



SOTC Virtual Worship
March 29, 2020

GATHERING

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Congregation is invited to light their candle as a sign of God's presence with us as we begin worship.

Life-giving God, as we gather this morning,
bind us together in our worship.

Breathe your life upon us, O God.

Life-giving God, as we gather this morning,
center our hearts in your word of grace.

Breathe your life upon us, O God.

Life-giving God, as we gather this morning,
make us mindful of those among us, and those near and far who seek your compassionate healing.

Breathe your life upon us, O God.

Life-giving God, as we gather this morning,
shower us with your mercy, in this place, and throughout the world.

Breathe your life upon us, O God.

KYRIE

Refrain

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

Verse 1:

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!

Verse 2:

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!

Verse 3:

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!

Verse 4:

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!

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

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, and on your whole creation. Breathe your Spirit into us, and revive us as your people. Unbind us from all that keeps us bound, so that we too might experience your compassion in our lives and in our world. Open us to hear your word of truth in this time of worship, and give us courage to trust your promise of resurrection. In the name of Jesus, who has come to save and redeem us, we pray.

WORD

READING: JOHN 11:1-44

Congregation is invited to read the bolded parts along with Pastor Aleese.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, **“Lord, he whom you love is ill.”** ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God’s glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” ⁸The disciples said to him, **“Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?”** ⁹Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” ¹¹After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” ¹²The disciples said to him, **“Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.”** ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, **“Let us also go, that we may die with him.”**

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

²⁸When 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.”** ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The 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. ³²When 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.”** ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, **“Lord, come and see.”** ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus 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.”** ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I 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.” ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The 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.”

REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response to “Lord in your mercy,” is “hear our prayer.”

If you would like to add a prayer petition, email it to Pastor Aleese at pastoraleesebaldwin@gmail.com

We conclude in the words of the Lord’s Prayer.

SENDING

BLESSING AND SHARING OF THE PEACE

Come out! Jesus commands,
and calls us from the tombs of darkness into the brightness of a new day.

Come out! Jesus cries,
and unbinds us from the chains that surround us.

Come out! Jesus calls,
and invites us into a world filled with grace and possibility.

So go out, dear church,
into a world that needs Christ's breath of life.

Go out, dear church,
into a world that needs the Spirit of God, carried on our lips and in our loving arms.

Go out, dear church,
into the world to live as God's resurrected people.

Go out, dear church, with the blessing of our almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The peace of Christ be with you all
And also with you

All are invited to share the sign of the peace with those in their homes or via text/phone call/virtually with others in the congregation!