



"Mary & Martha" by Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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## Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Mary and Martha -  
A tale as old as time:  
Two women engaged in sibling rivalry.  
STOP!  
Imagine instead,  
A sisterhood  
smashing the patriarchy.  
Jesus enters as a guest  
Bringing wisdom;  
seeing their humanity.  
Each honors the Divine  
serving with her unique spiritual gifts.  
Their ministries compliment one another.  
Illusions erected by powers and principalities crumble.

Beloved, don't be distracted.  
Keep the main thing the main thing.  
Love God and God's people  
with body and mind.  
Christ anoints you  
and calls you by name.  
You are of sacred worth  
and are entitled to the better part.  
Salvation cannot be taken away.  
*100 Word Sermon by Melissa Hinnen*

PRELUDE

BRINGING THE LIGHT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Karen Girdner

Come as you are.

**If you have deep faith  
or your faith has run dry,**

if you know every scripture  
or none at all,

**if you have calloused hands  
and live your faith through good works,**

or if you kneel at God's feet,  
with a million hungry questions,

**come as you are.**

This is God's house.

**None are turned away.**

All are welcome here.

\*SONG OF PRAISE

The God of Abraham Praise

Hymnal, No. 49

\*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Let us pray:

**God of Grace,**

**We long to do the "right" thing.**

**We long to make the "right" choice.**

**We long to stand on the "right" side of the dividing line.**

**In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us.**

**In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show love.**

**Show us how to hold our heart's desire for perfection loosely.**

**Show us how to lead with grace and love, over anything else.**

**For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to you.**

**Show us the way.**

**Amen.**

*(Time of silent reflection)*

...Nothing can separate you from God's love.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

\*SONG OF RESPONSE      Mother, Brother, Holy Partner      Hymnal, No. 3, Verse 4

Mother, Brother, holy Partner;  
Father, Spirit, Only Son:  
we would praise your name forever,  
one-in-three and three-in-one.  
We would share your life, your passion,  
Share your word of world made new,  
Ever singing, ever praising, one with all, and one with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

### PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Julie Forthman

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 10:8b-13

Page No. 921

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 97

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—

**my adversaries and foes—they shall stumble and fall.**

Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;

**though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.**

One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:

**to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,**

**to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.**

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

**he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.**

Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me,

and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

**I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

**'Come,' my heart says, 'seek his face!'**

Your face, Lord, do I seek.

**Do not hide your face from me.**

Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help.

**Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!**

If my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up.

**Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.**

Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,

for false witnesses have risen against me,

and they are breathing out violence.

**I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.**

Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage;

**wait for the Lord!**

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:38-42

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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MESSAGE

Everything In Between: Faith and Works

Tracy L. Evans

SONG OF FAITH

Ministry and Presence

Bulletin p. 7

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in a Christ who  
teaches, sees, affirms, and celebrates all of who we are.**

**We believe in a Christ who  
invites us to use our gifts for good  
and celebrates every step we take in that direction.**

**We believe in a Christ who  
understands our anxieties  
and is gentle with our concerns.**

**And we believe in a Christ who  
looks at us with undiluted love.**

**The world will try to rank, rate, and declare winners,  
but we know love has no limit.**

**So with God's help,  
may we nurture our faith  
and do good work. Amen.**

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal, p. 35

*Please pray the Lord's Prayer  
in the language and wording most familiar to you.*

THE OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY

For the Beauty of the Earth

Hymnal, No. 14

For the beauty of the earth,

For the glory of the skies,

For the love which from our birth

over and around us lies:

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

\*SENDING SONG

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Hymnal, No. 306

\*BLESSING AND CHARGE

\*POSTLUDE

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

**Lectionary Readings** for March 23: Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9. Sanctified Art scripture for March 23: Luke 13:6-9.

