

Recorded Service of the Word
The Anglican Parish of St. Mary of the Incarnation
Serving the Community of Metchosin BC since 1862
Aneeta Saroop, Rachel Mitten, Shirley Roodbol, Wally Eamer, Phillip Wadham and Ed Watson

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

Hymn CP 465 *Here in this Place New Light is Streaming* Rachel and Shirley

Welcome and acknowledgement of territories

GATHERING

Celebrant: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all

People: And also with you.

Celebrant Almighty God...
People to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant
Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death.
Breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new
life in Christ, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through
the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ed Watson

Ezekiel was a prophet living at a time when many of the Jews were living in exile in Babylon. Disconnected from their own land they longed for a time when they would once more be back home, connected once more with all that Israel meant to them. This well-known story that

Ezekiel tells of dry bones brought to life (reconnected) is God's promise to the people that they will return. We hear the story of the valley of dry bones in this reading from Ezekiel, chapter 37 (Phillip Wadham)

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

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. 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. 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.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

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

Ed: **Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.**
People Thanks be to God.

Romans 8:6-11

Ed Watson

In this section from the letter to believers in Rome Paul contrasts two ways of living – in the flesh or in the Spirit. Living 'in the flesh' may be likened to those who are focused almost entirely on themselves and their own pleasures and show little concern for anyone or anything else. In contrast to this those who live 'in the Spirit' are those who reach out beyond themselves to care for others, the pattern that Jesus in his life followed. (Phillip Wadham)

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans, chapter 8, verses 6 -11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason, the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People Thanks be to God.

Hymn *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery*

CP 179

Gospel

Wally

Leader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Leader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according **John 11:1-45**

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

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But 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.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus 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. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

Jesus the Resurrection and the Life

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever

you ask of him.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ Martha said to him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’ She said to him, ‘Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.’

Jesus Weeps

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

Jesus Raises Lazarus to Life

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 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 for four days.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?’ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, ‘Father, I thank you for having heard me. 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.’ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ 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.’

The Plot to Kill Jesus

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

This is the gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Hymn *Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery*

CP 179

Rachel and Shirley

Reflection

The Rev. Aneeta Saroop

THANKSGIVING

Confession of Faith

Hear, O Israel,

The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God

with all your heart,

with all your soul,

with all your mind,

This is the first and the greatest commandment.

The second is like it”

Love our neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

Hymn

CP 393 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Rachel and Shirley

Prayers of the People

Wally

Praying separately in our homes and together in the Spirit, let us pray for the church, the earth, the world, and all who are in need, responding to each petition with the words “hear our prayer.”

A brief silence.

Come to the church, O saving God. Even when we cannot assemble together, bind your faithful people into one body. Breathe your Spirit of life into the global church, that despite our valley of dry bones we may rise to praise your name. In our virtual contacts, make each of us into signs of baptismal hope in your merciful might.

A brief silence.

Receive the prayers of your family, O God:

O Lord, hear my voice!

Come to the earth, O nurturing God. Use this time when human activity is diminished to restore polluted lands and waterways and to protect endangered plants and animals. Preserve us from natural disasters. Bring all things to new life.

A brief silence.

Receive the prayers of your family, O God:

O Lord, hear my voice!

Come to the nations and their leaders, O God of peace. Lead the world away from war and violence. Guide those in authority to provide for those in dire need of humanitarian relief. Direct our Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier John Horgan, Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry and other heads of government to deal appropriately in the face of the agony of citizens and point them toward useful means for combating this plague. We pray for our Bishop Logan, the staff of the Diocese and for all parish leadership across the Diocese as they continue to find ways of ministry for the sake of God's hope in our communities.

A brief silence.

Receive the prayers of your family, O God:

O Lord, hear my voice!

Come wherever the coronavirus has struck, O compassionate God. Be present to all who mourn their dead; all who have contracted the virus; those who are quarantined or stranded away from home; those who have lost employment; children who cannot assemble for school and parents with needs for childcare. Visit physicians, nurses, and home health aides; care homes, hospitals, and clinics; medical researchers; and the World Health Organization.

A brief silence.

Receive the prayers of your family, O God:

O Lord, hear my voice!

Come to all in need, O healing God. Unbind all who are held captive by anxiety, despair, or pain. Comfort those around the world who cannot bury their dead. House the homeless in safe places. Show us how to provide some assistance to those who suffer. Accompany those who seek care in overwhelmed hospitals and clinics. Remember those we name here before you (*especially...*)

A brief silence.

Receive the prayers of your family, O God:

O Lord, hear my voice!

Out of our depths we cry to you, O loving God. Receive our sorrows and our fears and hear the petitions of our hearts. We pray for our children and families. Ease their anxious minds, bless the space of family time together and especially be with those vulnerable children for whom home is not safe haven. Grant them safety.

A longer period of silence.

Receive the prayers of your family, O God:

O Lord, hear my voice!

You, O God, are our resurrection and our life. We remember before you especially this week Jan, Eugene, Harriet, Rick and Janette, Willi, Kerry; Kathleen; April; Sean, Caleb, Lily, and Mateo, Joseph, Brenda, Bronwynn, Helen, Nadeem, Rahana and their daughter; David, Dan and all those whom we name from our hearts and our homes at this time.

A brief silence.

Receive the prayers of your family, O God:
O Lord, hear my voice!

Into your hands, O mighty God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Celebrant Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us.

♪♪ Our Father in heaven. Hallow'd be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in Heav'n. Give us today our daily bread; for give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a-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-ev-er.

SENDING

Benediction The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord's face shine on you with grace and with mercy and in these days of uncertainty and God's assurance, the Lord + look upon you with favour and give you peace, **Amen.**

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

****Join us next week for Sunday online worship. A link to the recording will be sent out via email along with a liturgy to follow along every week. Join us for Zoom "Children's Chat" at 10:00 am If you'd like to join and haven't been in contact with Scott please email him at scott.dolff@gmail.com This Wednesday join us for online Zoom drop in prayer at 1:00 pm. If you haven't been receiving pastor Aneeta's emails with instructions, please email (asaroop@bc.anglican.ca) or call (250-812-5965)**

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