

# Third Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2015 ♦ 11:00 a.m. Worship

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## Welcome

## \*Passing of the Peace

**Prelude** *Chariot's Comin'* Besig  
Joyful Noise

**Introit** *What Wondrous Love is This*  
Natalie Dyke, trumpet

## \*Call to Worship

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**People: We gather together to sing our praise to God's glory.**

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.

**People: We gather with open hearts and souls, to receive the comforting presence of the Lord.**

Leader: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.

**People: The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.**

**All: O God, as we gather in gratitude, may the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, our rock and our redeemer. To you we lift our voices in praise!**

*--Based on Psalm 19*

**\*Opening Hymn #698** *God of the Ages*

**\*The Apostles' Creed #881**

**\*Gloria Patri #70**

## \*Centering Prayer

Understanding and compassionate God, so often the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts do not seem acceptable in your sight. There is much about ourselves we find unacceptable. As we come to this place, grant to us eyes to see through the lens of your surpassing love the new creations of your grace that we are. Amen.

## Children's Message

**Anthem** *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* Nino  
Sanctuary Choir

**Ministry of the Word** 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (NRSV)

**\*Hymn of Preparation #395** *Take Time to Be Holy*

**Sermon** "Truth & Carnival Mirrors" Rev. Bates  
Text: John 2:13-22 (NLT)

## Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, the story of Jesus' outburst in the temple strikes a nerve with us. We confess that far too often we do not treat your space or your time as sacred. We do not keep the Sabbath. We count our money when we should be counting our blessings. We fill our lives to the brim with activity and noise, stifling any opportunity to share silence with you. Even in your house, we are preoccupied with our busyness and stress, rather than wholeheartedly focusing on you. Forgive us, merciful God. Reorient us to the truth that you love us and that your will for our lives is good and perfect and true. (continue to pray in silence)**

## Prayers of the People

**The Lord's Prayer (#895)**

## Offering & Offertory

**\*Doxology #95**

## \*Prayer of Thanksgiving

**We give our gifts mindful of the countless blessings that have come our way in the week gone by. In this time of worship, loving God, we have been awakened to the glory of your world through the beauty of music. Our minds have been challenged by the reading of our Scripture lessons and our souls have been touched by the preaching of your word. We have readily affirmed our faith and spoken honestly to you in times of prayer. In gratitude for all that has been given to us in our time together, let us respond with generous hearts as we dedicate our offering to you through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn #670** *Go Forth for God*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

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*\*For those who are able, please stand*