

WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN WORSHIP 2

THE GOOD NEWS IS...

GREAT NEWS FOR GOD & NEIGHBOR

This Week's Gospels

Luke 7:36-50 & Matthew 25:35-40

The Gospel of St. Luke, the 6th Chapter

³⁶ One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and when he went into the Pharisee's house he reclined to dine. ³⁷ And a woman in the city who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. ³⁸ She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair, kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. ³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him, that she is a sinner." ⁴⁰ Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak." ⁴¹ "A certain moneylender had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³ Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly." ⁴⁴ Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. ⁴⁵ You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven loves little." ⁴⁸ Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹ But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰ But he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

"The Gospel of St. Mathew, the 25th Chapter

³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Homily by Luke DeFrang

I'm speaking about Luke 7:36-50. The message of the passage is that God forgives everyone and whoever has been forgiven more will have more love for God and others.

The verse says "Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." God offers forgiveness to everyone equally. Those who have been forgiven more will be more thankful and loving towards God and others than those who have been forgiven less. When somebody loves God more, they will show it by loving others more.

Whenever i get in an argument with my parents, I might feel frustrated with them. But I still thank God for putting me with these parents instead of anyone else. I thank God for giving me good, forgiving, and understanding parents. I also thank God for even giving me parents in the first place.

This relates to the story because God is like a parent because he's sometimes unsatisfied with us but still loves us, and every time my parents forgive me, I feel more thankful each time because that shows how much my parents love me the same way God loves everyone. Being forgiven makes me feel thankful for whoever forgave me because it takes the weight off my chest but it also makes me feel like I owe something to them even if it isn't my parents. The woman in the story was forgiven by Jesus and she wants to show her thankfulness by doing something for Jesus. So she poured expensive ointment on his feet and wiped them with her hair. A sign of devotion and love.

So next time someone forgives you, think about how you can show your appreciation for them. How does that forgiveness change you? When God forgives us it changes us. It makes us live differently and be more loving and forgiving of others. It's a good thing God is so forgiving of us.

Homily by Ryan Godfrey

A few weeks ago at family confirmation, Mrs. Janelle asked the parents "what is the legacy you want to pass on to your confirmands?" After a few minutes my mom said "when you see a need and you are able to help, step in to fill it."

When I was assigned the reading from Matthew, it reminded me of the conversation I had at family confirmation. In this verse God is saying that if you help others you are helping Him in return. Just like here at Calvary we are using our hands to serve Him here on earth. During this reading there are many examples of how to be of service to God, while being of service to others.

In verse 36, Jesus said, "I was sick and you looked after me". A few years ago, my Mom was having some health problems that left her unable to do many of her day to day tasks. Because of how I was raised, what my family taught me and what Calvary showed me. I knew had to step in and help my Mom.

Often times I handled chores such as cleaning up the kitchen at the end of the day or taking care of a bathroom that needed some

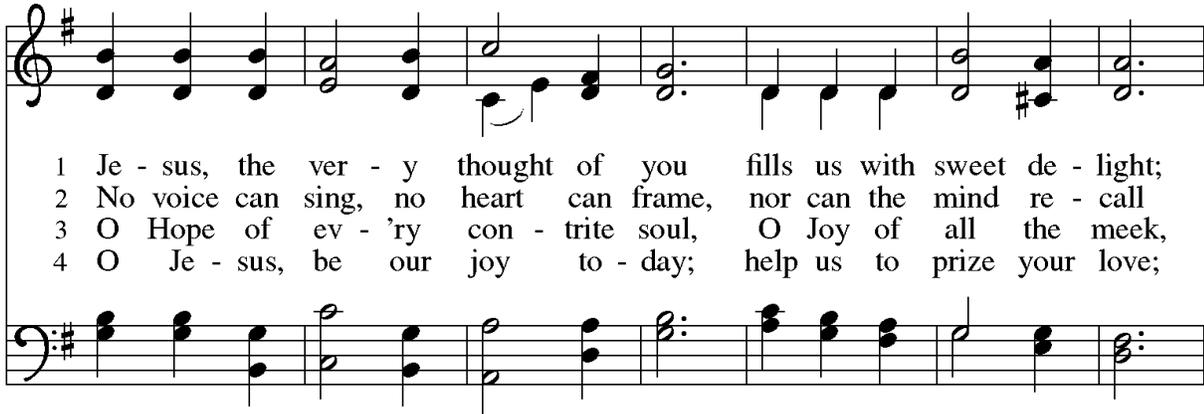
attention. I would do these things to help my Mom so she wouldn't have to. Although it started out just doing these things to fill a need, I found that it felt good to be relied on and be helpful. Even though I know my actions may not be big enough to change the world, I know I was able to help the people in my world and I knew I was an important part of keeping things running at our house.

At the end of the reading in Matthew Jesus says "The king will reply, truly I tell you whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine you did for me." How will you be God's hands here on earth? Will you volunteer at Room in the Inn or teach Sunday school? Will you donate to N.E.E.D or help make sandwiches for the Presbyterian Night Shelter? Calvary, as you are called to do acts of services, what will you do? Even if its small things, like smiling at a stranger or holding a door you are doing Christ's work on earth.

As Edward Everett Hale once said "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."

Offering

Jesus the Very Thought of You (ELW 754)



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
Music: ST. AGNES, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

Offering received during Hymn



Two Ways to Give

Download the new
"Vanco Mobile" giving app
from your smart phone's app store

Give online
through this QR code
Use smart phone camera; click link



Worship Leaders

Homily
Cantor
Lector
Lector
Prayers
Sound

Luke DeFrang & Ryan Godfrey
Elle Kammerdiener
Erin Tyrell
Rossleigh Dewey
Charles Lansdon
James Williams, Gary Graeber & Preston Rouze

**2026 Mid-Week Lenten Series:
*The Good News Is...***

**Holden Evening Prayer each
Wednesday @ 7pm during Lent**

March 11 (7pm) – *together the impossible is possible!*
– Mark 6:32-44, Ephesians 3:20-21

March 18 (7pm) – *protection and care for the vulnerable!*
– Matthew 19:13-15, Deuteronomy 24:17-22

March 25 (7pm) – *rooted in justice, mercy and faithfulness!*
– John 8:2-11, Matthew 23:23