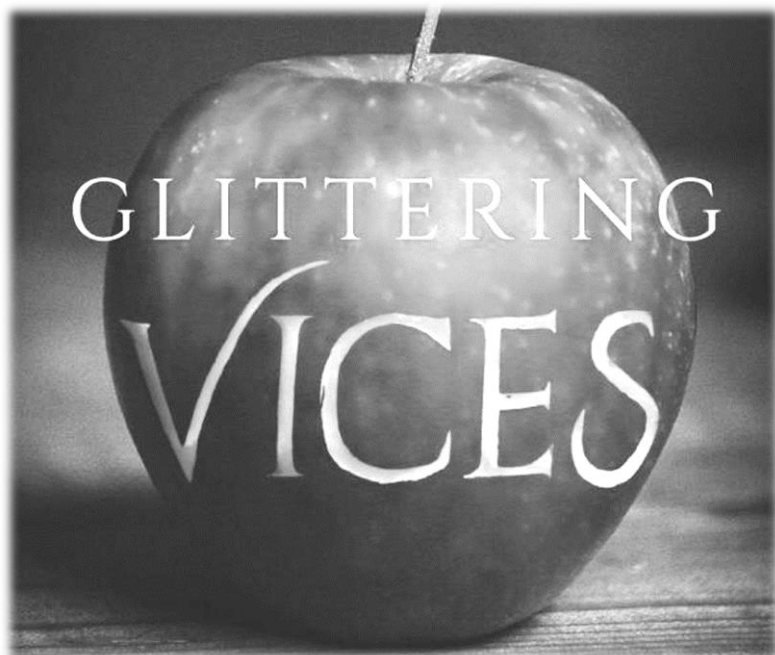


Midweek Lent 2

Greed and Generosity

(Matthew 26:6-16)



A Lenten Series on
Vice and Virtue in the Passion Story

*For one's life does not consist in the
Abundance of his possessions.
(Luke 12:15)*

Glittering Vices

A Series of Services
For the Season of Lent

Midweek Lent 2: Greed and Generosity

As We Gather: Today we continue our sermon series “Glittering Vices,” reflecting on the vice of greed as the disciples express frustration over the money “wasted” anointing Jesus with an expensive perfume. Our deepest greed can often be masked by seemingly righteous intentions. But it is only when we learn generosity, giving away some of what we’ve been freely given, that we learn to truly rely on God who provides for every need of body and soul.

+ Invocation and Call to Worship +

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Lord, as we begin this Lenten journey together,

C Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Founder and Perfecter of our faith.

P Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross

C and scorning its shame, is now seated at the right hand of the Father.

P As we reflect on your life, passion, and death

C Let your virtuous example be cultivated within us.

P Send the power of your spirit into our hearts

C That we might joyfully live out your commands in every aspect of our lives.

Hymn: When I survey the Wonderous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

+ Confession and Forgiveness +

P Let us confess our sin to God our Father in heaven, pleading for His mercy for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ:

C Father, forgive me for evil thoughts that come from within me, out of my unclean heart. (*Mark 7:21-22*)

P Lord have mercy.

C Father, forgive my gluttonous heart, which attempts to live by bread alone and not by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. (*Matt. 4:4*)

P Lord have mercy.

C Father, forgive my greedy heart, which seeks security in the abundance of possessions at the expense of my neighbor in need. (*Luke 12:15*)

P Lord have mercy.

C Father, forgive my prideful heart, which displaces You as rightful Lord instead of being Your humble servant. (*Matt. 20:26, Phil. 2:3-7, James 6:4-10*)

P Lord have mercy.

C Father, forgive my slothful heart, which is indifferent to Your Word and disregards the good works You have prepared for me to walk in. (*Eph. 2:10, Matt. 25:31-46*)

P Lord have mercy.

C Father, forgive my envious heart, which begrudges Your generosity to others and finds joy in their sorrow. (*Matt. 20:15*)

P Lord have mercy.

C Father, forgive my angry heart, which does not produce the righteousness You desire but avenges injustice through hatred of my enemies. (*Matt. 5:22, Rom. 12:19, James 1:20*)

P Lord have mercy.

C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

P Jesus Christ was delivered over to death for your trespasses and raised for your justification. He gives you a new heart and puts a new Spirit within you. He removes your heart of stone and gives you a heart of flesh. Your sins are forgiven, go in peace. Amen. (*Rom. 4:25, Ezek. 36:26*)

+ Prayer of the Day +

P Let us pray.

O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, mortify and kill all vices in us and so strengthen us by your grace that by the innocence of our lives and the constancy of our faith, even unto death, we may glorify your holy name; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

+ Scripture Readings +

Old Testament Reading:

Jeremiah 6:9-15

⁹Thus says the LORD of hosts:

“They shall glean thoroughly as a vine
the remnant of Israel;

like a grape-gatherer pass your hand again
over its branches.”

¹⁰To whom shall I speak and give warning,
that they may hear?

Behold, their ears are uncircumcised,
they cannot listen;

behold, the word of the LORD is to them an object of scorn;
they take no pleasure in it.

¹¹Therefore I am full of the wrath of the LORD;
I am weary of holding it in.

“Pour it out upon the children in the street,
and upon the gatherings of young men, also;
both husband and wife shall be taken,
the elderly and the very aged.

¹²Their houses shall be turned over to others,
their fields and wives together,
for I will stretch out my hand
against the inhabitants of the land,”

declares the LORD.

¹³“For from the least to the greatest of them,
everyone is greedy for unjust gain;
and from prophet to priest,
everyone deals falsely.

¹⁴They have healed the wound of my people lightly,
saying, ‘Peace, peace,’
when there is no peace.

¹⁵Were they ashamed when they committed abomination?

No, they were not at all ashamed;
they did not know how to blush.
Therefore they shall fall among those who fall;
at the time that I punish them, they shall be overthrown,”
says the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading:

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

⁶The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹As it is written,

“He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. ¹²For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. ¹³By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission flowing from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 26:6-16

⁶Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, ⁷a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he reclined at table. ⁸And when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, “Why this waste? ⁹For this could have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor.” ¹⁰But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. ¹¹For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. ¹²In pouring this ointment on my body, she has done it to prepare me for

burial. ¹³Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her.”

¹⁴Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests ¹⁵and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. ¹⁶And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn: Son of God, Eternal Savior

- 1 Son of God, eternal Savior,
Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us
Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory,
For Your own will ever plead:
Fill us with Your love and pity,
Heal our wrongs, and help our need.
- 2 As You, Lord, have lived for others,
So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted;
Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver,
Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty
Held in solemn trust will be.
- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us,
King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion,
Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling,
By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,
Stem our selfish greed of gain.

+ Sermon +

+ Prayers +

+ Lord's Prayer +

P Taught by our Lord, and trusting His promise, we are bold to pray:

C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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. 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

+ Benediction +

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and preserve you.

C Amen.

Hymn: Christ, the Life of All the Living



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of
6 Thou hast suf - fered great af - flic - tion, And hast borne it
7 Then, for all that wrought my par - don, For Thy sor - rows



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing
pa - tient - ly, E - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion,
deep and sore, For Thine an - guish in the Gar - den,



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,
Ful - ly to a - tone for me; Thou didst choose to
I will thank Thee ev - er - more, Thank Thee for Thy



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.
be tor - ment - ed That my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
groan - ing, sigh - ing, For Thy bleed - ing and Thy dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
For that last tri - um - phant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.