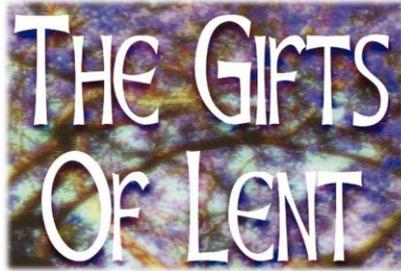


Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026

G.R.A.C.E. LENTEN SERIES – 6:30 PM



Wednesday Nights – each week @ 6:30 PM @ PEUMC

February 25<sup>th</sup> ————— Led by Pastor Beth Rohn-Habegger,  
*Rapids Moravian Church*  
*“A family gives their home”*

March 4<sup>th</sup> sermon by Pastor Kate,  
*First Congregational, Rapids*  
*“Mary gives her perfume”*

March 11<sup>th</sup> Pastor Caleb, *Port Edwards United Methodist*  
*“Simon gives his strength.”*

March 18<sup>th</sup> Pastor Margo, *Woodland Lutheran, Rome*  
*“Joseph gives his tomb.”*

March 25<sup>th</sup> Pastor Michelle, *Grace Lutheran, Rapids*  
*“A man gives his donkey”*

Holy Week

April 2<sup>nd</sup> Maundy Thursday – Nekoosa UCC – 7:00 PM

April 3<sup>rd</sup> Good Friday PEUMC 2:45 – 3:00 PM

*Musician: Judy Miller    Media Technician: Ethan (Matt) Boerner*  
*Greeter: Jef DeMeuse        Usher: Candy Prah-Tell*  
*Liturgist: Matt Boerner*

UMH – The United Methodist Hymnal        TFWS – The Faith We Sing  
L – Liturgist (Matt) / M – Minister (Pastor Beth)

~~~~ all liturgy is in your bulletin, not on the screens ~~~~

## WORDS OF WELCOME

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: In the gathering quiet of this Lenten evening,  
we remember the woman who came to Jesus with costly oil.

**P: We come to offer our hearts, our time,  
our devotion.**

L: While others called her gift a waste,  
Jesus received it as love.

**P: Teach us to honor what is precious,  
even when others do not understand.**

L: She anointed Him for the path ahead—  
tenderness preparing Him for suffering.

**P: Anoint us with courage,  
that we may follow Him in mercy and truth.**

L: Her act will be told  
wherever the good news is proclaimed.

**P: Let our worship tonight  
bear witness to love that cannot be silenced.**

L: Come, let us enter this hour with reverence, gratitude,  
and open hands.

### **ALL:**

**We worship the One who receives our gifts  
and meets us with grace.**

**May it be so tonight! AMEN!**

\*HYMNS OF PRAISE: *Ask Ye What Great Things* UMH 163  
*What Wondrous Love Is This* UMH 292

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Psalm 36:5-10

L: God, Your faithful love reaches to the sky.

Your faithfulness is as high as the clouds.

**P: Your goodness is higher  
than the highest mountains;  
Your fairness is deeper than the deepest ocean.**

L: God, You protect people and animals. Nothing is more  
precious than Your loving kindness toward us.

**P: All people can find protection in You;  
we get strength from all the good things  
in Your house.**

L: You let us drink from Your wonderful river.

The fountain of life flows from You!

**P: Your light lets us see light.**

**ALL: Continue to love those who really know You,  
and do good to those who are true to You.**

Matthew 26:6-13

*(following the reading)*

*L: Our God reigns today and forever!*

**ALL: Glory be to God! Amen!**

*“You are anointed in the name of Christ.”*

**‘THE GIFTS OF LENT,’ PART 2**

**MARY GIVES HER PERFUME**

Pastor Kate

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: *God, We Sense* see below

(words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette / music: 'Come, Thou Found of Ev'ry Blessing)

**God, we sense Your peace and power /  
in this place we love so much.**

**We are moved by gentle fragrance;  
we are blessed by healing touch.**

**In these pews we hear the gospel;  
we see life beyond compare.**

**Here we gather at Your table,  
tasting love in meals we share.**

**Once a woman came to Jesus,  
pouring ointment on His head.**

**Some complained, "*She could have sold this —  
should have helped the poor instead.*"**

**Yet the Lord knew well the value /  
of that perfume that she poured.**

**In that way she said, "*I love you*"  
to her Savior, Friend, and Lord.**

**God, Your world is filled with fragrance;  
smells surround the things we do.**

**Sweat from work and smoke in cooking /  
both are offerings to you.**

**Oils of healing, scented flowers /  
carry with them love and care.**

**All the smells of potluck suppers /  
bring the joy of life we share.**

\*THE GIFTS OF LENT RITUAL, Week 2: *Costly Perfume*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**ALL: Holy One, in the stillness of this evening  
we remember Mary,**

**who poured out her costly oil in love.**

**We confess that we often hold back what is precious,  
offering you only what feels safe or convenient.**

**We remember how others judged her gift.**

**We confess the ways we, too, rush  
to criticize, to measure, to control,**

**instead of honoring the beauty others bring.**

**We remember how she prepared Jesus for suffering.**

**We confess how quickly we turn away  
from the pain of our neighbors,**

**and how slowly we respond with compassion.**

**Forgive us, O God.**

**Anoint us with courage to love freely,**

**with humility to receive the gifts of others,**

**and with tenderness to walk in the way of Christ:**

**In His name we pray: AMEN!**

*[MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION & CONFESSION]*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*M: Hear the Good News of Jesus . . .*

*. . . In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.*

**P: In the name of Jesus Christ,  
you are forgiven. Glory to God! AMEN!**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*(each time):*

M: Lord, like Mary the faithful one . . .

**ALL: . . . pour out Your love freely upon us.**

**Verse 4: I've got hope like a wellspring (3x)  
in my soul.  
(2x)**

\*BENEDICTION

TONIGHT'S TABLE QUESTIONS BASED ON "**MARY GIVES HER PERFUME**"

1. When have you given something that felt costly or vulnerable? What helped you offer it?
2. What "precious" gifts—time, attention, compassion—might God be inviting you to offer right now?
3. Mary gave what she had, not what others expected. Where in your life do you feel called to do the same?
4. What helps you stay grounded in love when others don't see the full picture?
5. How might you offer that kind of tenderness to someone else this week?
6. What does "preparing the way of love" look like in your daily life?
7. Where do you notice small acts of devotion—your own or others'—that bring light into the world?
8. What kind of love do you hope people remember from your life?

**TONIGHT'S OFFERING**

*(place any donations in the wooden box as you leave the service tonight)*

Any donations received tonight (or future Wed. Lenten services) will go to support G.R.A.C.E.'s ongoing efforts to eliminate student debt in our Rapids area graduating classes.

Checks can now be written out directly to "G.R.A.C.E."

Last year, we disbursed **\$3,200** locally.  
We have raised almost **\$2,800** so far, for this year.