



Worship with Communion

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

VIDEO: Participate on any device at 10AM on March 21, 2021

go.mysjec.com/facebook or go.mysjec.com/youtube

You can watch the videos at any time after their premier.

Welcome! We're glad you chose to worship with us today!

♪ **Again We Keep This Solemn Fast**

Again we keep this solemn fast, a gift of faith from ages past,
This Lent which bids us lovingly to faith and hope and charity.

The law and prophets from of old in figured ways this Lent foretold,
Which Christ, all ages' Lord and Guide, in these last days has sanctified.

More sparing, therefore, let us make the words we speak, the food we take,
Our sleep, our laughter, ev'ry sense; learn peace through holy penitence.

Let us avoid each harmful way that lures the careless mind astray;
By watchful prayer our spirits free from scheming of the Enemy.

We pray, O blessed Three in One, our God while endless ages run,
That this, our Lent of forty days, may bring us growth and give you praise.

Words: attr Gregory the Great, tr Peter J Scagnelli & John Mason Neale. Music: *ERHALT UNS HERR*, 1543.

Celebrant Blessed be the God of our salvation:

People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

Celebrant Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

A time for personal reflection and confession

Celebrant We are easily seduced by the temptations all around us. But if we are willing to trust God and offer our confession, God is quick to forgive us and fill us with hope. Join me, as we pray together:

People We come before you, O God, your wayward children. We confess to you our love of worldly goods. We prefer to live by bread alone rather than your life-giving Word. We confess to you that we do not trust in your saving love. We test and question your presence in our lives. We do not see your angels that surround us. We confess to you that we worship worldly power and success. We ignore those in need. We believe that it is we, rather than you, who have charge over the world. Forgive us our sins and weakness and set us on the path toward health and wholeness that can be found only in you. May we worship and serve only you, now and forever. **AMEN!**

Celebrant As we walk this Lenten journey, we do so with the God of love. Our God accepts us when we turn away from sin and turn toward new life in God. Through the power of the Holy Spirit may you grow in grace.

People **AMEN!**

♪ If My People *You may sing the first part or the echoed part*

If my people (If my people) **called by my name** (called by my name)
turn from evil (turn from evil) **and seek my face.** (and seek my face.)

If my people (If my people) **called by my name** (called by my name)
turn from evil (turn from evil) **and seek my face.** (and seek my face.)

I will hear, (I will hear,) **I'll forgive,** (I'll forgive,)

I will heal, (I will heal,) **will heal their land.** (will heal their land.)

I will hear, (I will hear,) **I'll forgive,** (I'll forgive,)

I will heal, I will heal their land.

We, your people (We, your people) **called by your name** (called by your name)
turn from evil (turn from evil) **and seek your face.** (and seek your face.)

We, your people (We, your people) **called by your name** (called by your name)
turn from evil (turn from evil) **and seek your face.** (and seek your face.)

Hear our cry, (Hear our cry,) **Lord, forgive,** (Lord, forgive,)

come and heal, (come and heal,) **come heal our land.** (come heal our land.)

Hear our cry, (Hear our cry,) **Lord, forgive,** (Lord, forgive,)

come and heal, come and heal our land.

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. 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.

People **AMEN!**

Old Testament

Reader A reading of Jeremiah chapter 31, verses 31 through 34.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Unison Reading

Reader Let us read in unison Psalm 119, verses 9 through 16.

All **How shall the young cleanse their way? By keeping to your words. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not stray from your commandments. I treasure your promise in my heart, that I may not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord; instruct me in your statutes. With my lips will I recite all the judgements of your mouth.**

I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees than in all manner of riches. I will meditate on your commandments and give attention to your ways. My delight is in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

New Testament

Reader A reading of Hebrews chapter 5, verses 5 through 10.

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Gospel

John 12. 20-33

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Celebrant Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my

servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. “Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

A Lenten Litany of Renewal and Purpose

Reader Every day is a day to be renewed... to become the people God created us to be.

People **May we learn to recognize our true selves as we reflect on God's hope and intention for creation.**

Reader God calls us to proclaim the gospel for the salvation of all humanity.

People **May we seek to be the presence of Christ in the world without creating clubs that push people away.**

Reader God calls us to shelter, nurture, and cultivate spiritual communion among all God's children.

People **May we be a safe place for everyone to question, to know, to struggle, and to grow.**

Reader God calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.

People **May we abandon entertainment for profound awareness; may we share our gifts and creativity in our expression; and may the table at which we gather always have room.**

Reader God calls us to uphold the truth.

- People* May we faithfully struggle to understand truth, so that instead of being chained and imprisoned to it, we may be joyfully and completely set free by it.
- Reader* God calls us to be advocates for social justice.
- People* May everything that seeks to undermine God's love make us uncomfortable and passionately counteractive.
- Reader* God calls us to be a visible manifestation of God's vision of, and hope for, all creation.
- People* May we live as if we truly believe that; shining light in darkness... sprinkling salt on blandness... and celebrating the joy of life that we all share together. AMEN!

♪ **Praise God Throughout These Forty Days**

Praise God throughout these forty days.

Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.

And praise the Spirit who imparts

God's love in Christ into our hearts. AMEN!

Words: GW Dub Shepherd, 2006; General Board of Discipleship, United Methodist Church, Tune: *OLD 100TH*; Louis Bourgeois, 1551.

Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us join in the words of the Nicene Creed.

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who

proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. AMEN!

