

KIRK IN THE HILLS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 3, 2024





A Message About Today's Scripture and Sermon

As we move through the Gospels we get a glimpse of Jesus in many settings and his reactions to the circumstances in which he finds himself. Most are understandable, maybe even predictable. But today's Gospel reading from John provides us with a slightly different image of our Lord and Savior than we see in Matthew, Mark and Luke.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Allegretto; Adoration

Florence Price

* *Please rise in body or spirit at the ringing of the bell.*

* INTROIT

Live in Charity

Jacques Berthier

Live in charity and steadfast love.

Live in charity; God will dwell with you.

Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

I was glad when they said to me,

"Let us go into the house of the Lord."

As the deer pants for the water brooks,

So my soul pants for thee, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the Living God.

Friends, let us worship in spirit and truth.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 401

Gather Us In

Gather Us In

Please be seated

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Beloved friends, in this season of repentance and healing,
Let us turn to God, whose mercies are new every morning
And boldly confess our sins as beloved children of God:

Most merciful God,

Whose Son Jesus Christ was tempted in every way,
yet without sin,

We confess before you that we have sinned.

We have hungered after that which does not satisfy;

We have compromised with evil;

We have doubted your power to protect us.

Forgive our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness.

Restore in us such love and trust that we may walk in your ways

And delight in doing your will.

In your mercy, Lord, hear our prayers.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Song of Petition

M. and J. Biery

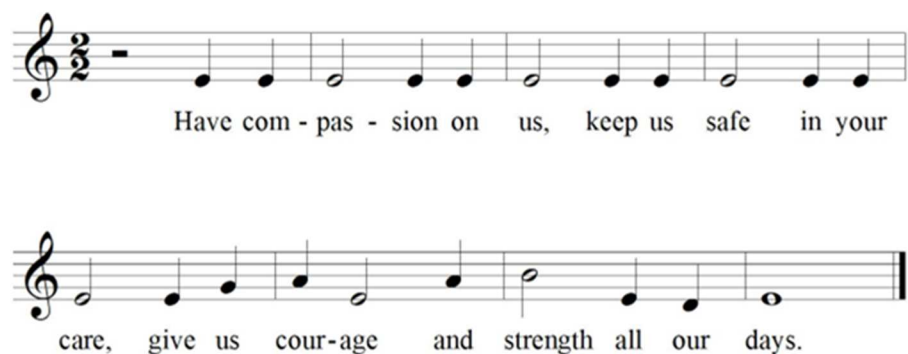
(Choir): Forgiving God, you have called,

We have come,

We have gathered as one,

All our frailties and sorrows we bring —

Congregation joins in singing:



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus says, "Ask it will be given you; seek and you will find;
Knock and the door will be opened to you."
Christ reveals God's transforming grace.
Believe and share the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!

* **GLORIA PATRI** (*Hymn 581*)

**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.**

Greatorrex

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kelsey Sorge

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

Adult Formation Update

Jill O'Hara, 9:00 a.m.; Sarah Cameron, 11:00 a.m.

WORD

WORD WITH THE CHILDREN (*9:00 a.m.*)

Sarah Ford

Following the Word with the Children, children and youth ages 4 through grade 8 will be dismissed for Sunday School and Communion.

CHORAL PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Jacques Berthier

*O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer,
Come and listen to me.*

SCRIPTURE READING

John 2:13-22 (*NT, page 93*)

Rev. Dr. Keith O. Provost

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

A Tapestry

CALL TO OFFERING AND OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Keith O. Provost

Our giving is an offering to God. All offerings are part of our worship of God and support the Kirk's ministry. Text "KITH" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.

Jesus says: Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Let us offer our lives to the Lord. (Matthew 6:21) Please pray with me...

