

## **\*\*Script Worship Resources - “The Thing Itself”**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent, Year B,**

**10<sup>th</sup> March, 2024**

**Ephesians 2:1-10 ESV / John 11:38-44 ESV**

### **Prelude**

played by church musician Annie Center,

used and reported under CCLI Streaming License 20261246

### **Opening Music (video)**

[Mary Don't You Weep](#)

Inez Andrews

Mary Don't You Weep - Inez Andrews and the Caravans live public domain - posted to YouTube by malacomg

### **Welcome / Announcements**

**I'm glad to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church. We seek to welcome all of God's children to join us in bearing witness to the radically transforming power of God's love. As we gather today, let's share the joy and peace of Christ with each other by greeting each other as we pass the peace.**

### **Pass the Peace**

**Opening Hymn      Brethren, We Have Met to Worship # 8**

### **Call to Worship**

One: Welcome to all who have come in search of something;

**All: We have come to seek the living God.**

One: Happy are those who find a way and follow that path;

**All: We do not make this journey by ourselves.**

One: Blessed are those who give their lives over to their Creator.

**All: In faith, in trust, with hope, let us worship God.**

### **Invocation**

Holy God, Creator of Life, you call us out of our dark places, offering us the grace of new life. When we see nothing but hopelessness, you surprise us with the breath of your spirit. Call us out of our complacency and routines, set us free from our self-imposed bonds, and fill us with your spirit of life, compassion, and peace, In the name of Jesus, your anointed one, we pray. Amen.

## Epistle Reading ~ Ephesians 2:1-10 ESV

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—

And raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,

not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

## A Time of Prayer

### Sharing Joys and Concerns

**Today we come together as a community to share together our joys and concerns, and lift them to God in prayer.**

*<start by sharing a prayer concern, and invite others to share>*

## Pastoral Prayer

Prayer by pastor

## Hymn

## There's a Wideness in God's Mercy # 145

## Epistle Reading ~ John 11:38-44 ESV

Then 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 with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

### Message - *The Thing Itself*

#### Call to Serve

As we seek to be a place of compassion and support to our community, we ask that you give prayerful consideration as to how you may support our efforts. If you would like to make a donation, there are envelopes at the entrance if you are with us in person, or visit our website to donate online. Prayers and suggestions are also welcome! Thanks again for all your support, and may we continue to work together to lead our community into the kin-dom of God here on earth. Today, as we listen to Annie play, let's reflect on how we celebrate our faith, and how we might use our gifts, prayers, and talents to inspire others to do the same.

#### A Time for Reflection

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## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Thank you, God, for loving us to the very ends of the earth and back. Your willingness to say “Yes!” to coming in the flesh to redeem our world through love and “No!” to the powers of oppression has led us to give of ourselves generously this day. Take these gifts and multiply them across this world that you love so extravagantly. Amen.

**Hymn**                      **God of Grace and God of Glory # 366**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**                      played by church musician Annie Center,

*Bearing witness to the radically transforming power of God's love, we are a church that risks all to be Jesus in a church, community, and world which needs people to step out in faith.*