

Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Tuesday

*Called to forgive, debts and debtors, perfume and tears
inspired by Chris Thrope*

Welcome

Have you ever felt undervalued, or looked down on? If we are honest, we are also sometimes guilty of looking down on others, perhaps without even realizing it. We all make judgments about other people, because of their background or their reputation. Jesus himself was looked down on because he was provincial: “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” In so many encounters, Jesus challenges and overturns our prejudice, teaching us to see people for their true worth. On Holy Tuesday, we come to reflect on the way we judge and undervalue one another, recognizing how Jesus showed us a different way of relating.

Song The Servant Song

Opening Prayer

God of saints and sinners, in a world where many are looked down on, many are afraid of rejection, help us to see with your non-judgmental eyes. Quieten our hearts and minds, as we still our bodies, slow our breathing, and open ourselves to you. **Amen.**

Psalm (63:1-4)

O God, you are my God, I seek you,
My soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,

So I will bless you as long as I live;
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever. Amen.

Bible Reading (Mark 14:3-9)

While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at a table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger, ‘Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.’ And they scolded her. But Jesus said, ‘Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.’

Living Word of God...**Live in our lives today.**

Reflection

Response The Servant Song

Prayers

Forgiving God, you long to heal us with your touch. Open our hearts to your gift of unconditional love. Anoint us with the tears of your Spirit. Wipe away the hurts and harms of our memory that your love may overflow in us, and through us. **Amen.**

We pray for all who are undervalued, looked down on or despised because of their nationality, color, or religion.

(silence)

For we are your children**made in your likeness.**

We pray for all who are undervalued, looked down on or despised because of their gender or sexuality.

(silence)

For we are your children**made in your likeness.**

We pray for all who are undervalued, looked down on or despised because of poverty, disability or background.

(silence)

For we are your children**made in your likeness.**

We pray for all who are undervalued, looked down on or despised because of their past mistakes, failures or wrong doing.

(silence)

For we are your children**made in your likeness.**

The Peace

Peace in our hearts, Peace in our homes,

Peace in our nation, Peace in our world.

God longs for us to know peace!

The Peace of the Lord be always with you, **and also with you.**

Closing Responses

God in our touching, **generous in judgment,**

Welcoming all people, seeing your image,

be now among us, **Jesus our brother,**
bring us your blessing, **now and always.**
Amen.

The Right Reverend Scott Benhase, Bishop of Georgia

The Reverend Kit H. Brinson, Rector

Mr. Mike Taylor, Musician