

former things, or consider the things of old. <sup>19</sup>I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. <sup>20</sup>The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, <sup>21</sup>the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

## **John 12: 1-8**

<sup>12</sup>Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup>"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup>(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

## **St. John's United Church of Christ**

2712 Mason Rd.

Milan, OH 44846

(419)359-1662

Worship and Facebook Livestream 10:30 AM

*"Given the Faith. Growing in Faith. Going in Faith."*

*Fifth Sunday of Lent*

*April 6, 2025*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Prelude and then Ringing of the Bell**

### **Choral Introit**

*"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"*

### **Call to Worship** words from "The Cost of Discipleship" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

One: We follow Christ

**All: Who says, "Take up your cross."**

One: We follow Christ

**All: Who bids us come and die.**

One: We follow Christ

**All: Who summons us to new life!**

One: Come, let us worship our Creator is doing a new thing among us!

### **Hymn**

*"My Hope Is Built"*

**#537**

### **Litany of Confession**

One: In Jesus Christ, God came among us to save us from sin and death. In walking to the cross, Christ freed us from bondage of guilt and judgement. We come before God now, seeking grace freely given.

**All: Grant us your grace, O God, and free us.**

One: When we hear and obey the voice of the world rather than turning to you for guidance –

**All: Grant us your grace, O God, and free us.**  
 One: When we critically judge others without wanting to look at ourselves –  
**All: Grant us your grace, O God, and free us.**  
 One: When we fail to love any of your people out of prejudice and fear –  
**All: Grant us your grace, O God, and free us.**

*Time of Silent Confession*

**Words of Grace**

One: In the cross, we see God’s amazing love for us. We are God’s children living in a confused world. In abundant grace, God answers our doubt, heals our pain, and forgives our failures in grace. I announce therefore in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.  
**All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free in grace. Thanks be to God forever more! Amen**

**Act of Praise**                      *“Doxology”*                      **#46**

**Adult Choir Anthem**                      *“Wherever I Walk”*

**Scriptures**                      *Isaiah 43: 16-21 & John 12: 1-8*

**Sermon**    *Rev. Wendy Schindler-Chasney*

**Hymn**    *“Just A Closer Walk with Thee”*                      **#557**

**Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn**    *“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*                      **#195**

**A Benediction for Lent**

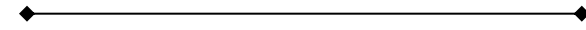
One: Go into the world in faith!  
**All: Trusting God to lead you, trusting people to receive you.**  
 One: Go into the world with hope!

**All: With God’s presence before you and human dreams to carry you.**  
 One: Go into the world with love!  
**All: Serving with those in whom Christ lives, and laboring for those for whom Jesus died.**  
 One: We go in Faith, Hope, and Love!

**Closing Song**                      *“Blest Be The Tie That Binds”*  
    *Bless be the tie that binds*  
    *Our hearts in Christian love*  
    *The fellowship of kindred minds*  
    *Is like to that above.*

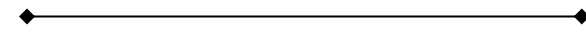
**Postlude**

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PRAYER’S & PEOPLE

- † We offer prayers on behalf of all our sick and shut in, those recovering from surgery and those who need God’s special care at this time.
- † UCC/DOC Weekly Prayer: Argentina



**Easter Sunday:** Sunrise Service @ 7:00am; Breakfast @ 8:00am; Egg Hunt @ 9:00am; Coloring/Activity Sheets will be available for children following Egg Hunt; Worship @ 10:30am.

**Morning Scriptures**

**Isaiah 43: 16-21**

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, <sup>17</sup>who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: <sup>18</sup>Do not remember the