



Wandering Heart

*"Streams of
mercy"*

The Worship of God

Maundy Thursday

March 28, 2024

Gathering

Invocation

Opening Hymn

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

(Stanza 1)

**Come, Thou Fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy Grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodies sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love!**

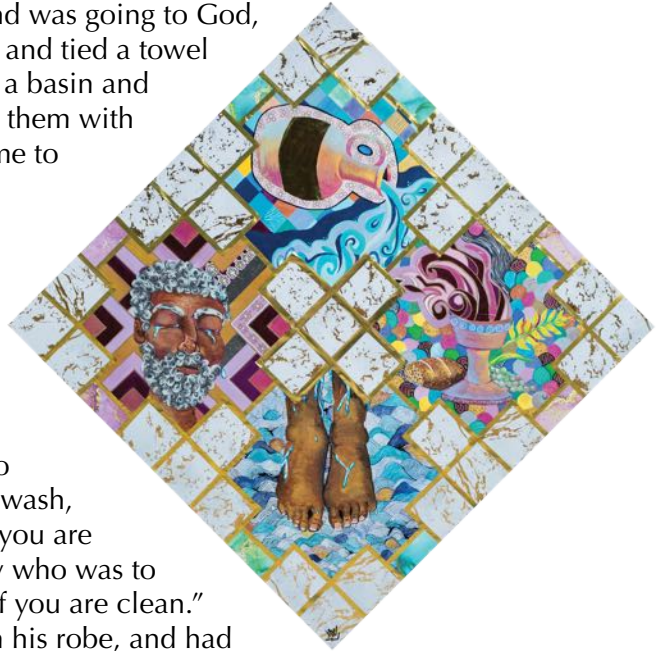
Invitation to the Stations of Peter

Station 1: Peter Resists Then Receives The Foot Washing & Communion

Art: "Golden Hour" by Nicolette Peñaranda

John 13:1-20

1 Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. **2** The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper **3** Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, **4** got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. **5** Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. **6** He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" **7** Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." **8** Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." **9** Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" **10** Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." **11** For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean." **12** After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? **13** You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. **14** So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. **15** For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. **16** Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. **17** If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. **18** I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But it is to fulfill the scripture, 'The one who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' **19** I tell you this now, before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe that I am he. **20** Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me."



Response: Write on index card your answer to the question: *Who are you called to serve?*

Communion

Station 2: Jesus Foretells Peter's Denials

Art: "Beseeching" by Hannah Garrity

John 13:31-38

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. **32** If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. **33** Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' **34** I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. **35** By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." **36** Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered, "Where I am going, you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." **37** Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." **38** Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Very truly, I tell you, before the cock crows, you will have denied me three times.

Response: Write on index card: *Who do you love?*



Station 3: Peter Draws His Sword

Art: "Disarming Peter" by Lauren Wright Pittman

John 18:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he went out with his disciples across the Kidron Valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. **2** Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place because Jesus often met there with his disciples. **3** So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. **4** Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" **5** They answered, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus replied, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. **6** When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they stepped back and fell to the ground. **7** Again he asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."

8 Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these people go." **9** This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken, "I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me." **10** Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. **11** Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?"



Response:

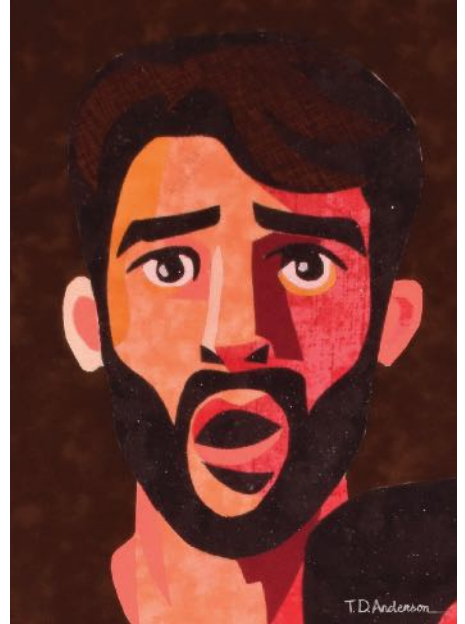
Holy One, we are convicted of our addiction to violence. We lament the proliferation of gun violence in our communities. We bemoan the staggering statistics of intimate partner violence. Yet, we confess our own complicity in the pain of our neighbors. Whether we have wielded a weapon, uttered harmful words about each other, or simply refused to acknowledge another's pain, we have betrayed the peace you left with us and called us to keep. We have built war economies that make conflict profitable. We have created societies that justify the violence of food and housing insecurity, racism, discrimination, and marginalization. God of grace, have mercy upon us, and save us from our weak resignation to these evils. Amen.

