

SATURDAY COMMUNION SERVICE
APRIL 2, 2022
ZION LUTHERAN, TAMAQUA, PA

GATHERING

Prelude: "Agnus Dei"

Video: "World Central Kitchen"

Gathering song: "In Remembrance of Me"

Welcome – Pastor Cindy White

Gathering Words – Please remain seated

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it

Break open our hearts this morning to hear your word, O God.

Let our fears be vanquished, our spirits restored!

Come and let us worship with great joy!

Let us drop the things of the past which weighed us down!

God is about to do something new in our lives!

Let God's will become strong in our lives. AMEN.

Gathering prayer - Please remain seated

Let go of your fears. God has forgiven you and offered to you God's healing love.

Accept this free gift, for it is given for you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let us pray together ... **We come into your presence, O Lord, with so many burdens and concerns on our hearts. Help us to be open to your words of healing and restoration. Bring us closer to you. Enable us to discern your will for us that we may serve you more faithfully by serving others in need. In Christ's name, we pray. AMEN.**

Sharing of Peace

We are here today to worship God, whom we together praise and trust. We are the children of God, siblings in one big family. Out of the joy and hope of the faith that we share, let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

May the Peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Godsightings:

Where have you seen God at work in your life?

THE WORD (John 12:1-8 NIV)

Today's reading – Please remain seated

Holy God, may we taste and see the good things you are doing in our lives.

May the words we hear inspire us to be your faithful followers. Amen.

A reading from John: Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then

Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages.^[b]" He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

The Gospel of Our Lord
Praise to you, O Christ!

Today's message – Pastor Cindy White

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Special music – Pastor Cindy White and Kevin Lawfer

Offering prayer

Let us pray: **Lord of life and love, we offer these gifts to you. Bless them and use them, that others might be encouraged in the faith. Gracious God, use our lives as well. Help us share your story and pour out your love on everyone we meet. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.**

The preparation – Please remain seated

God be with you.

And also with you.

Open your hearts.

We open them to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

We offer our thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, O God, for you are the Ground of our being, in whom we live and move. At the beginning you created the galaxies and planets, our sun, the earth and moon, plants and animals, individuals and nations, every substance and spirit.

You gave us your creative spirit to make friendships and families, art and music, love and compassion.

You gave us power to acquire the secrets of our mother earth, to honor her and care for her, as she cares for us. And so we join with all the creation that praises you, in every time and place.

God of eternity, spirit and matter all express your splendor.

We take this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Spirit we who eat and drink them may know a closer experience of your presence. On the night before Jesus died, he shared food with his disciples. He took bread, blessed and broke it, and giving it to them said: "Take and eat, this is my body which is given for you and for many. Do this to

remember me," He took wine, blessed it, and giving it to them said: "Drink this all of you. This is my blood which is shed for you and for many; do this to remember me".

To God be glory forever. Amen.

We who are many are one body

For we all share in the one bread

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come let us receive this Holy Sacrament remembering that Jesus died for us, and hold him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The Distribution

Post-Communion prayer

Loving God, you have created all humanity in your image and likeness, and have revealed your plan and purpose in calling us your beloved.

We commit ourselves to you.

As we have shared this holy meal, inspire our hearts to see every man, woman and child given the dignity and value which is your purpose and your gift.

We commit ourselves to you. Amen.

Prayers of the People – Please remain seated

Jesus calls on us to follow him. Let us call on Jesus for the needs, concerns, and hopes of all peoples ... O God, strengthen us in our desire to serve you and others, and breathe into our bodies the passion of your love. (Pause for silent prayer.) Lord in your mercy ...

Hear our prayer

For our community and those who live in it, and for our families, companions, and all those we love. (Pause for silent prayer.) Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Please feel free to offer any prayer that is on your heart this evening. (Pause for responses) Lord in your mercy ...

Hear this prayer

Gracious and merciful God give us now the strength to wait patiently for your answer, and to live faithfully in response to your call. We pray this in the name of Jesus, to whom we again commit ourselves.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer – Spoken – Please remain seated.

THE SENDING – Please remain seated

Sung: "Prayer of St. Francis"

Benediction – Pastor Cindy White

May our service to others become a fragrant gift in God's name. Go with God, the one who is about to do a new thing in and through us.

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and give you peace. Go in peace, to love and to serve, healed and free.

And all God's people say

Thanks be to God!