The Food & Shelter items of the month for March are pasta and pasta sauce. **Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.**

**Hearing-assistance** devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the head usher.

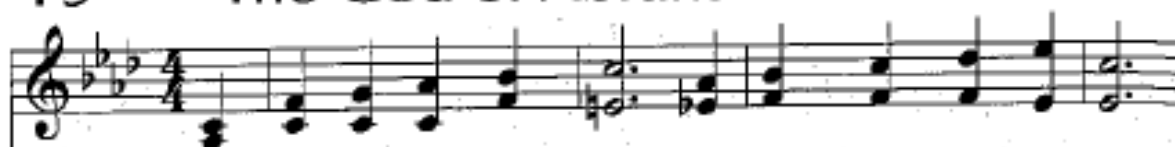
Please welcome our guest pianist **Lynnae Hurst**, Graduate Teaching Assistant MM Piano Performance and Pedagogy University of Oklahoma

**Are you looking for a spiritual jumpstart this year?** You are invited to the weekly Wednesday Devotion, sponsored by the Task Force studying the creation of a new statewide Oklahoma Presbytery.

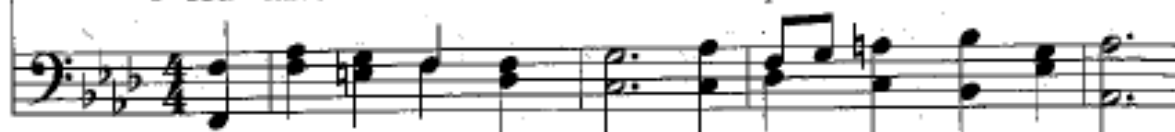
This is a weekly Zoom held on Wednesdays 9:30-10:00, each led by a different church leader from around the state. Join others from around the state in this.

Zoom link can be found on the Indian Nations Presbytery website at <http://www.okinp.org>

## The God of Abraham Praise



1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a-bove,  
 2 Your spir-it still flows free, high surg-ing where it will.  
 3 Your good-ly land we seek, with peace and plen-ty blest,  
 4 You have e-ter-nal life im-plant-ed in the soul;



the An-cient of E-ter-nal Days, the God of love!  
 In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.  
 a land of sa-cred lib-er-ty and Sab-bath rest.  
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a-ges roll.



The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,  
 Es-tab-lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,  
 There milk and hon-ey flow, and oil and wine a-bound,  
 We praise you, liv-ing God! We praise your ho-ly name:



we bow be-fore your ho-ly name, for-ev-er blest.  
 deep writ up-on the hu-man heart by your strong hand.  
 and trees of life for-ev-er grow with mer-cy crowned.  
 the first, the last, be-yond all thought, and still the same!



# Ministry and Presence

EIN FESTE BURG 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7 ("A Mighty Fortress is Our God")

Words by Anna Strickland, 2024

Music by Martin Luther, 1529



When Je - sus passed near Mar - tha's home she had no  
Her sis - ter Ma - ry took a seat to spend time  
He said, "You are both gifts to me with diff - erent



hes - i - ta - tion "Please treat my house like it's your own,"  
with the tea - cher In - tent - ly listen - ing at his feet,  
ways of be - ing. I won't take that from Ma - ry



she gave the in - vi - ta - tion She wan - ted all the best  
his words drew her in dee - per But Mar - tha took of - fense  
whose place is right here with me. You have no - thing to prove



To serve her hon - ored guest Her check - list grew and grew  
At Ma - ry so con - tent With all there was to do  
So let your heart be moved. Just one thing do I need:



Her time was all con - sumed With min - i - stry a - bound - ing  
She need - ed Ma - ry too And asked for Je - sus' back - ing  
To feel your love in deeds Of min - i - stry and pre - sence."

# Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in  
 2 Be - fore our \*Fa - ther's throne we pour our  
 3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual  
 4 When we are called to part, it gives us  
 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of  
 ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our  
 bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each  
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be  
 shall be free; and per - fect love and

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.  
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.  
 friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.