

**ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND ANGLICAN CHURCH**

161 Hanmer St. W., Barrie, On L4N 7S1 (705) 721-9528 [www.stmargaretbarrie.ca](http://www.stmargaretbarrie.ca)

Email: [stmarg@rogers.com](mailto:stmarg@rogers.com)

Fax: (705) 721-9455



*Wednesday Service*

August 25, 2021

11:00 a.m. Service

# Wednesday Service

August 25th, 2021

11:00 a.m.      Morning Prayer

## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Celebrant: Lord, open our lips,

**All: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Celebrant: O God, make speed to save us.

**All: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant: *Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. John 6.68*

## VENITE

**All: Come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.**

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God,  
and a great king above all gods.**

**In his hand are the caverns of the earth,  
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

**The sea is his for he made it,  
and his hands have moulded the dry land.**

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,  
and kneel before the Lord our maker.**

**For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

**Amen.**

*PSALM 95.1-7*

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

**FIRST READING:**

## A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS 27:9-26

Since much time had been lost and sailing was now dangerous, because even the Fast had already gone by, Paul advised them, saying, ‘Sirs, I can see that the voyage will be with danger and much heavy loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives.’ But the centurion paid more attention to the pilot and to the owner of the ship than to what Paul said. Since the harbour was not suitable for spending the winter, the majority was in favour of putting to sea from there, on the chance that somehow, they could reach Phoenix, where they could spend the winter. It was a harbour of Crete, facing south-west and north-west.

When a moderate south wind began to blow, they thought they could achieve their purpose; so, they weighed anchor and began to sail past Crete, close to the shore. But soon a violent wind, called the northeaster, rushed down from Crete. Since the ship was caught and could not be turned with its head to the wind, we gave way to it and were driven. By running under the lee of a small island called Cauda we were scarcely able to get the ship’s boat under control. After hoisting it up they took measures to undergird the ship; then, fearing that they would run on the Syrtis, they lowered the sea-anchor and so were driven. We were being pounded by the storm so violently that on the next day they began to throw the cargo overboard and on the third day with their own hands they threw the ship’s tackle overboard. When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small tempest raged, all hope of our being saved was at last abandoned.

Since they had been without food for a long time, Paul then stood up among them and said, ‘Men, you should have listened to me and not have set sail from Crete and thereby avoided this damage and loss. I urge you now to keep up your courage, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For last night there stood by me an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I worship, and he said, “Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before the emperor; and indeed, God has granted safety to all those who are sailing with you.” So, keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told. But we will have to run aground on some island.’

The word of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**PSALM: 14:1-7**

**All: The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.”  
All are corrupt and commit abominable acts; there is none who does any good.**

**The Lord looks down from heaven upon us all,  
to see if there is any who is wise, if there is one who seeks after God.**

**Everyone has proved faithless; all alike have turned bad;  
there is none who does good; no, not one.**

**Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers  
who eat up my people like bread and do not call upon the Lord?**

**See how they tremble with fear,  
because God is in the company of the righteous.**

**Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted,  
but the Lord is their refuge.**

**Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion!  
when the Lord restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice and Israel be  
glad.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the  
beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL:** Mark 14:1-11

**THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MARK**

**All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said, 'Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.'

While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, 'Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.' And they scolded her.

But Jesus said, 'Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial.

Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.' Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So, he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ**

**SERMON: Norm Savill**

Mark likes to keep us informed of where and when things are happening. In today's reading Mark is setting the stage by identifying a specific day, two days before Passover. The irony of this is that Passover is a celebration of liberation from a foreign power yet here in this story the Passover that is about to happen is going to be celebrated in Roman occupied Jerusalem.

The reading today Mark uses one of his favorite techniques which is to sandwich or book- end one story in the middle of another. As Doug told us last Wednesday, by this point in Mark's Gospel, the Pharisees were becoming quite frustrated in trying to stop Jesus' growing influence among the people. His

ministry was expanding, both in territory and numbers of followers, posing threats to the religious elite's influence. So it is that in today's reading we have the story of the Jesus being anointed surrounded or book-ended by the story of the chief priests and scribes trying to find a way to get rid of Jesus and Judas responding to their need.

Today Mark is describing the day before Passover or the Wednesday of the final week of Jesus' life. For the second, or possibly the third time a woman anoints Jesus. Jesus is at dinner at the home of Simon the leper when an unnamed woman comes in with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, she breaks it open, and pours it over Jesus' head. The bystanders are outraged and respond with anger and questions. Why was the ointment wasted? It could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii. That was more than a year's wages for the average worker of the day. The money gained could have been given to the poor they said. One of the more vocal of the those complaining was Judas. Judas was apparently like the group treasurer, and, again apparently, had been dipping into the public purse and saw this as a lost opportunity.

One of the things I think we are meant to get out of this piece of scripture is that the woman doing the anointing is unnamed. She is anonymous.

Someone that was assessing this piece of scripture pointed out that we should take note of the difference between the woman in this story and the affluent generous donors of today. Today we find sponsors or donors to various things like arenas, or hospitals or learning institutes who, seemingly generously, donate, but in exchange for their 'generosity' they are offered or require incentives such as having their names proudly displayed for all to see. Here I am thinking of things like the Sadlon Arena in Barrie, the Peter Moore and Henry Bernick Centers at Georgian College, the Rogers Centre in Toronto, and the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy at the U of T. This woman however lavishly dumped the expensive ointment on Jesus, and she isn't even identified by name. In another place in scripture, we find a woman generously putting a couple of coins in the Temple treasury. She was donating everything she had to live on. She was contributing out of her poverty. Yet here again she is unnamed.

