**CENTER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**April 6, 2025 10am**

**The Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**Communion Sunday**

**Deacons on Duty for April:** Bobby Valenti, Jay Hazzard, Rhonda Strycharz, and

 Rob Kirschner

**PreludeMatt Valenti**

**† *Please stand if you are able.***

**Welcome and Announcements Reverend Averill**

Meditation Moment ***"The Man from Nazareth"*****Matt Valenti**

**Call to Worship** **Reverend Averill**

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ, Our Lord: Welcome to this time set aside to focus on the Holy Spirit who is working among us. May our hearts be open and eager to receive God’s Word this morning!

*All hymns are from the Grey Hymnal*

**†** **Hymn 50 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*** **Matt Valenti**

**Invocation (unison) Deb Casey**

**Dear Lord, in this time of Lent, you ask us to prepare us. Prepare us, O Lord, for the betrayal that has yet to come, and the fateful crucifixion. AMEN.**

**Lord’s Prayer (unison) Deb Casey**

*Let us join together to speak the words Jesus taught us….****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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and power and the glory forever. Amen.***

**†Gloria Patri:***(please stand if you are able)*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end,* *Amen.*

**Center Faith Singers**

**R****esponsive Reading** (adapted from *Psalm 126)*  **Deb Casey**

Leader:When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
**People: Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with shouts of joy.**
Leader: Then it was said among the nations:

**People: “The Lord has done great things for them.”**
Leader: The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

**People: Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.**Leader: May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.
**People: Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with**

 **shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.**

**† Hymn 612 *How firm a Foundation* Matt Valenti**

**Old Testament Lesson (NRSV)** ***Isaiah 43:16-21* Deb Casey**

*(see insert)*

**New Testament Lesson (**NRSV**) *John 12:1-8*****Reverend Averill** *(see insert)*

**Sunday Message  *Perfume for His Feet*** **Reverend Averill**

**Our Gifts, Tithes and Morning Offerings**

*Please place prayer request cards in offering plates*

**†Doxology Matt Valenti**

**†Prayer of Offering Reverend Averill**

Dear Lord, we offer up to you these gifts, both monetary and spiritual, which are given to you this day in this your House. Amen.

**Prayers of the People**  **Reverend Averill**

Intensive Prayers **Reverend Averill**

Communion  **Reverend Averill**

Invitation

Hymn of Preparation **776 *Let Us Break Bread Together***

Blessing & Sharing of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving **Reverend Averill**

We give thanks, loving God, that you have refreshed us at your table. Strengthen our faith; increase our love for one another. As we have been fed by the seed that became grain, and then became bread, may we go out into the world to plant seeds of justice, transformation, and hope. Amen.

**† Hymn 213 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Matt Valenti**

Benediction *(Please remain seated)* **Reverend Averill** The Love of God the Father, the Grace of God the Son, and the Fellowship of God the Holy Spirit be with you now and always. AMEN.

**Postlude Matt Valenti**