OFFERTORY

O Love

Elaine Hagenberg

*O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.
O Joy that seeks me through the pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain
that morn shall tearless be.
O love that will not let me go...*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Keith O. Provost & Rev. Kelsey Sorge

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS (*Hymn 562*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Schubert

THE 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.**

AMEN (*Hymn 564*)

**Amen
Amen, amen, amen.**

Schubert

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING IN THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

This morning the congregation is served in procession. Please remain seated until you are prompted by an usher to be served. For those unable to process forward, stay seated and a server will bring the sacrament to you.
Gluten-free bread is available in the center of the bread trays. Empty glasses are placed in the baskets provided near the communion servers.

*We receive the bread with “**Amen**” after the server says, “This is the body of Christ.”*

*We receive the cup with “**Thanks be to God**” after the server says, “This is the cup of the new covenant”*

COMMUNION MUSIC

ANTHEM

In This Still Room

Gwyneth Walker

*And so I find it well to come for deeper rest to this still room.
For there the habit of the soul feels less the outer world's control.
Light of God, the strength of human purpose pleads more earnestly
our common needs, in this still room.
And from this silence multiplied by these still forms on either side,
the world that time and sense have known falls off and leaves us God alone.
Light of God! The world that time and sense have known falls off
and leaves us God alone.
I find it well to come for deeper rest to this still room.
(Text by John Greenleaf Whittier.)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment,
this meal, these people,
we give ourselves to you...
Take us out to live as changed people
because we have shared the living bread
and cannot remain the same.
Ask much of us, expect much from us,
enable much by us, encourage many through us.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 394

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Westminster Abbey

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION *(seated)*

Rev. Dr. Keith O. Provost

CHORAL RESPONSE

Take, O Take Me as I Am

John Bell

*Take, O take me as I am;
Summon out what I shall be;
Set your seal upon my heart
And live in me.*

INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SERVICES

Worship/Music Notes

In honor of Women's History Month in March, today's music features compositions by American women. The music of Florence Price (1887-1953) has been celebrated in recent years, having been discovered in her abandoned summer home in 2009. She was the first woman of color to have a symphony performed by a major American orchestra. Elaine Hagenberg was educated at Drake University. Her music "soars with eloquence and ingenuity" (*ACDA Choral Journal*). Her compositions have been performed by universities, community choirs, schools, and church choirs throughout the United States and abroad. Her music has been featured at all-state festivals, national and regional American Choral Directors Association Conferences, the National Youth Choir at Carnegie Hall, the Melbourne International Choral Festival in Australia, and the International Children's Choir Festivals in Canterbury and London.

The music of American composer Gwyneth Walker is beloved by performers and audiences alike for its energy, beauty, reverence, drama, and humor. Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, she resigned from academic employment in 1982 in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. For nearly 30 years, she lived on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont before returning to live in her childhood hometown of New Canaan, Connecticut.

Musicians: Merideth Estevez, oboe; David Enos, organist and carillonneur; Marilyn Biery, organist and director

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Stephen Ministers are available for personal, confidential prayer in Melrose Chapel immediately following each service Sunday. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer please contact Nancy Lau at 248-835-6691.



The flowers on the altar are presented to the glory of God by in loving memory Dortha "Joan" Carlson Fell by the Jef Fell family.

Tour Kirk in the Hills each Sunday! Those interested in a brief tour are asked to meet in the Baptistry, to the right of the Chancel, after the 11:00 a.m. service. See an usher for direction or further details.

About Today's Cover Art— *The Cleansing of the Temple* | Giuseppe Passeri, Italian, 1654-1714) | **The Walter Art Museum online collection.** As told in the Gospel of Matthew, during Passover, Christ drove out the sellers of sacrificial animals and the money exchangers from the Temple in Jerusalem. Passeri imagined the Temple as a lavish structure in the ancient, classical style. Despite the chaotic, multi-figure scene, narrative clarity is achieved through expressive gestures, while the chastising Christ at center is set off by his halo of light. In Christian thought, the Temple of Jerusalem was a symbol of Christ. Luminous, light colors lend gracefulness to the dynamic composition.



We envision a world where every heart experiences God's transforming love.



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