WEDNESDAY EVENING LENTEN WORSHIP 1 KNOW

This Week's Gospels

Luke 23:26-27, 32-36, John 14:5-7

The Gospel of St. Luke

²⁶ As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus.²⁷ A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him.

³² Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.³⁴ [Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."] And they cast lots to divide his clothing.³⁵ And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine.

The Gospel of St. John

⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Homily by Lilly St. Clair

I am Lilly and today I will be talking about forgiving and knowing. Jesus shows us his forgiveness in Luke chapter 23. The words Father forgive them because they know not what they do stuck out to me. Can you imagine people are killing you on a cross and these are the words you say? I don't think they are the words I would have said. There was a time a few months ago when my best friend came to me and told me there were some girls at school making fun of me. I will be honest that my first thoughts were "who do they think they are?

Maybe I need to give them a piece of my mind". My first thoughts were far from forgiveness. It was hard, but I decided I needed to not say anything and instead pray for them. They didn't know who I was and I didn't know why they were doing this. And I was not going to be mean. This was very hard and a small example next to Jesus asking God to forgive those who were killing him.

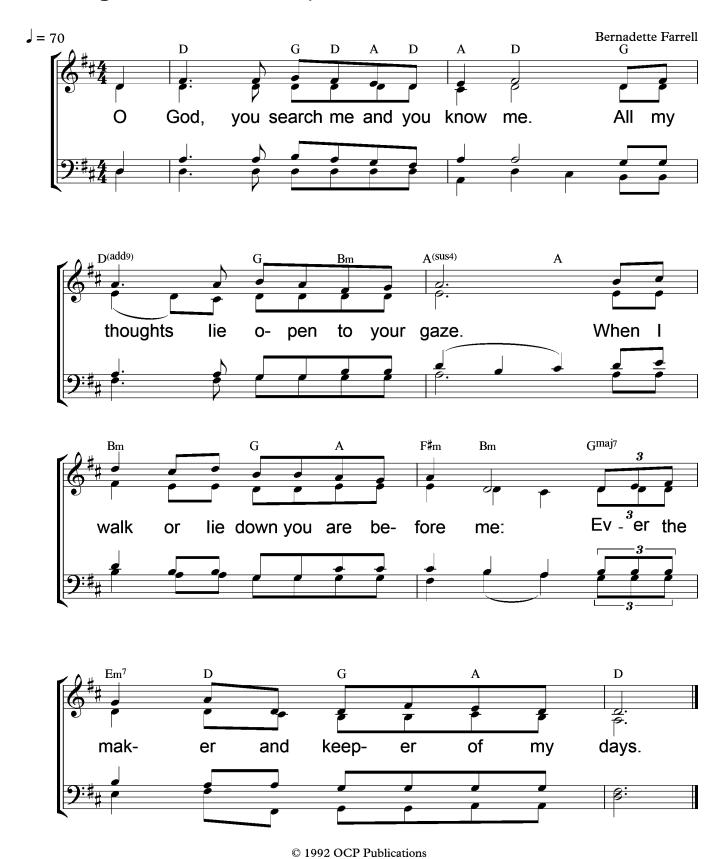
Jesus preached and taught about forgiveness, but from the cross because he was too tired and didn't have the energy. On the cross, instead he set an example of forgiveness and showed us. Let that be an example for you and be the reason you can forgive someone.

Them killing Jesus did not change the fact that he was sent to love the world and love us. Those girls being rude to me didn't change my ability to be kind and forgive. There are no choices that we can make that can separate someone from God's love. There is nothing we can do to be separated from God's love. Not even death.

In the second reading Thomas says that we do not know where you are going so how can we know the way. Jesus says I am the way the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. I understand Thomas because I want to know the way like Thomas wants to know the way. We have to make a decision to know the way. One of the things I did to get to know the way of God is going to church camp. It was a few summers ago when I got the opportunity to go to Ebert. It was going to be my first trip without my parents, my brother and my phone. That might not sound like a big deal, but for 12 year old me it was! Little did I know, I would be having the best week of my life because God truly called me and formed me into the person I am now. This is where I get to know God deeper.

I am constantly working to know God. I have a weekly Bible study with my friends, go to confirmation, I pray and I listen to Christian music. All of these things will help me know God and the more I know God the more I can forgive people. You can also get to know God deeper through prayer, worship, study and sharing with others. You can get to know God deeper, through this church community and the ways we serve God together.

Offering ASC 1082 - O God, You Search Me



Worship Leaders

Homily Lilly St. Clair

Cantor

Brayden Chambers Lector

Grayson Miller **Prayers** Reagan Waller Sound

2025 Mid-Week Lenten Series: Seven Last Words

Holden Evening Prayer each Wednesday @ 7pm during Lent

March 19 (7pm) - Truth - Luke 23:36-43, John 1:9-14 March 26 (7pm) - Here - John 19:25-27, Matthew 22:34-40 April 2 (7pm) - Thirsty- John 19:28-30, Matthew 25:37-40 April 9 (7pm) - Finished - John 19:30-37, Revelation 21:5-6



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