Prayers of the People

Reader In this holy season of Lent, let us offer our prayers to God, who leads us through the wilderness. For the church, that in this season of repentance, it may turn from its own shortcomings to the transforming grace of God.

People **God of love and mercy, show us through the wilderness.**

Reader For our world, that the angels might still wait on those who wander among the beasts of poverty, hunger, and all oppression.

People **God of love and mercy, show us through the wilderness.**

Reader For our nation and our leaders, that they may have the courage to guard the rights of the poor and the powerless.

People **God of love and mercy, show us through the wilderness.**

Reader For those who suffer, that they may be blessed by our willingness to enter their wounds, with Christ; and that we may be blessed by their willingness to share them.

People **God of love and mercy, show us through the wilderness.**

Reader For the place where we live, that we open ourselves to examine, with discipline, the places in our community still waiting to be illumined by the light of Christ.

People **God of love and mercy, show us through the wilderness.**

Reader For our special concerns and hopes that, in their naming, we may know the certain presence of God with us.

People **God of love and mercy, show us through the wilderness.**

Reader For all who have died, that they may rest completely and joyfully in you, O God, even as they join with you to lead us through the wilderness.

People **God of love and mercy, show us through the wilderness.**

Reader Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **AMEN!**

Celebrant Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their birthdays.

All **O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN!**

Celebrant Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their anniversaries.

All **O God, you teach us through the example of Jesus that love is the fulfilment of the Law; help those couples celebrating anniversaries to persevere in love, to grow in mutual understanding, and to deepen their trust in each other; that in wisdom, patience and courage, their life together may be a source of happiness to all with whom they share it. AMEN!**

Celebrant To all of you celebrating milestones: May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you to guide and protect you and all those you love, today and always!

All **AMEN!**

Passing the Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Invitation to Communion

from the Iona Community, Scotland

Celebrant The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; come.

♪ Kyrie Eleison

Kyrie eleison on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison ev'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all.

For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord!

Kyrie eleison on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison ev'ry day.

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor.

That we may live out truth and justice and grace,

let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord!

Kyrie eleison on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison ev'ry day.

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family.

For life and for love, for our work and our play,

let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord!

Kyrie eleison on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison ev'ry day.

For your Spirit to guide, that you center our lives in the water and the word.

That you nourish our souls with your body and blood,

let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord!

Kyrie eleison on our world and on our way. Kyrie eleison ev'ry day.

Words/Music: Larry Olson. ©1989 Dakota Road Music. All rights reserved.

Offering Our Gifts

Celebrant Gifts and offerings may be mailed to the church, dropped off in the church mail slot, or sent through your bank. There are also online giving options on our web site at mySJEC.com/donate. We are grateful for your continued financial support of our ministry and mission.

Celebrant Inspire us to always share your love through action, O God:
People **Strengthen us to always be an inviting safe community for all.**

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; you brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; and so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

All **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.**

Celebrant Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take... Eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection, and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

All **Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Celebrant Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

All **Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN!**

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. AMEN!**

Breaking Bread

Celebrant We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

All We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

♪ We Will Take What You Offer

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We will take what you of - fer, we will live by your word; we will love one an -

- oth - er and be fed by you Lord. We will take what you of - fer, we will

live by your word; we will love one an - oth - er and be fed by you Lord.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Celebrant gives the invitation to spiritual communion to all participating near and far.

People In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you, and, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you, and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. AMEN!

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. AMEN!

Blessing for Lent

Franciscan blessing

Celebrant May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, hard hearts, half-truths, and superficial relationships: so that you may live deep within your heart where God's Spirit dwells.

All **AMEN!**

Celebrant May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people: so that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

All **AMEN!**

Celebrant May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war: so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy.

All **AMEN!**

Celebrant May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world and in your neighborhood: so that you will courageously move outside your comfort zone, empowered by Jesus Christ to accomplish God's purposes.

All **AMEN!**

Celebrant And the blessing of God, who Creates, Redeems, and Sustains, be upon you and all you love and pray for, this day and forever more.

All **AMEN!**

♪ God, Your Love is Everlasting

God, your love is everlasting and your grace is ever-near,
Yet our worship and our fasting aren't enough to please you here.
We love songs and prayers and preaching, yet, O Lord, we must confess
That our actions aren't in keeping with our talk of righteousness.

Even on this day of worship, many hurt and we don't see.
While we bask in food and friendship, others long for dignity.
Lord, we love to get a bargain, but the waitress where we eat
Can't afford to feed her children, as her wage won't make ends meet.

Some are cheated as they labor to produce the things we buy;
We don't see our hurting neighbor, just what labor can supply.
We don't see the cost of violence; we don't challenge and resist.
Lord, forgive us when our silence towers like a wicked fist.

God of mercy, how you love us! May we seek to live your way.
 May we welcome in the homeless; may we share our bread this day.
 May our worship lead to justice in the land and on the street;
 This is fasting at its finest, where our words and actions meet.

Words: Based on Matthew 6. ©2016 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Tune: *BEACH SPRING*, 1844.

Sending

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People Thanks be to God!

St James Episcopal Church, 434 North 8th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220

If you have any questions, concerns, or pastoral needs, please call The Rev Diane M Murray, Rector: 920.860.5152

Thank you for your support! Gifts may be mailed to the church or sent through your bank. There are also online giving options on our web site at mySJEC.com/donate. March's special offering supports Painting Pathways Clubhouse—please label accordingly.

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