



MORNING PRAYER AND HOLY COMMUNION AT NINE  
SERVICE LEAFLET

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 7, 2019

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

\* PSALM OF THE DAY                      Psalm 126 (*read responsively by verse*)

L: When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

**P: Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;  
then it was said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”**

L: The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

**P: Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb.**

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

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

THE FIRST READING                      Isaiah 43:16–21

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

THE SECOND READING                      John 12:1–8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus’ feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, “Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

HOMILY

“Lesson Six: Remember **Whose** you Are and **Who** you Are”  
(Sixth in the nine-part series: *Life Lessons from Luke*)

Rev. Ahrens

MISSION INVITATION

Cash and designated checks go to **Horizon Prison Initiative** that operates well-established programs in two prisons, the London Correctional Institution for men and the Ohio Reformatory For Women. Horizon works to break the cycle of incarceration and its effect on society by helping the incarcerated become aware of self, others, and the faith tradition at the center of their lives. Thank you for your generosity.

Rev. Corzine

OFFERTORY HYMN 224

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

*Hamburg*

*Want to give online? Please see the Depart to Serve insert for more information and a QR link.*

THE DEDICATION OF THE NEW PIANO

*Men:* Praise God in his holy temple.

*Men:* Praise God for his mighty acts.

*Men:* Praise God with the blast of the ram's horn.

*Men:* Praise God with timbrel and dance.

*Men:* Praise God with resounding cymbals.

*Women:* Praise God in the firmament of his power.

*Women:* Praise God for his excellent greatness.

*Women:* Praise God with lyre and harp.

*Women:* Praise God with strings and pipe.

*Women:* Praise God with loud-clanging cymbals.

*All:* Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

*L:* To the honor and glory of God, author of all beauty and goodness, giver of all talents and appreciation for music:

**P: We dedicate this piano.**

*L:* With faith in Jesus Christ, that he will continue to inspire women and men to offer God their best in music and song:

**P: We dedicate this piano.**

*L:* Moved by the Holy Spirit, who gives life to our worship and service of God, and guides us in the understanding of truth and beauty:

**P: We dedicate this piano.**

*L:* To aid in the healing of discord, in the uplifting of the depressed, and in the comforting of the sorrowful:

**P: We dedicate this piano.**

*L:* To support the singing of psalms and hymns and spiritual songs in such ways that we may go forth from this house of God joyfully renewed and determined to do God's holy will:

**P: We dedicate this piano.**

*L:* Holy and eternal God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to whom all the joyful hosts of heaven give adoration and glory: Graciously grant that this piano may set forth your praise most excellently in your holy temple; and so bless us as we magnify you upon earth with music and the voice of melody, that hereafter we may sing the new song in the heavenly city, where you reign, almighty, all-glorious, world without end.

**P: Amen.**

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, *celebrant*

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, *preacher*

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Livingston, *pianist*

Kelly Dodd, *liturgist*

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 14 (PALM-PASSION SUNDAY)

There is no Communion next Sunday, Palm/Passion Sunday.

Refreshments: Elisha Hardekopf