

# ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH

## March 8, 2020



### **“The Temple: Risking Righteous Anger”** **Week Two of Lent**



*Growing and Deepening our Spiritual Lives in an  
Affirming and Inclusive Community*

# Welcome to St. David's United Church

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**Sunday, March 8, 2020**

Rev Peggy McDonagh presiding with the people of St. David's

***We gather as a Christ-Infused Community***

## **Prelude**

*From 'Three Psalm Preludes for Organ' Set 1 Number III by H. Howells  
Psalm 23 v4: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of  
death I will fear no evil for Thou are with me..."*

## **Greeting and Announcements**

### **Lighting the second Lenten Candle**

We light the second Lenten candle to shine a light on ourselves in the  
story of the passion of Jesus.

**May this light illumine our path as we walk alongside Jesus  
and others who walked with him, that together we may experience  
expanded insight and transformation along the way.**

## **Entering the Story Crossing the Threshold**

*Leader: We continue our journey through Lent as we... .  
[Soloist begins to sing]*

Enter

Enter the story

Enter the place you belong

Not just looking on

For this is *your* story

Enter the story

*[Choir repeats]*

Enter

Come enter the story

Enter the place you belong

Not just looking on

For this is *your* story

Enter the story

Jesus' response to a visit to the Temple during the busy....

[Soloist, Choir and Congregation Sing]

**Enter**

**Enter the passion**

**Enter the place we belong**

**Not just looking on**

**For this is *our* passion**

**Enter the passion**

(People stand as the song is repeated)

**Enter**

**Enter the passion**

**Enter the place we belong**

**Not just looking on**

**For this is *our* passion**

**Enter the passion**

**Enter the story...**

**Enter the passion...**

**Enter his passion.**

### **Prayer of Confession**

We come into prayer together

**People: The temple of the world can be  
a busy, noisy place, O God.**

**Too often the rule is, "everyone out for themselves."**

**Too often we don't stop to think about  
how our actions affect others.**

**Forgive us.**

**Turn us toward the temple of our hearts  
where you await.**

**God of Love, you enter our story over and over again.**

**May we have the courage to enter fully into the story  
of your kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

### **Opening Responsive Hymn**

Come and Find the Quiet Centre VU #374

**Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead,**

**find the room for hope to enter,**

**find the frame where we are freed:**

**clear the chaos and the clutter,**

**clear our eyes that we can see**

**all the things that really matter,**

**be at peace and simply be.**

Silence is a friend who claims us,  
cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us,  
knows our being, face to face,  
making space within our thinking,  
lifting shades to show the sun,  
raising courage when we're shrinking,  
finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel  
open to each other's pain.  
Let our lives and fears unravel  
celebrate the space we gain.  
There's a place for deepest dreaming,  
there's a time for heart to care.  
In the Spirit's lively scheming  
there is always room to spare

*[The people remain standing]*

Assurance of Pardon and Entering the Passion of Jesus

## Getting Perspective

### Telling the Story

#### Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story vs. 1 VU #343  
I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.

#### Refrain:

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

An echo-prayer.

Holy Creator

**We will dare to join the journey.**

*[Hand to heart]*

**We will walk your loving way.**

*[Walk in place]*

**We will live your sacred story,**

*[Hold hands like opening a book]*

**Through the things we do and say.**

[Hands open and outstretched on “do.” Hand cupped to sides of mouth  
on “say.”]

**Amen.**

[Praying hands]

**Time with the Gospel:** John 2:13-21  
(*Jesus Overturns the Tables*)

**Prayer after Reading**  
**Loving God,**  
**Help us live your story,**  
**By daring to celebrate Jesus**  
**Wherever we are.**  
**Hosanna. Amen.**

### **Listening to the Story**

Psalm 69: 8-16

#### **Anthem**

*Open Thou Mine Eyes* setting by John Rutter

**Dwelling in the Story – Tableau and Monologue**  
**(A teaching based on the artwork: Cleansing the Temple)**

[Soloist and Choir sings]

Enter

Enter the story

Enter the place you belong

Not just looking on

For this is *your* story

Enter the story

[Congregation join in]

**Enter**

**Enter the passion**

**Enter the place we belong**

**Not just looking on**

**For this is *our* passion**

**Enter the passion**

**Enter the story...**

**Enter the passion...**

**Enter his passion.**

## Reflecting on the Story

### Hymn

The Carpenter, in anger vs. 1 - 3  
(Tune: VU #112) (Text Rev. Peggy McDonagh)

The carpenter, in anger,  
raged through the Temple gate,  
drove out the moneychangers,  
their greed had set their fate.  
The temple is for worship,  
not selling merchant wares,  
my Father's house stands firmly  
a sacred place of prayer.

The angered One sought justice,  
when others failed to see  
the lost and lonely peasants  
who longed to be set free.  
The temple place was holy,  
but in their urgent fear,  
they challenged God's kind mercy,  
and sold their souls with tears.

Our passion leads to freedom  
when we respond and live  
the loving acts of Jesus,  
to challenge and forgive.  
Though systems of oppression  
may keep God's people down,  
our anger, love and justice  
set them on sacred ground.

## The Body of Christ Prays

### Sung entrance into prayer

Love us into Fullness vs. 1 & 3 MV #81

**Love us into fullness, touch us with your grace;  
Jesus, in your mercy, draw us to your face.**

**Love us into fullness, and we will be strong;  
Jesus, walk beside us, fill our hearts with song.**

## Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Sung closure to prayers vs. 3 MV #81

**Love us into fullness, and we will be strong;  
Jesus, walk beside us, fill our hearts with song.**

## **A Time of Offering Ourselves**

### **Offertory**

*Let the Words of My Mouth*      *Everett Titcomb*

### **Reception of Offering and Dedication Prayer**

“This is my creative spirit in the world, this is my offering.  
May you see the things you do, no matter how small or mundane,  
as the way that you contribute goodness to the world,  
creating more life, more joy, more love.”

**Praise be to God, the Creator of all that is!**

## **Entering the World’s Story**

### **Hymn**

The carpenter, in anger      vs. 4  
These Lenten days remind us,  
God’s grace is never lost.  
With passion and with purpose  
we love despite the cost.  
We move beyond the boundaries  
that hinder us each day;  
we honor peace and justice,  
embrace love’s living way.

### **Benediction**

### **Sung Blessing**

*Amen*      *Anthony Edmunds*

### **Postlude**

*Toccata in D Minor by D. Buxtehude*

Thanks to Rev. Dr. Bruce Clark for playing Prelude and Postlude

**Growing and Deepening our Spiritual Lives  
through Worship & Nurture**

**March 15: Lent Three**

**The Teaching: Risking Challenge**

Jesus doesn't lay low. He puts himself out there, susceptible to those who want to trap him twist his words, get him to say something damning. He cannot turn from his vocation—he is not only a master teacher, but prophet and voice of the Divine. It is his ability to draw people to his teachings that pose a threat, a challenge, to the authorities. We place ourselves in the crows this week, to be moved and motivated by Jesus for our lives—to get a faithful perspective. What would we have seen, heard and felt? What do we do not?

**THANKS TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH OUR SUNDAY  
WORSHIP EXPERIENCE**

Greeters.....March Sacred Service Team  
Ushers .....March Sacred Service Team  
Projection.....PSALT Team  
Reader.....Joan Gray  
Music .....Chamber Choir  
Minute  
Speaks.....ACTS

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