



**March 7, 2021**

**Third Sunday in Lent**

(As the Prelude begins, you are invited to enter a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare to worship God together.)

**The Prelude**

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*  
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Healey Willan

**The Welcome**

**The Opening Prayer**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **O God, your weakness is mightier than human strength,  
your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.  
We rejoice that you are with us today.  
Open our hearts and discipline our will.  
Teach us to follow your perfect ways.  
Test us with your righteous decrees.  
As with a whip, drive us from unholy living,  
and turn us toward your holy light.  
Through your Son, Jesus Christ,  
comfort and redeem us with your holy gospel.**

**The Opening Hymn No. 549**

*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

ST. PETER

1. Where charity and love prevail,  
there God is ever found;  
brought here together by Christ's love,  
by love are we thus bound.
2. With grateful joy and holy fear  
true charity we learn;  
let us with heart and mind and strength  
now love Christ in return.
3. Forgive we now each other's faults  
as we our faults confess;  
and let us love each other well  
in Christian holiness.
4. Let strife among us be unknown,  
let all contention cease;  
be Christ the glory that we seek,  
be ours his holy peace.
5. Let us recall that in our midst  
dwells God's begotten Son;  
as members of his body joined,  
we are in him made one.
6. Love can exclude no race or creed  
if honored be God's name;  
our common life embraces all  
whose Maker is the same.

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**The Scripture Lesson**

John 2:13-22

Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

## The Homily

*Don't Put Jesus on the Building Committee!*

Dr. Matthew D. Bates

## The Invitation

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,  
who earnestly repent of their sin  
and seek to live in peace with one another.  
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

## The Confession and Pardon (in unison)

Merciful God,  
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have failed to be an obedient church.  
We have not done your will,  
we have broken your law,  
we have rebelled against your love,  
we have not loved our neighbors,  
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Free us for joyful obedience,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*All pray in silence.*

Leader: Hear the good news:  
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
that proves God's love towards us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.**  
All: **Glory to God. Amen.**

## The Offertory Prayer

### The Offertory Solo

*Thou, O Lord, Art My Protector*

Camille Saint-Saëns

Thou, O Lord, art my Protector and my Redeemer.

Psalm 19:14b

## The Great Thanksgiving

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

*The pastor gives thanks appropriate to the occasion, remembering God's acts of salvation, and concludes:*

And so,  
with your people on earth  
and with all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Carlton R. Young

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might.  
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the High - est.

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*The pastor continues the thanksgiving. The institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled. The pastor concludes:*

And so,  
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice,  
in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Carlton R. Young

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain!

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*The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding:*  
All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

Carlton R. Young

A - men, a - men, a - men.

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## The Lord's Prayer No. 895

**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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.**

### **The Giving and Receiving of Communion**

#### **The Hymn No. 261**

#### *Lord of the Dance*

LORD OF THE DANCE

1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

***Refrain:***

Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.  
And I'll lead you all wherever you may be,  
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
but they would not dance and they would not follow me;  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;  
they came to me and the dance went on. ***Refrain***
3. I danced on the sabbath when I cured the lame,  
the holy people said it was a shame;  
they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high;  
and they left me there on a cross to die. ***Refrain***
4. I danced on a Friday and the sky turned black;  
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;  
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone,  
but I am the dance and I still go on. ***Refrain***
5. They cut me down and I leapt up high,  
I am the life that'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. ***Refrain***

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### **The Benediction**

#### **The Postlude**

#### *Shalom to You*

Anonymous

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*We thank these persons who helped us in worship this morning.*

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Matthew D. Bates
Minister to Young Adults:	Rev. Drew Willson
Director of Music:	Stanley M. Baker
Pianist:	Lee Covington
Singer:	Emily Downey
A/V Team:	Dan Corcoran Jane Covington Chris Junker

# Scriptures

## John 2:13-22

### Jesus Cleanses the Temple

<sup>13</sup> The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” <sup>18</sup> The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” <sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” <sup>20</sup> The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” <sup>21</sup> But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup> 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.

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