

“I myself will gather the remnant of my flock...
they shall be fruitful and multiply.”

Jeremiah 23:3

Gather

One Church, Encountering Jesus,
Equipping Disciples, and Living Mercy



Week One: Prayer & Compassion

Psalm 16:9-11

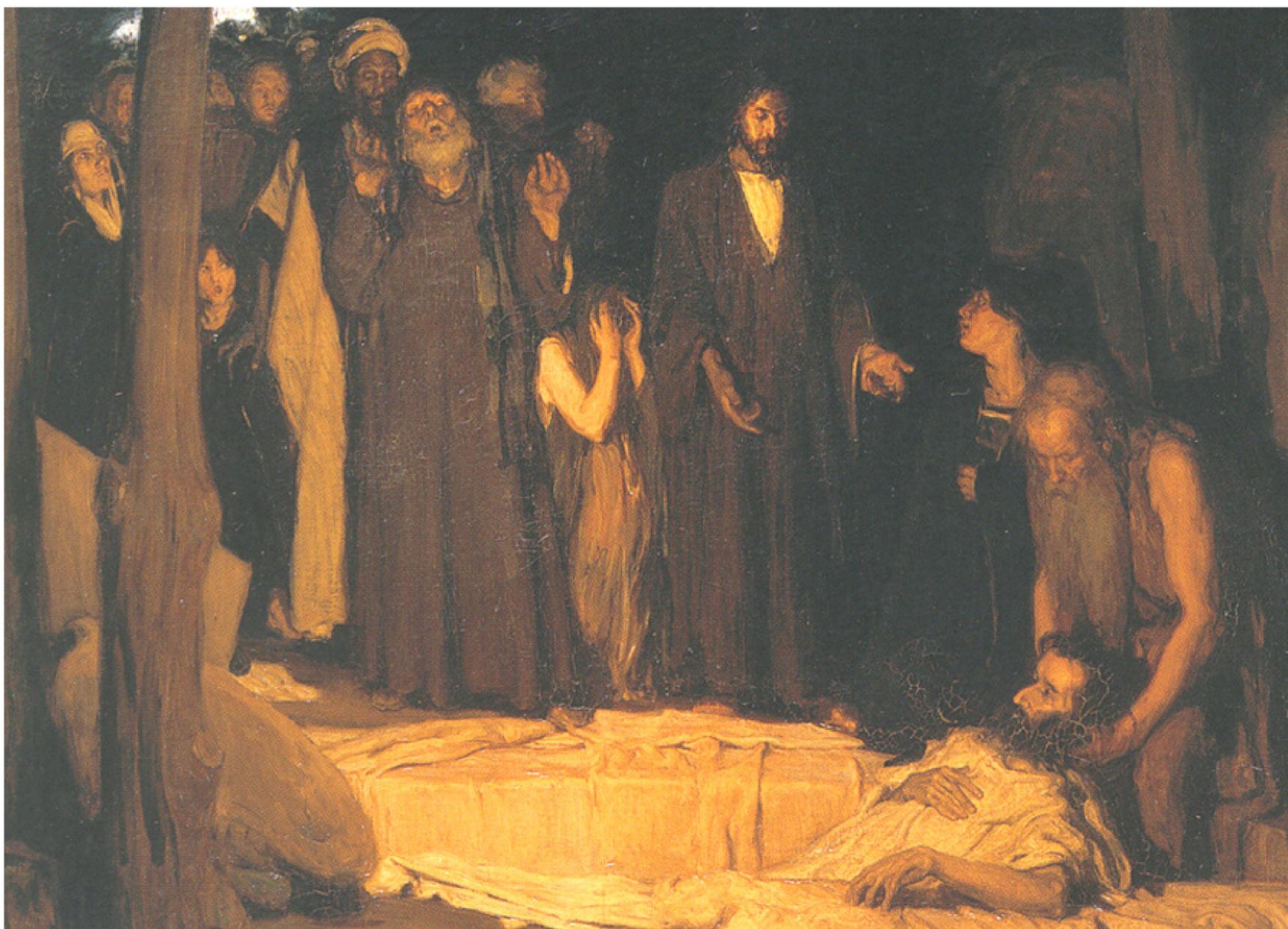
☩ You are my inheritance, O Lord.