Not only are both women incredibly benevolent, but Mark purposely, I think, tries to show us that anonymity in giving is to be admired and emulated so unlike the donors whose edifices we see daily with names proudly displayed for all to see, both women will be forever remembered for their generosity while they remain nameless. Another thing we should note is that both these generous women, unlike generous donors of today, seemed to be objects of scorn.

In the case of today's reading, however, the woman who anointed Jesus is vilified not because she was a person of suspect character, but because of the wealth her onlookers believed she had squandered. It seems that generosity then, as now was only extended for what you could get in return.

Jesus however is having none of it. He dismisses the concerns of those around him by pointing out that, unlike those who still didn't realize what was going to happen to him in the next few days, this woman had prepared him, had anointed him, anticipating his burial.

Though we never learn the name of the woman who did for him "what she could," Jesus declares that what she had done would be remembered wherever the gospel was preached. Because of Mark, her actions are indeed remembered. Jesus makes anonymity in giving a virtue.

Again, to quote Doug from last Wednesday, 'Remember St. Francis prayer, "*it is in giving that we receive*".

Many will say, 'yes but what about the way Jesus seems to dismiss the needs of the poor?'

From my perspective, he is not dismissing them at all, in fact, I believe he shows, in fact he states, that their needs will always be with us. As I said, Jesus is not dismissing the poor he is simply trying, once again, to show those around him, that his end is very near. This woman seems to know what is about to happen while virtually everyone else still doesn't get it. She is preparing him for that end. Jesus was saying, yes, I know that there are poor that need to be looked after and not only are they here now they will be with you, with us, for all time. The needs of the poor would be, and are, just as great after his death as they were at that moment.

The horrible irony in this part of today's reading is that Jesus' anointing is book-ended by the story of the conspiracy for his arrest that will ultimately lead to his death. At the very moment that Jesus commends this woman for her extraordinary generosity, Judas is involved in creating a conspiracy with the chief priests to betray Jesus for the promise of 30 pieces of silver. This unnamed woman is anointing the body that Judas will deliver.

Like the woman who will always be remembered for the good she did in anointing Jesus, Judas will always be remembered for facilitating the death of Jesus.

We need to consider wisely what it is we wish to be remembered for.

Amen

*(Time allowed for Silent Reflection.)*

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

### **Hear, O Israel**

**All:**           **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, and with all your strength. This is the first and the great commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.**

## **INTERCESSIONS AND THANKSGIVINGS**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Litany #6)**

Let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy.

Celebrant:    For the whole People of God, that each one may be a true and faithful servant of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:**           **Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant:    For those drawing near to the light of faith, that the Lord will bring them to true knowledge of himself, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:**           **Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant:    For our families and friends, that the Lord will give them joy and satisfaction in all that they do, let us pray to the Lord.

**All:**           **Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant: For those who are lonely, sick, hungry, persecuted, or ignored, that the Lord will comfort and sustain them, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant: For our country, that the Lord will help us to contribute to its true growth and well-being, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Celebrant: For the whole human family, that we may live together in justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

**All: Amen.**

### **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY** (Prayer of the Day)

**All: Almighty God, we are taught by your word that all our doings without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Celebrant: Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin 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 ever. Amen**

### **DISMISSAL:**

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**NOTICES:** Feast of St. Giles – August 29<sup>th</sup>

### **THE BLESSING:**

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

**All: Amen.**

+++++++

**Assisting today:**

Celebrant/Preacher: Norm Savill  
Video: Norm Savill/David Paradis

**This morning in our worship we remember in our prayers those of our family and friends who have immediate needs and concerns:**

Stephen and Martin Bertelsen; Alvin Maynard; Kathy H.; Sylvia Ralston; Amanda Rose; Mark Ralston; Darlene Jessem; Jim Tomkins; Ray Wilson; Judy Virtanen; Lawrence Bornais; Roxanne Reid & Family & The Goodyer Family; Garn Mennell; Jane & Ron Lewis; Lorraine Whitwell; Doreen; Alan Proudlove; Anthony Sacco; Sally Rees & her mom; Michelle Sinclair, Mom and Family; Livia & Neil Purcell; Adesh; Lee & Jeannie Martin; Sheri Scott; Audrey Moody; Wally Raymond; Christine; Kim; Carl; Mark & Erin; Wendy; Brenda Jessem; Shirley; Lynda Raye; Kilravey; Rhonda; Brenda & Brian; Derek; Jaxon Croft; Sean; Amanda Stewart; Kathryn

**The names below are people in need of ongoing prayers for various reasons so we ask you to please continue to pray for them and their continuing need of God' s healing touch and grace:**

Theresa & Pete; Cecilia Mowat; Tanya Bowskill; Sophia L; Jane Tutty; Jean Glionna; Dorothy & Chuck; Kevin Hamann; Laura Johnston; Marilyn Foley; Kadeem Broomes; Diane M.; Bill Snow; Deborah Hall; Owen; Jen Galicinski; Arlene; Joan Gough; Lorraine W; Stephanie; Fr. Murray; Marg Abbott; Jordan; Margie Mills; Eunice Merrett; Jean Wallace; Nancy Dodds; Bill & Cathy Gray; Wendy Goodyer; Donna Wilson; Gordon Kennedy; Paul & Rose McIntyre; Do Saunders; Jefferson Jr.; June Osolin; Tanya Wade-Vargas.

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for:**

Diocese of Central Ecuador

**In the Toronto Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for:**

Trinity East (Little Trinity)