



**March 22, 2020**  
**10:30 am Horizon Service**  
**“The First Dinner: Risking Rejection”**  
**Week Four of Lent**



**GUESTS,** Welcome to worship. To learn more about us, please visit our website at [www.unionucc.org](http://www.unionucc.org) or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/unionneffs](http://www.facebook.com/unionneffs)

If you would like us to follow up with you contact Pastor Kris at 610-767-6961, [pastorkris@unionucc.org](mailto:pastorkris@unionucc.org)

Our next new member information session will be held on May 3 and 10. You will be welcomed as members in worship on Sunday, May 17. If you are interested in attending classes for new members let us know and we'd be glad to send you more information. Please contact Pastor Kris with any questions.

***We believe in extravagant welcome. We believe in God's inclusive love. We start worship with a greeting that reflects that welcome and love.***

***Leader: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey and on faith's journey***

***ALL: you are welcome here.***

CCLI LICENSE # 1523377 ONE LICENSE #A714125

PERMISSION TO PODCAST/STREAM THE MUSIC IN THIS SERVICE OBTAINED FROM *ONE LICENSE*, LICENSE #A714125

**IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING,  
PLEASE USE THE BLACK HYMNALS.**

\* indicates standing    **C** = Congregation    **L** = Leader    **P** = Pastor

**PRELUDE**

All Creatures of Our God and King      Ralph Vaughan Williams



The events of Christ's Passion, which take place during the last week of Jesus' life, often don't receive enough time in our worship and study. These stories are important to our faith journey and our identity as followers of Jesus. And yet we often move too quickly from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday with little time to take in the dramatic story of that last week. Throughout the six weeks of Lent we will "freeze-frame" moments in Holy Week so we might put ourselves in the picture, thereby "Entering the Passion of Jesus." How might taking a closer look at the ancient story open us to deeper conviction for our role in its ongoing message?

Inspired by Amy-Jill Levine's book "The Passion of Jesus" which our adult classes are studying. Ask Pastor Kris if you'd like a copy of the book.

**THE GREETING**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ① No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey and faith's journey
- ② **You are welcome here**

## **\*THE OPENING HYMN**

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but  
Now am found,  
Was blind but now I see.**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come:  
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.**

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L** We continue on our journey through Lent as we step inside the story full of difficult moments. We put ourselves in the picture of Holy Week so that we might take a closer look and let the ancient story open us to deeper love for Jesus.

### **Solo or Choir:**

Enter  
Enter the story  
Enter the place you belong  
Not just looking on  
For this is *your* story  
Enter the story

Enter  
Come enter the story  
Enter the place you belong  
Not just looking on  
For this is *your* story  
Enter the story

**L** Besides the Last Supper, Holy Week contains another important story that happens at dinner. Earlier in the week, Jesus and his followers gather for a meal, and a woman shows up unexpectedly to anoint Jesus in an extravagant show of devotion. To say she caused quite a “stir” might be understating it a bit. We imagine ourselves in the room and we see the looks of judgment and even outrage on the faces around us. Are we ourselves moved by her generosity and

outpouring of emotion? Or are we uncomfortable as Jesus refers to his own death? Does our complaining or anger really serve to hide our own fear? Jesus invites us to tell this story “in remembrance of her.” What uncomfortable stories are we called to tell in our time?

**ALL (Sung):**

**Enter**

**Enter the passion**

**Enter the place we belong**

**Not just looking on**

**For this is *our* passion**

**Enter the passion**

**Enter**

**Enter the passion**

**Enter the place we belong**

**Not just looking on**

**For this is *our* passion**

**Enter the passion**

**Enter the story...**

**Enter the passion...**

**Enter his passion.**

**\*PRAYER**

**①** Let us pray together:

**②** It is so hard to not be afraid. Sometimes our fear makes us less compassionate, and more judgmental. We think we can ward off getting hurt by holding back, unwilling to risk putting ourselves out there for the sake of love. Forgive us, O God. Encourage us to extravagant acts of love, especially when we are frightened. You entered our story through Jesus, now help us to enter fully into the story of your kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

**\*GOD’S GRACE IS FOR YOU**

**①** Know this: There is no limit on love. Love doesn’t run out, and you can start giving more of it anytime. You are forgiven and freed, encouraged and loved by a God who wants you to live fully. Let us enter the passion of Christ

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### Welcome Song

**ALL:** I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.

### DEPARTURE SONG

**ALL:** I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

### THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

The Shared Hebrew Scriptures Psalm 23  
(Old Testament, page 501)

### DWELLING IN THE STORY

(A dramatic reading and kind of "midrash" based on the artwork)  
Mark 14: 3-9

#### **Solo/Choir:**

Enter  
Enter the story  
Enter the place you belong  
Not just looking on  
For this is *your* story  
Enter the story

#### **ALL (Sung):**

Enter  
Enter the passion  
Enter the place we belong  
Not just looking on  
For this is *our* passion  
Enter the passion  
Enter the story...  
Enter the passion...  
Enter his passion.

