

First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City (PCUSA)

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Jesus Cleanses the Temple

Lent 3 Evening Prayer and Communion

March 6, 2024

7:00 PM

The Reverend Adam C. Bowling - Pastor

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828.448.8914

PRELUDE

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross
Nadia Carmichael, Pianist

W. Doane

WELCOME**+ CALL TO WORSHIP**

Into the house of God we are called to enter,
to worship and receive the gift of grace.

As we step towards this sacred space,
we acknowledge all that can distract or exploit.

God calls upon us to cleanse our houses of all that does not find its source in God's love.

Together we give ourselves in worship and right relations with our neighbor.

Let us worship God.

+ HYMN

Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me

71**OPENING PRAYER**

O God of temples and tables turned over, we enter this sacred space of worship seeking your transformation and healing. Make us ready for the kind of turned upside down world you are seeking to build among us. We have come to this place of worship to be changed, so turn over our tables and make us whole. In the name of Jesus our savior.

Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

The proof of God's amazing love is this:

While we were sinners, Christ died for us.

Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness,

So that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion,

Let us confess our sin before God and one another, praying together. . .

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(inspired by Exodus 20, Psalm 19, John 2:13-22)*

With hearts of sorrow, we come before you, O God, to confess what you already know—we have failed to keep your laws. Again and again, we have followed our own selfish will, rather than your holy and life-giving will for our lives. We have twisted your decrees and institutions to suit our preconceptions and interests rather than your own.

Forgive us, O God, and cleanse us from hidden faults, that the words of our mouths, and the meditations of all our hearts, may be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer. Hear us now, as we continue to confess in the silence of our hearts. . .

(A Time of Silent Confession)

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

551

**Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Let the community of faith say:

God's love endures forever!

Let those gathered in grace say:

God's love endures forever!

Let those gathered from all parts of the world say:

God's love endures forever!

This is the good news for us:

God's love endures forever.

Friends, know that we are forgiven,
and be at peace.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Eternal God, as you speak to us through your word, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE

John 2:13-22

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

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION

+ HYMN OF RESPONSE

Come to the Table of Grace

507

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Instructions: *Please come by way of the center aisle when an usher indicates to receive communion. All the bread is gluten free. Please partake of the elements when you receive them, and dispose of your cups in the baskets provided. You may return to your seats by way of the outside aisles. If you cannot come forward please notify an usher, and a server will bring communion to you in your row. Know that ALL are welcome to the Table of the Lord.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(All Sing)*

Albert Hay Malotte

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+ COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Music During Communion *We Gather Here in Jesus' Name* 510

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. So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

+ SENDING HYMN *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* 547

+ CHARGE

God has turned our world upside down and called us to a life of transformation. Now, go forth changed, called anew, and turned towards a God who makes us whole.

+ BENEDICTION

Please leave prayerfully and in silence.

+ *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

March 6, 13, 20
Wednesday Night Lenten Soup Dinner 6:00 PM
Lenten Worship with Communion 7:00 PM
Creative Kids Club 7:00 PM
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM

March 24, 2024 Palm-Passion Sunday
One worship service -10:00 AM
Adult/Youth Bible Study 9:00 AM
252 Kids Children's Ministry 10:15 AM

March 28, 2024 Maundy Thursday service 7:00 PM
March 29, 2024 Good Friday - Prayer Vigil 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM

March 31, 2024 - Easter Sunday Worship
Traditional Worship service with Communion 8:30 AM
252 Kids Children's Ministry 8:45 AM
Easter Breakfast 9:30 AM
Contemporary Worship service with Communion 11:00 AM
252 Kids Children's Ministry 11:15 AM
Easter Egg Hunt after 11:00 AM Worship Service

