

Reach One More For Jesus!

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 29, 2020

MEDITATIVE THOUGHT

"Lord Jesus, I lay my worries and distractions before You. Help me open my heart to You in unburdened praise and worship."

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Coming from places that have seen better days,

P: God bids us to celebrate this day, a day full of new possibilities.

L: Coming with our breath taken away by grief,

P: the Holy Spirit breathes new life within us, renewing our connection with God and with one another.

L: Coming to worship seeking a hope that will endure,

P: Christ unbinds the fetters that hold us in death, speaking in word and sacrament, and building community for holy service.

OPENING HYMN "O Worship The King"

Hymnal Page #73

1. O worship the King all-glorious above, O gratefully sing his power and his love: our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
2. O tell of his might and sing of his grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space. His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
3. Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.
4. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail. Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!
5. O measureless Might, unchangeable Love, whom angels delight to worship above! Your ransomed creation, with glory ablaze, in true adoration shall sing to your praise!

OPENING PRAYER

God of life, present and promised, You are the One to Whom we call: for You are the One Who hears, and You are the One Who acts, bringing us new life with Your grace and love and power. Lead us in our time of worship, that we may be prepared to follow Your lead in places where life is at risk—places where hope seems far away, places where dreams die during sleep. Help us live the teachings we proclaim, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOSPEL READING

2 Kings 6:8-23 NRSV

⁸ Once when the king of Aram was at war with Israel, he took counsel with his officers. He said, "At such and such a place shall be my camp." ⁹ But the man of God sent word to the king of Israel, "Take care not to pass this place, because the Arameans are going down there." ¹⁰ The king of Israel sent word to the place of which the man of God spoke. More than once or twice he warned such a place so that it was on the alert.

¹¹ The mind of the king of Aram was greatly perturbed because of this; he called his officers and said to them, "Now tell me who among us sides with the king of Israel?" ¹² Then one of his officers said, "No one, my lord king. It is Elisha, the prophet in Israel, who tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedchamber." ¹³ He said, "Go and find where he is; I will send and seize him." He was told, "He is in Dothan." ¹⁴ So he sent horses and chariots there and a great army; they came by night, and surrounded the city.

¹⁵ When an attendant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. His servant said, "Alas, master! What shall we do?" ¹⁶ He replied, "Do not be afraid, for there are more with us than there are with them." ¹⁷ Then Elisha prayed: "O Lord, please open his eyes that he may see." So the Lord opened the eyes of the servant, and he saw; the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. ¹⁸ When the Arameans came down against him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, and said, "Strike this people, please, with blindness." So he struck them with blindness as Elisha had asked. ¹⁹ Elisha said to them, "This is not the way, and this is not the city; follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek." And he led them to Samaria.

²⁰ As soon as they entered Samaria, Elisha said, "O Lord, open the eyes of these men so that they may see." The Lord opened their eyes, and they saw that they were inside Samaria. ²¹ When the king of Israel saw them he said to Elisha, "Father, shall I kill them? Shall I kill them?" ²² He answered, "No! Did you capture with your sword and your bow those whom you want to kill? Set food and water before them so that they may eat and drink; and let them go to their master." ²³ So he prepared for them a great feast; after they ate and drank, he sent them on their way, and they went to their master. And the Arameans no longer came raiding into the land of Israel.

One: *The Word of God for the people of God.*

All: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "SEEING THE UNSEEN!"

1. GOD IS ALWAYS WITH ME!

2. GOD KEEPS ME FROM ALL HARM!

3. GOD PROVIDES ALL THAT I NEED!

PRAYERS OF THE PASTOR AND PEOPLE

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

GIVING BACK TO GOD (TITHES AND GIFTS)

DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Hymnal #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

From Your hands, O God, come the blessings that make life possible, even the very gift of life itself. In gratitude and thanks, receive from our hands this portion of our labors. By Your Spirit's leading, may we use these gifts to bless the life of others with the assurance of love, the promise of hope, and the course of justice. This we do to Your glory. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"I Want Jesus To Walk with Me"

Hymnal Page #521

1. I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me; all along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
2. In my trials, Lord, walk with me; in my trials, Lord, walk with me; when my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
3. When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me; when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me; when my head is bowed in sorrow, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

BENEDICTION