March 7, 2021
Third Sunday in Lent
Communion Sunday

Responding to God’s love and grace, we WORSHIP with joy, NURTURE with faith, and SERVE others with love.

WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“Voluntary in D minor”

William Walond
(1719-1768)

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP | Responsively
We worship in the season of Lent, a time to examine our hearts and our lives and journey with Christ through the suffering of the world.
Let us listen for the commandments of God and align our lives with God’s vision for peace.
God has marked us as beloved dust and called us together to worship.

HYMN OF THE CHURCH | “God of Grace and God of Glory”

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church’s story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | Unison
O Christ who chased the money changers from the temple,
chase the greed from our lives and our hearts.
As you overturned the tables, O Lord,
overturn the systems in our world
that contribute to cycles of poverty and oppression.
Forgive us, O God, of the ways we contribute to the world’s brokenness.
Forgive us, O God, and wash us in your mercy.
Forgive us, O God, and free us to try again.
DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | Responsively
Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?
Only Christ, and Christ died for us,
Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that we are forgiven, and be at peace.

Amen.

GLORIA PATRI | Sung
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

TIME FOR CHILDREN
Pastor Rosy and Pastor David

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING
Psalm 19
The law of the Lord is perfect; God’s commandments are clear.

GOSPEL READING
John 2:13–22
Before Passover, Jesus chases the money changers out of the temple.

SERMON
“What Religion is Not” Pastor David Schaefers

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

HYMN OF CREATION | “For the Beauty of the Earth” Glory to God 14
For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind’s delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
APOSTLES' CREED | Unison

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY | “Come Share the Lord”
Colleen Oates, Soloist

DOXOLOGY | Sung

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING | Responsively

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

COMMUNION

THE LORD'S PRAYER | Unison

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Canzona in D minor”
Edwin Walker, Organist

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)