## THE MESSAGE

The First Dinner: Risking Rejection

Rev. Kris Snyder-Samuelson

Book Recommendation that will be used for this worship theme in Lent - Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week by Amy-Jill Levine



Anonymous (German School, 19th Century). Mary Anoints Jesus' Feet, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/actimagelink.pl?RC=56136>.

Original source: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>

File: German\_School,\_16th\_Century\_Mary\_Magdalene\_andointing\_the\_feet\_of\_Christ.jpg.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL: (Sung)**

**Turn your eyes upon Jesus**

**Look full on his wonderful face**

**And the things of earth will grow strangely dim**

**In the light of his wonder and grace**

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever. Amen.**

**ALL: (Sung)  
Turn your eyes upon Jesus  
Look full on his wonderful face  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
In the light of his wonder and grace**

## **THE OFFERING AND OFFERTORY**

### **WAYS TO GIVE and SUPPORT UNION UCC'S Ministry and Mission**

**DONATE ONLINE with your Credit or Debit Card** Go to <http://www.unionucc.org/resources/giving-and-sponsorship/ways-to-give/> and click on **GIVE ONLINE** button.

**TEXT TO GIVE** Send a text to **610-857-7023** with the amount you would like to contribute. Include the \$ sign. You'll be sent a text with directions to register.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** You can designate an automatic weekly, semi-monthly or monthly donation to be transferred electronically. Fill out the form at <http://www.unionucc.org/egive.pdf> and return it to the church office.

**AMAZON SMILE** Donate to Union UCC while you shop at Amazon by signing up at <https://smile.amazon.com>. Set Union United Church of Christ as your charity and 0.5% of your purchases will be donated to the church. Search charities by zip code 18065.



**OFFERING ENVELOPES** you can mail your envelopes to the church during this time when we aren't gathering in person.

## **EASTER MISSION OFFERING**

We are collecting financial donations now through Easter Sunday for the follow two missions:

**The Rescue Mission in Allentown.** They are a non-denominational, Christian, social services organization, which provides critically-needed goods and services to homeless and impoverished men. The Mission is not a church, but does cooperate with many different churches that are concerned about poverty and homelessness.

**The American Cancer Society of the Lehigh Valley** is on a mission to free the world from cancer. Until that day comes, the ACS will be funding and conducting research, sharing expert information, supporting patients, and spreading the word about prevention all through innovative, community driven events, and programs.

You can support this effort by making a check to Union UCC and placing it in your EASTER MISSION offering envelope in your packet or by placing it in any envelope with Easter Mission on the memo line or by donating online with the same note.

## **MUSIC OFFERING**

It Is Well with My Soul  
Philip P. Bliss

Horatio G. Spafford and

## **\*BLESSING**

① Each week we invite you to take photos—to capture artful “life moments” through the lens of your camera and post to our church social media with the hashtag “#lifeframe” and “[unionuccneffs]”. If you are not on social media, or rather not do this, we invite you to be mindful and aware of artful life moments through the week and hold them in your mind and heart.

So we have begun.

This season we will put a frame around a bit of life  
we'll section off a scene,  
we'll look long into a face,  
to see what we can see,  
to know what we can know.

Just as we have done with the art and story today,  
zoom in your focus on the art and story of life all through  
the week.

The Divine Artist offers us such poignant beauty each day  
in our own stories,  
in the stories around us,  
in the heartbreak and pain and joy and awe  
of a simple moment turned significant.

That's what happens when we put a frame around it.  
We zoom in  
for an existential close-up  
and search for clues  
for living this life with more  
attention and intention.

May you be blessed by the sacred frames  
that surround the moments of your life  
that you dare not miss.  
Amen.

**\*Silent Prayer**

**\*POSTLUDE**

Blessed Assurance      Fanny J. Crosby, Phoebe P. Knapp

Liturgy and Design © 2019 [worshipdesignstudio.com](http://worshipdesignstudio.com), adapted  
by permission.

**Thank you to our Worship Decorating Team: Kathy  
Bonsell, Claire Kern, Deb Topp, Pastor Kayli and  
Pastor Kris**

