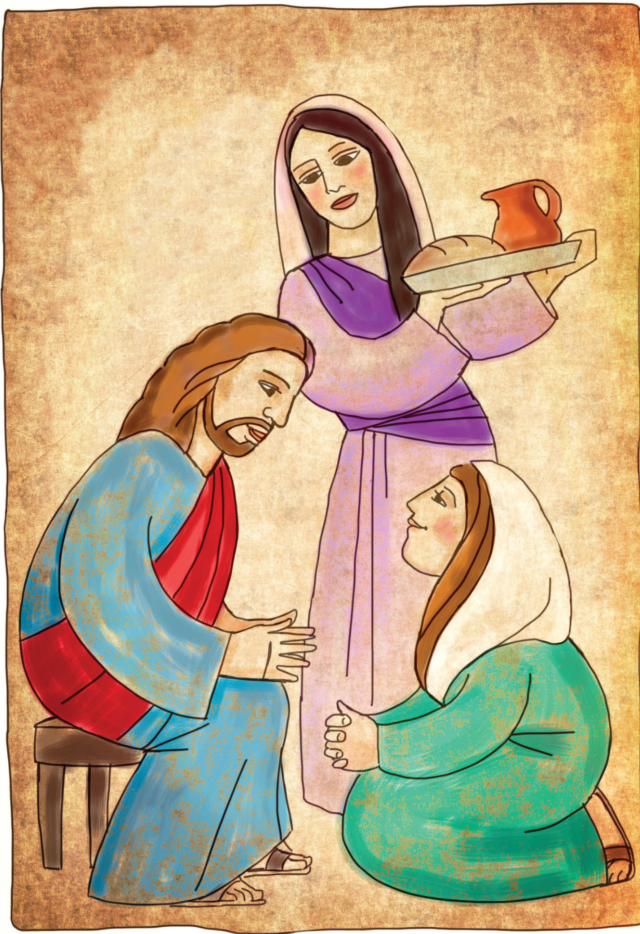


WELCOME

FEBRUARY 21, 2024

# What Christ's Coming Means to Me

The Story of Mary & Martha,  
as Told by Lazarus



*There is practical, lasting, eternal value in doing  
whatever we do with guidance from the Word of God.*

# PRELUDE

## INVOCATION & CONFESSION

Pastor: In the name of the Father,

**People: Who has compassion on those whom he has created;**

Pastor: and of the Son,

**People: Who has compassion on those whom he has redeemed;**

Pastor: and of the Holy Spirit,

**People: Who has continual compassion on those in whom he dwells.  
Amen! Amen! Amen!**

Pastor: As we continue this Lenten journey of love, and reflect on the extreme compassion our Lord God has for us even though we don't deserve it, let us confess our sinfulness, and plead for God's mercy on us.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination)*

**People: Heavenly Father, I, a destitute and unworthy sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you. I don't deserve your compassion. I deserve your wrath and punishment, I have sinned in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have sinned by doing bad things and by failing and forgetting to do good things. I plead for your mercy and grace. Have compassion on me, a poor sinful being.**

Pastor: God has, indeed, had compassion on you, and has taken away your sin! As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen! Amen! Amen!**

## HYMN #337 — *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray together the prayer of the day.

**People: Lord God, you have compassion on whom you will, and mercy on whom you will. You desire all to believe and to come to a knowledge of the truth. As we reflect on your compassionate love for us today, fill us with your Spirit so that we may have that same compassion for others. Amen.**

## WORD

### *Luke 10:38-42*

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the

Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

### ***John 11:5, 20-27***

Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus ... When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

### ***John 12:1-3***

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.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## **HYMN #812 — *Faith of Our Fathers***

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON** [6 PM]

## **SERMON — *Pastor Scott Ludford***

## **P R A Y E R S**

Heavenly Father, your compassion fills us with peace, because we know that it will never end. We humbly ask that you show the world this compassion that they may know you as we do, and may live in your house forever. In your compassionate love,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, our Redeemer and Lord, over and over again you showed compassion to humanity while you were here on earth. Ultimately you showed it by dying on the cross so that death, the devil, and hell would never harm us. Make us ever thankful that you paid the price we could not pay, so that our thankfulness and praise will resound to the ends of the earth. In your compassionate love,

**Hear our prayer.**

Holy Spirit, fill us with compassion for others that we may give as you have given to us. Turn our hearts toward you and your mercy and grace. Humble us, by your mighty power, that we may cling to Jesus alone for life. In your compassionate love,

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord God, you are the physician of body and soul. We humbly ask that you would heal those who are dealing with illness and injury according to your will as they wait upon your healing, and work through their struggle to reveal your mighty power and love in their lives. In your compassionate love,

**Hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE OFFERING

### LORD'S PRAYER *(Traditional)*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray;

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## SENDING

### BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and show you His compassionate love.

**Amen.**

### HYMN #328 — *Restore in Us, O God*

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the bread.

**Thanks be to God.**



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