

Saint Andrews United Presbyterian Church

March 7, 2021

3rd Sunday in Lent

10:30 AM

The Church Responds

The Affirmation of Faith - Apostles' Creed *(In 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.

The Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

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.

A Minute for Stewardship

Jon McKay

The Church Goes Forth to Serve

The Closing Hymn #697 "Take My Life" *(Glory to God)*

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise; let them flow in endless praise.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
every power as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

The Benediction and the Postlude

The Church in Preparation

The Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

The Introit and Time of Centering #402 "How Lovely, Lord" *(Glory to God)*

Vocalist: Deanna Golden

Piano: Melinda Ripper

How lovely, Lord, how lovely is your abiding place;
my soul is longing, fainting, to feast upon your grace.
The sparrow finds a shelter, a place to build her nest;
and so your temple calls us within its walls to rest.

In your blest courts to worship, O God, a single day
is better than a thousand if I from you should stray.
I'd rather keep the entrance and claim you as my Lord
than revel in the riches the ways of sin afford.

A sun and shield forever are you, O Lord Most High;
you shower us with blessings; no good will you deny.
The saints, your grace receiving, from strength to strength shall go,
and from their life shall rivers of blessing overflow.

The Call to Worship

Jon McKay

Leader: Happy are those who walk in the way of the Lord;

People: Happy are those who seek God with their whole heart.

Leader: God's word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

**People: God's law is perfect,
making wise the simple and rejoicing the heart.**

Leader: Let us turn to God with open hearts and grateful spirits.

People: Let us worship God with joy and praise!

The Opening Prayer *(In Unison)*

Gracious God, we gather as your people to worship you. Quiet the din of our distracted spirits that we may hear your voice. Center our spirits so that we may sense your loving presence. Work in us and among us that we may do your will and walk in your way, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

The Hymn #394 “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” *(Glory to God)*

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious, binding all the church in one;
holy Zion’s help forever, and our confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
Come, with all your loving kindness; hear your people as we pray,
and your fullest benediction shed within these walls today.

Here bestow on all your servants what they seek from you to gain;
what they gain from you, forever with the blessed to retain;
and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three, and ever one:
one in might and one in glory while unending ages run!

The Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

Loving Lord, we confess that our outrage is often misplaced. We know there are issues and actions that rightly deserve our anger and resistance. Yet we often reserve our greatest outrage for the minor frustrations of life. We can become infuriated over our loved one’s habit of never putting gas in the car, or the cap on the toothpaste, or their dirty dishes in the sink. But we passively accept the realities of poverty, hunger, abuse, and greed. Forgive us, Lord. Help us to know when to gather our anger and when to let it go. Ignite in our hearts your passion for justice. Guide our spirits so that we may channel our emotional energy toward faithful, fruitful change, through the grace of Christ. Amen.

A Time of Silent Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

Musical Response “Gloria Patri”

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.

Scripture Readings

The Church in Proclamation

Exodus 20: 1 – 17
John 2: 13 - 22

Special Music

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

The Micro Message

Musical Response #5 “God the Sculptor of the Mountains” *(Glory to God)*

God the sculptor of the mountains, God the miller of the sand,
God the jeweler of the heavens, God the potter of the land:
you are womb of all creation; we are formless; shape us now.

God the nuisance to the Pharaoh, God the cleaver of the sea,
God the pillar in the darkness, God the beacon of the free:
you are fount of all deliverance; we are aimless; lead us now.

God the dresser of the vineyard, God the planter of the wheat,
God the reaper of the harvest, God the source of all we eat:
you are host at every table; we are hungry; feed us now.

God the unexpected infant, God the calm, determined youth,
God the table turning prophet, God the resurrected truth:
you are present every moment; we are searching; meet us now.

The Sermon

Rev. Merry Meloy

The Hymn

“When Christ Went to the Temple”

(See Below)

Text: Copyright 2015 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
Sung to Hymn Tune Llangloffan (#756 “O God of Every Nation”)

When Christ went to the Temple to worship God one day,
He entered through the courtyard where anyone could pray.
That court was for the nations — and all could enter in.
But Jesus found a market, a shameful robbers' den.

There, cattle, sheep and pigeons were sold for sacrifice,
And moneychangers shouted of quality and price.
Outsiders could not enter the inner courts for prayer.
Their only place to worship was in the courtyard there.

When prayer gave way to profit, and pride closed many doors,
The Lord cried out in anger and made a whip of cords.
He shooed the sheep and cattle and scattered pigeons, too.
God's house was for all people — not for a chosen few.

O God, you love the nations and call us all to pray.
Forgive us when our worship turns other folk away.
As Christ, in loving protest, fought prejudice and pride,
May we who follow Jesus now welcome all inside.

Scripture Readings

Exodus 20: 1 – 17

Then God spoke all these words:

² I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³ you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰ But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹² Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ You shall not murder.

¹⁴ You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ You shall not steal.

¹⁶ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

John 2: 13 – 22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵ Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶ He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

¹⁸ The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?"

¹⁹ Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

²⁰ The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?"

²¹ But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

All in the Family

The sympathy and resurrection faith of the congregation go out to the Radvinski family. Esther's aunt, Esther Hackwelder, died on Sunday, February 21, 2021.



Happy Birthday

March 8
March 9

William Bennett
Pat Bopp
