

**April 6, 2025**

**Prelude and Chimes**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship** (Inspired by Psalm 126)

**Leader:** With our ancestors we recall God's great works

**People:** **The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.**

**Leader:** With our ancestors we pray

**People:** **May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.**

**Leader:** With our ancestors we rejoice

**People:** **Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.**

**All:** **Let us worship God, in this community and in the company of our ancestors.**

**\*Hymn #461:** "Let Us Hope When Hope Seems Hopeless"

**\*Passing the Peace**

**Invitation to a Time of Confession**

Let us open our hearts to God and speak freely, recognizing our failures and choosing to follow Jesus

**Prayer of Confession**

**Holy Jesus, you call us to follow you. We want to respond, but our attention flutters. One day we are steady disciples and another day we are distracted by the clamors of the world or by our own needs. Forgive our wavering commitment and make us more reliable disciples. May we each day respond when you beckon, becoming ever more faithful. Amen.**

**Words of Grace**

God is continually creating, doing a new thing in us. Where we have erred, God brings us back into Gods embrace. In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven..

**Scripture:**

John 12:1-8

Rick Ransom

**Anthem:** Sound of Water, by Hazel and Jim Ailor

**Time With Young Disciples**

## Collect

**Generous God, you call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship. Help us to understand and accept the costs of following Christ, that we may know the joy you intend for the faithful. Make us lifelong learners in the school of faithfulness, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Sermon:** "Pound Foolish"

**\*Hymn #210:** "Said Judas to Mary"

**The Community at Prayer** (*Joys and Concerns, Prayers for the People, Lord's Prayer, choosing to use debts/debtors, or trespass/trespases, or sins/sinners as is familiar to you*)

If you are watching online, type any prayer requests in the chat by the end of the sermon and we can voice them and get the names on the prayer list.

## Prayer Response

### Invitation to the Offering

*(Opportunities to give for the ministries of this church are available through an offering plate during service, by mailing your gift to the church office, or by signing up for electronic giving through our website at <https://www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org/>)*

## Offertory

### \*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

### \*Prayer of Dedication

**Holy One, bless these gifts and our lives, that we and our offerings may serve your purposes. Amen.**

## Sacrament of Holy Communion

This table is open to all who seek to know Jesus as the Christ and work to follow Christ's way. Come to this sacred table not because you must, but because you may. Come not because you are fulfilled, but because in your emptiness you stand in need of God's mercy and assurance. Come not to express an opinion, but to seek a presence and to pray for a Spirit. Come to this table, then, sisters and brothers, as you are. Partake and share. It is spread for you and me that we might again know that God has come to us, shared our common lot and invited us to join the people of God's new age.

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Holy God, our loving Creator close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made. .... Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unite our voices with the entire human family of your faithful people everywhere saying:

**Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty,  
the whole world sings of your glory, O God Most High.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!  
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Words of Institution and Consecration**

**Sharing the Elements**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #224: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"**

**\*Commissioning and Blessing**

**\*Choral Response**

**\*Postlude**

Service Prayers for the Fifth Sunday in Lent was written by the Rev. Ruth Garwood, a transitional pastor in the Heartland Conference, a certified facilitator of Sacred Conversations to End Racism, and a certified InterPlay leader.

