

**Scripture:** Luke 10:38-42 (Mary and Martha)

**Metaphor:** Dirty Dishes

**Theme:** The Dishes Can Wait

**Felt need:** Time with God is priceless and can’t be replaced

**Desired Outcome:** That we are more intentional about how we spend our time

**Altar Display**

Dishes

**Music suggestions**

**Call to Worship**

It’s hard to believe that this is the final week of our Welcome Home series. This series has been all about recognizing that no matter who we are, where we’ve been and what we’ve done; we’re Welcome Home to God’s kingdom. Isn’t that a great feeling?

In this week’s scripture, Jesus is welcomed into the home of Martha. Her sister Mary sits with Jesus listening to him and conversing with him. Martha becomes annoyed as she’s running around doing various things to be more hospitable.

Martha, frustrated by Mary’s lack of help, expresses to Jesus that she’s doing all the work and even asks him to tell her to help.

That’s when Jesus tells Martha that she’s missing out and distracted by many other things. He goes on to say that there’s only one thing she needs to focus on; their time together. Jesus tells Martha that Mary has chosen wisely to be with him.

Now let’s be honest. Do we have any Martha’s in the room? Anyone who might be a little too attentive to the details than the guests? It’s easy to fall in that trap.

So let me say something that feels a little counter intuitive, especially for you Martha’s out there: The dishes can wait!

Now, say it with me: **The dishes can wait**!

One more time: The dishes can wait!

Doesn’t that feel good?

Maybe the best thing we can do to welcome others home, is to stay focused on the relationships and not be so worried about the busy work around us.

Let’s worship the God who wants to be in relationship with us.

**Closing Words**

The sink may be full, but as you go from here remember that relationships matter most. Maybe just for today, the dishes can wait. Amen