Therefore my heart is glad, my soul rejoices; my body also dwells secure,
For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, nor let your devout one see the pit. ☩

You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delights at your
right hand forever. ☩

Conversation Starter

1. Who is a person you admire for the way they live habits of prayer & compassion?
2. What is one grace you have received from the Lord in the past week?



Resurrection of Lazarus, c. 1896 (Henry Ossawa Tanner)

Week One:
Prayer & Compassion

WRAP with the Gospel - John 11:38-43

Raising of Lazarus

Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Write

Reflect

Apply

Pray

Week Two: Friendship

Psalm 8:5-7

℞ O Lord, our God, how wonderful your name in all the earth!

What is man that you are mindful of him, and a son of man that you care for him? ℞

Yet you have made him little less than a god, crowned him with glory and honor. ℞

You have given him rule over the works of your hands, put all things at his feet. ℞

Conversation Starter

1. Who in your life has been a true friend to you?
2. What are some characteristics that make your friendships meaningful to you?



Jesus Washing Peter's Feet, c. 1852 (Ford Maddox Brown)

Week Two:
Friendship

WRAP with the Gospel - John 15:8-17

The Vine and the Branches

By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another.

Write

Reflect

Apply

Pray

Week Two: Friendship

Going Deeper Questions

1. What might it look like for you to lay down your life for your friends in a practical way?

2. How have you seen Jesus be a friend to you?

Summary Thought

It can be easy for us to grow complacent in our friendships, to limit ourselves to a group we have always been part of, or to be content with superficial conversation. To practice the habit of friendship means we are: (1) more intentional about forming friendships, (2) more authentic in our conversations, (3) more determined to share the greatest good (eternal life).

Group Action

Commit to making a friend. It could be someone new or someone you already know. Who will you reach out to, and how will you start a more authentic conversation with them?

Psalm 8:5-7

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What is man that you are mindful of him, and a son of man that you care for him? **℟**
 Yet you have made him little less than a god, crowned him with glory and honor. **℟**
 You have given him rule over the works of your hands, put all things at his feet. **℟**

Week Three: Invitation

Psalm 145:3-4, 6-7

℟ I will praise your name for ever, Lord.

Great is the Lord and worthy of much praise, whose grandeur is beyond understanding. One generation praises your deeds to the next and proclaims your mighty works. **℟**

They speak of the power of your awesome acts and recount your great deeds. They celebrate your abounding goodness, and joyfully sing of your justice. **℟**

Conversation Starter

1. What is something you never would have experienced if you were not invited by a friend?
2. What causes you to say "yes" to another person's invitation?



Christ and the Samaritan Woman, c. 1890 (Henryk Hector Siemiradzki)

Week Three:
Invitation

WRAP with the Gospel - John 1:38-46

The First Disciples of Jesus

Jesus turned and saw [two disciples of John the Baptist] following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi"... "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah"... Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John, you will be called Cephas"...

The next day he decided to go to Galilee, and he found Philip. And Jesus said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the town of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets, Jesus son of Joseph, from Nazareth. But Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Write

Reflect

Apply

Pray

Week Three: Invitation

Going Deeper Questions

1. Philip responds right away to Jesus' invitation, but Nathanael is more skeptical. How do you typically respond to invitations?

2. What holds you back from making invitations to others?

Summary Thought

Often we can rely too much on generic mass communications of our parish (bulletin, pulpit announcements, etc.) to make invitations, instead of taking initiative ourselves. To practice the habit of invitation means that each one of us would make invitations to the people in our lives as a fruit of prayer and of listening to their felt needs.

Group Action

Who are some other people you know that might be excited to lead a small group for Lent? Make a list and commit to inviting them to attend a Live Lent Together training session.

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Archdiocese *of* Omaha