



March 3, 2024
Sunday Gathering
The Third Sunday of Lent

.....
-PRELUDE-

"Christ, We Adore and Worship You" - T. Dubois
Brenda Gardiner

-ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-

We acknowledge that the place where we are gathered today is the ancient and ancestral homeland of more than twenty Indigenous tribes. We mourn the loss of their lives, livelihoods, homes, and cultures, and acknowledge the legacy of violence against them.

We acknowledge that the space where we worship today was established and built by those whose Black ancestors were also abused and mistreated - some even bought and sold as enslaved people right here in our city.

We acknowledge the women who've faced unfair treatment and misogyny throughout the ages and we acknowledge those who identify as LGBTQ or other who've been mistreated and misunderstood.

We acknowledge our role and responsibility as professed followers of Christ to stand for and alongside all of these and others who have been and continue to be oppressed.

-WELCOME-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"You Raise Me Up"

WHEN I AM DOWN AND, OH MY SOUL, SO WEARY.
WHEN TROUBLES COME AND MY HEART, BURDENED BE.
THEN, I AM STILL AND WAIT HERE IN THE SILENCE,
UNTIL YOU COME AND SIT AWHILE WITH ME.

YOU RAISE ME UP SO I CAN STAND ON MOUNTAINS,
YOU RAISE ME UP TO WALK ON STORMY SEAS.
I AM STRONG WHEN I AM ON YOUR SHOULDERS,
YOU RAISE ME UP TO MORE THAN I CAN BE.

-OPENING PRAYER-

GOD OF RESTORATION AND REBUILDING,
WE ARE HERE TODAY
SEEKING RESURRECTION AND RENEWAL
FOR OUR TIRED AND WORN-OUT BODIES
AND THE BODY OF THIS COMMUNITY.
IN THIS MOMENT OF QUIET, WE LIFT UP TO YOU
THOSE THINGS WE'D LIKE TO GIVE UP FOR GOOD...
FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOOD.

-OPENING DEVOTIONAL-

-GREETING EACH OTHER-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING,
JOY OF HEAV'N TO EARTH COME DOWN,
FIX IN US THY HUMBLE DWELLING;
ALL THY FAITHFUL MERCIES CROWN!
JESUS, THOU ART ALL COMPASSION,
PURE, UNBOUNDED LOVE THOU ART;
VISIT US WITH THY SALVATION;
ENTER EVERY TREMBLING HEART.

BREATHE, O BREATHE THY LOVING SPIRIT
INTO EVERY TROUBLED BREAST!
LET US ALL IN THEE INHERIT,
LET US FIND THE PROMISED REST.
TAKE AWAY OUR LOVE OF SINNING;
ALPHA AND OMEGA BE;
END OF FAITH, AS ITS BEGINNING,
SET OUR HEARTS AT LIBERTY.

COME, ALMIGHTY TO DELIVER;
LET US ALL THY LIFE RECEIVE;
SUDDENLY RETURN AND NEVER,
NEVERMORE THY TEMPLES LEAVE.
THEE WE WOULD BE ALWAYS BLESSING,
SERVE THEE AS THY HOSTS ABOVE;
PRAY, AND PRAISE THEE WITHOUT CEASING,
GLORY IN THY PERFECT LOVE.

FINISH THEN, THY NEW CREATION;
PURE AND SPOTLESS LET US BE;
LET US SEE THY GREAT SALVATION

PERFECTLY RESTORED IN THEE.
CHANGED FROM GLORY INTO GLORY,
TILL IN HEAV'N WE TAKE OUR PLACE,
TILL WE CAST OUR CROWNS BEFORE THEE,
LOST IN WONDER, LOVE, AND PRAISE.

-SCRIPTURE-

John 2: 13-22 The Anchor Bible

(translated by New Testament scholar Raymond Brown)

Since the Jewish Passover was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple precincts he came upon people engaged in selling oxen, sheep, and doves, and others seated, changing coins. So he made a [kind of] whip out of cords and drove the whole pack of them out of the temple area with their sheep and oxen, and he knocked over the money-changers' tables, spilling their coins. He told those who were selling doves, "Get them out of here! Stop turning [God's] house into a market place! His disciples recalled the words of the Scripture: "Zeal for your house will consume me."

At this the Jews responded, "What sign can you show us, authorizing you to do these things?" "Destroy this Temple," was Jesus' answer, "and in three days I will raise it up." Then the Jews retorted, "The building of this Temple took forty-six years, and you are going to raise it up in three days?" Actually he was talking about the temple of his body. Now after his resurrection from the dead his disciples recalled that he had said this, and so they believed the Scripture and the word he had spoken.

-THE MESSAGE-

"Raising Up"

Pam Lee-Miller

-SPECIAL MUSIC-

"At This Table" - Lisa Loeffler

-COMMUNION-

"God So Loved Our World" - J. Stainer

-SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS-

-PASTORAL PRAYER-

-OFFERING-

"If My People Will Pray" - J. Owens

-IN GRATITUDE-

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

-INVITATION TO RESPOND-

-SINGING TOGETHER-

"How Firm A Foundation"

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION, YOU SAINTS OF THE LORD,
IS LAID FOR YOUR FAITH IN GOD'S EXCELLENT WORD!
WHAT MORE CAN BE SAID THAN TO YOU GOD HATH SAID,
TO YOU WHO FOR REFUGE TO JESUS HAVE FLED?

"WHEN THROUGH THE DEEP WATERS I CALL YOU TO GO,
THE RIVERS OF WOE SHALL NOT OVER YOU FLOW;
FOR I WILL BE WITH YOU, YOUR TROUBLES TO BLESS,
DELIVERING YOU FROM YOUR DEEPEST DISTRESS.

"THE SOUL THAT ON JESUS HAS LEANED FOR REPOSE
I WILL NOT, I WILL NOT DESERT TO ITS FOES;
THAT SOUL, THOUGH ALL HELL SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO SHAKE,
I'LL NEVER, NO NEVER, NO NEVER FORSAKE!"

-BLESSING & BENEDICTION-

-POSTLUDE-

"Come, Thou Almighty King" - arr. P. Keveren
Brenda Gardiner