



redeemer

a newsletter for and about the people of
lutheran church of our redeemer

record

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pastor's message

The reading from the Holy Gospel for the Fifth Sunday in Lent tells how Jesus went back to Bethany where he had raised Lazarus from the dead. A meal had been prepared for Jesus. Martha was doing the serving, and Lazarus himself was there. Mary took an expensive bottle of perfume and poured it on Jesus' feet. She wiped them with her hair, and the sweet smell of the perfume filled the house.

Judas Iscariot sharply criticized the woman for doing this saying that the money spent to buy the perfume could have been used to help the poor. Jesus, however, saw the gesture as a sincere act of love and devotion.

This story from the Bible reminds me of a friend of mine from the mid-West. He is a Transylvanian Saxon. This is a group of ethnic Germans who settled in seven villages in the mountains of Romania many years ago. He recalls how when he was a young boy he and his friends would get up early on Easter Sunday and go visit all the young Saxon ladies' homes and sprinkle their hair with perfume. In return, they would give them a gift of an Easter egg or candy. In Saxon, it is called "*Bespritzen*" and is an old tradition. This was supposed to bring good luck to all the young ladies and young men as well.

At this wonderful time of year when we rejoice in the Resurrection of our Lord, may we not simply worship the Risen Christ in church on Easter Sunday morning, but go forth to spread the sweet fragrance of Jesus Christ everywhere we go.

A happy and blessed Easter to you and your loved ones.

All praises to God,
Leigh Pezet, Pastor