2 vases @ \$22each. 2nd-5th Sundays @ \$22 each.

Provide a check marked for flowers or go on church website to pay.

We also need members to deliver altar flowers on Sundays following our services. It is a simple and direct way to say we care for those unable to attend. Please call/email the office to sign up and someone will be in touch with you.