Station 4: Jesus is Arrested and Peter Denies Christ

Art: "The Descent, Closeup" by T. Denise Anderson

John 18:12-18

12 So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested Jesus and bound him. **13** First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. **14** Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. **15** Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, **16** but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. **17** The woman said to Peter, "You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." **18** Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself.



Response:

When we think of violence, we think of calculated, deliberate, or impassioned action. In this station, we are confronted with the violence of inaction. Peter has now seen the lengths that power would go to silence Jesus. When asked if he was one of Jesus' disciples, Peter freezes. He must suspect that, if his association to Jesus were made known, he might be met with the same violence. Please join me in prayer:

Merciful God, we confess that, too often, we've been inactive bystanders in the face of someone else's victimization. Forgive us for choosing self-preservation over justice. Amen.

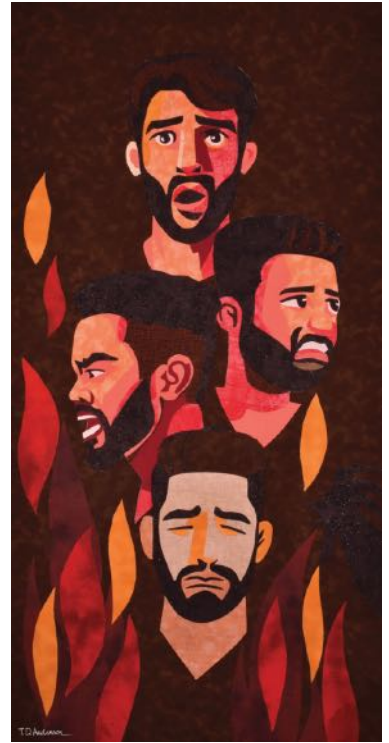
Station 5: Peter Denies Christ Again and Again

Art: "The Descent" by T. Denise Anderson

John 18:19-27

19 Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. **20** Jesus answered, "I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. **21** Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said." **22** When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying, "Is that how you answer the high priest?" **23** Jesus answered, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" **24** Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. **25** Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." **26** One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" **27** Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed.

Response: *Where have I allowed the seeds of violence, anger, or apathy to grow within me? Place index cards in the fire.*

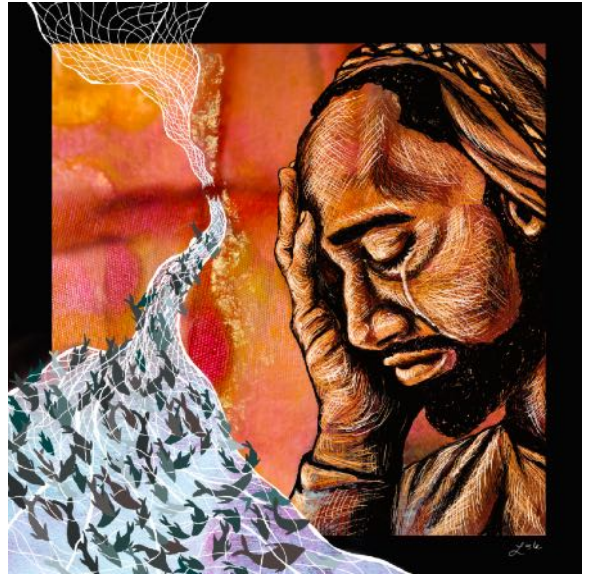


Station 6: Jesus is Crucified

Art: "Were You There?" by Lisle Gwynn Garrity

John 19:1-30

1 Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. **2** And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. **3** They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. **4** Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." **5** So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" **6** When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." **7** The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God." **8** Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. **9** He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. **10** Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and power to crucify you?" **11** Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." **12** From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar." **13** When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. **14** Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" **15** They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." **16** Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus, **17** and carrying the cross by himself he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. **18** There they crucified him and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. **19** Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." **20** Many of the Jews read this inscription because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. **21** Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'"



(cont'd on the next page)

22 Pilate answered, "What I have written I have written." **23** When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. **24** So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says "They divided my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots." **25** And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. **26** When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." **27** Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. **28** After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." **29** A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. **30** When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Response: Bring a rock and place it at the foot of the cross as a symbol of this journey. As you place the rock, remember the those whom God calls us to love, and pray for courage to love more fully.

Closing Hymn

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

**Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.**

**Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious love.**

**O to grace how great
a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.**

**Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.**

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