



Spirituality † Sanctuary † Social Justice January 19, 2023

Opening Litany & Prayer

God of the prophets, call to us today.

Call us into your ways of love, justice and righteousness.

God of the poets, remind us again how much you love us.

Sing to us your ways of love, justice and righteousness.

God of the disciples, teach us how to follow you.

Teach us your ways of love, justice and righteousness.

God of the curious, inspire us to investigate with vigor.

Reveal to us the mysteries of your cosmos.

God of all creation, help us to know your ways.

We gather to hear your call, to give thanks in praise,

to revel in sacred mystery, to teach each other,

to pray and worship as the body of Christ.

Changes for the Spring

Semester theme: Hospitality

Blessed are You: Receiving Extravagant Hospitality

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.” “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It

is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

-Matthew 5:1-16

Give me a drink, these bones are dry: Offering Hospitality and Life

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. God led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. God said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” -Ezekiel 37:1-3

Jesus left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” -John 4:3-7

Jesus began to weep. -John 11:3

We Have Seen the Lord: Hospitality Outside the Doors

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. -Luke 24:28-31

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” -John 20:24-26

Praying for One Another

Blessing of the Meal