

Sermon Sparkler for the Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Just as the 3 women, Mary, Joanna, and Susanna, are numbered in the company of the disciples, so too Mary, who sits at the Lord's feet; this is the position of a disciple. Remember, for example, that Paul brags that he sat at the feet of Rabbi Gamaliel.

For that matter, some suggest Luke is making the same nod toward Martha. She takes on the mantle of discipleship, as Jesus will later describe himself as one who serves and will also describe the proper leader of the disciples as the one who serves. To be like Jesus is to be like Martha.

At the same time, in this moment, when the Kingdom of God has come near in the person of Jesus Christ, Mary and Martha's undivided attention is that which Jesus is calling. One task is to be at hand, to quote God at the Transfiguration, "This is my beloved son, listen to him."

Not serve him, but listen to him.

- ✎ Perhaps today would be a good day to consider the difference between doing and being and reflect some on ways the Sabbath is necessary for human beings.
- ✎ Alternatively, you could ask go back to Jesus' call to follow after him, to be disciples and how that was a very immediate calling.
- ✎ Today might also be a good day to try something a little different—maybe (re) introduce your congregation to *lectio divina*.