

MAKING
ROOM

PREPARE THE WAY FOR TRANSFORMATION

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 14, 2021

Contemporary Service - 9:30 am

Scripture for Meditation

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all

People: And also with you.

Opening Praise and Prayer **Do What You Want To**

Music by Jacob Sooter, Meredith Andrews, and Jason Ingram
CCLI Song # 7035185; © 2014 © Word Music, LLC

Prayer of Confession

O Praise the Name (Anastasis)

Music by Benjamin Hastings, Dean Ussher, and Marty Sampson
CCLI # 7037787 © 2015 Hillsong Music Publishing

Kids' Time

Minute for Mission

C24 Ministries

Announcements

Scripture Reading

Mathew 25:31-46

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Making Room in Your Decision-Making

4th in the Series "Making Room: Prepare the Way for Transformation"

Offering

Build My Life

Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kable, Matt Redman, and Pat Barrett
CCLI Song 4162843; © 2003 EMI Christian Music Publishing

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Closing Song

Thrive

Mark Hall and Matthew West
CCLI Song #7006228; 2014 Atlas Holdings

Blessing

Postlude

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Welcome & Sermon	Rev. Dr. Spencer Lundgaard
Liturgist	Dr. Chuck Guth
Prayers of the People (9:30)	Roger Smith
Scripture Reader (both services)	Cathy Burnham (pre-recorded)
Pianist (9:30)	Jim Peterson
Guest Pianist (11:00)	Andrea Handley
Organist (11:00)	Sharon Peterson
Vocals (9:30)	Ellen Westel, Matt Parks
Anthem (11:00)	Erin Carney, Nancy Frese, Ruth Heald, Susan Mathein, Loren Myers
Director of Music	Ruth G. Heald
A/V - Live-stream production	Ed Burton
A/V – Audio technician	Kyle Johnston

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Traditional Service - 11:00 am

Scripture for Meditation

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

Prelude

Sicilienne

J.S. Bach (arr. Guy Maier)

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all;

People: And also with you.

Opening Hymn

What Shall I Render to the Lord #871

(verses 1, 2, 4 + 5)

Response: Psalm 107:1-2, 10-16

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

**Let the redeemed of the LORD
tell their story**

Some sat in darkness, in utter darkness,
prisoners suffering in iron chains,

**Because they rebelled against God's commands
and despised the plans of the Most High.**

So he subjected them to bitter labor;
they stumbled, and there was no one to help.

**Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he saved them from their distress.**

He brought them out of darkness, the utter darkness,
and broke away their chains.

**Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love
and his wonderful deeds for mankind,**

For he breaks down gates of bronze
and cuts through bars of iron.

Prayer of Confession

Pastor: Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;

Wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness;

Let the bones you have crushed rejoice. (Psalm 51:7-8)

All: O Lord, you desire truth and teach us wisdom in our inward being. By your grace and mercy, forgive us for turning from You and following the ways of this world. Send out your light, send out your truth, and let them lead us back to you. Take from us the weight of our sin, that room might be made for Your presence. If we prepare a dwelling place, the Spirit will abide within us, and the truth will set our spirits free. O Lord, by your mercy and grace do a new work within as we abide in You, that we might be conformed more and more into the image of Your beloved Son. Then shall we live in love, not only in word or in speech, but by our thoughts and actions as well, and by this others will know that we are your faithful servants.

(People silently offer their personal confessions to God.)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News:

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Gloria Patri

Minute for Mission

C24 Ministries

Anthem

Praise Your Holy Name

Sandy Wilkinson/arr. Mary McDonald

Scripture Reading

Mathew 25:31-46

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Making Room in Your Decision-Making

4th in the Series "Making Room: Prepare the Way for Transformation"

Offering

Prayer for Peace

Heinz Wehrle

Doxology

Closing Hymn

Take My Life

(verses 1, 2, 4 + 5)

#863

Benediction

Postlude

Fugue on "The Day is Surely Drawing Near"

Elizabeth Stirling

Questions for Discussion

Making Room in Your Decision-Making: Mathew 25:31-46

Opening Discussion:

- Have you ever heard a eulogy for a person that inspired you? What about their story touched you?
- How do you want to be remembered as others look back on your life?

Digging Deeper:

- Read Romans Mathew 25:31-46.
- What is the context for Jesus' teaching in this passage? (See verses 31-32.)
- In verses 34 and 46, what is the Son of Man's judgement upon the sheep on his right?
- In verse 42 and 46, what is His judgement upon the goats on his left?
- What criteria does the Son of Man use for making his judgement? (See verses 35-36 and 42-43.)
- Why are both the sheep and the goats surprised by this criteria? And what is Jesus' response? (See verses 37-40 and 44-45)?
- Jesus calls the sheep "righteous" in verses 37a and 46b. What do you think that term means?
- On the surface, it might appear that this passage is referring to "salvation by works," that is, we are saved by the good works that we do. How do the following passages help to understand the relationship between faith and works?
 - "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-- and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast. (Ephesians 2:8)
 - "The righteous will live by faith." (Romans 1:17)
 - "So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead." (James 2:17 NRS)*

Life Application:

- Considering life this past year, to what degree have you been a "sheep?" How have you been a "goat?"
- What do you think it means "whatever you did for one of the least of these ... you did for me"?
- Who are the "least of these" in your life? How do you interact with them?
- What could you do to learn more about the specific needs of "the least of these" around you?
- Where might you feel God calling you to serve "the least of these?" How has God gifted and blessed you for this work?

Suggestions for Prayer:

- Pray for the "least of these" in the world around you on a regular basis. Be specific with different groups/types of people.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to lead you in reaching out and serving others.

* Other translations for James 2:17: "Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." (NIV); or "So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless." (NLT)