

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 34 South Main Street Rochester, NH 03867 (603) 948-1225 or (603) 948-1179 Email at Office@firstumcrochester.org

# March 3, 2024

## HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

# (\*) You are invited to stand as you are able (BOLD-FACED TYPE) Congregation responds THE CHURCH GATHERS

Silent Prayer and Time for Centering

**Prelude** 

Chorale Prelude "Vater Unser Im Himmelreich" J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

BWV 636 {Our Father Who Art In Heaven} Public Domain

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP \*\*\*

We stand in the temple of the universe, the holy place where God dwells.

## We worship in awe and gratitude.

We gather in the temple of the Body of Christ, where God is lovingly present for us.

## We worship in love and peace.

Our own bodies are temples of God, where the Spirit works miracles.

We worship in humility,
with open hearts.
Grant us forgiveness and life,
and receive our gifts.

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE

## 21 God the Sculptor of the Mountains



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#### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION \*\*\*

Jesus, cleanser of temples and souls, at this mid-point in the Lenten journey, look deep within our hearts and our lives, and clear away all that holds us back.

May our minds, spirits and bodies
be a Temple that is open to Your presence:
and may our words and our actions
be transparent to Your love and truth.

We pray that this church community, will be purified in its life and mission, so that all that we do in and from here may reveal Your Gospel to others.

We pray in your name.

# WORDS OF ASSURANCE \*\*\*

Friends of Jesus, we are made clean by the words he has spoken to us.

There is room in our lives and in our community, for the Holy One to dwell.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ

## THE CHURCH HEARS THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 20: 1-17 (Pg. 582) \*\*

ANTHEM: <u>Locus Iste</u> Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)

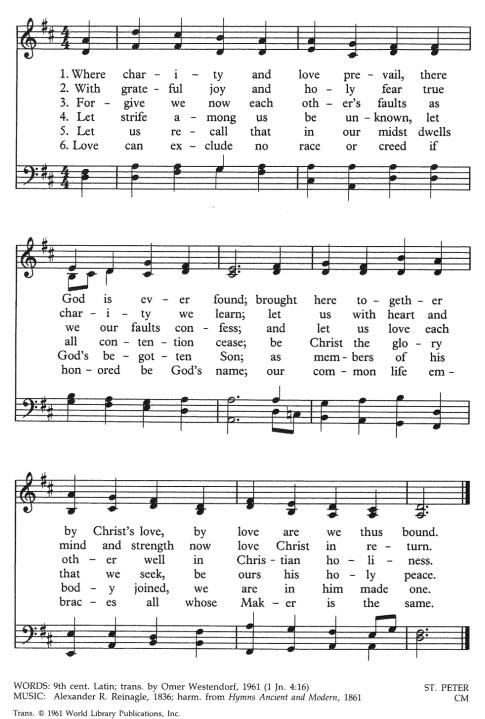
Locus iste a Deo factus est, inaestimabile sacramentum, irreprehensibilis est.

This place was made by God, a priceless mystery; it is without reproof.

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#### A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

## 549 Where Charity and Love Prevail



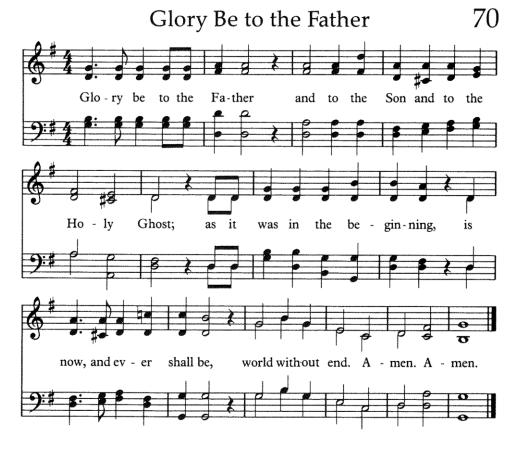
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\*GOSPEL LESSON: <u>John 2:13-22</u> (Pg. 813) \*\*

For the word of God in Scripture, For the word of God among us, For the word of God within us,

#### Thanks be to God!

#### \*GLORIA PATRI



WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent. MUSIC: Charles Meineke, 1844

MEINEKE Irr.

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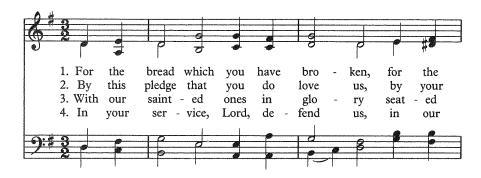
#### **SERMON**

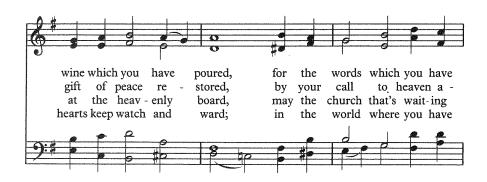
People of the New-Covenant 3
"Keeping What Belongs to God Sacred"

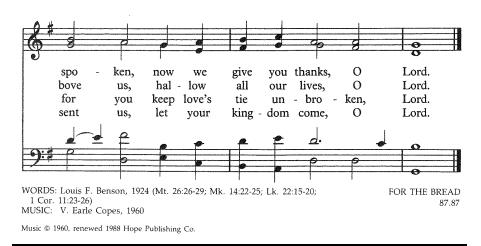
THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD



## 614 For the Bread Which You Have Broken







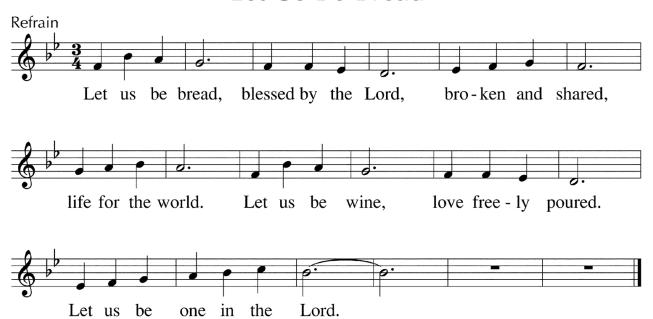
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#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

#### **PRAYER SONG**

#### Let Us Be Bread



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#### **INVITATION TO PRAYER:**

Leader: "The Lord be with you "

People: "And also with you..."

#### INVITATION TO SILENT PRAYER

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

**PRAYER SONG** see music above

#### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

During this time, we are grateful for your continuing financial support of our ministries.

**OFFERTORY MUSIC** 

THE GLORY OF THE TRIUNE GOD

## 94 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN 88.44.88 with Refrain

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## Offertory Prayer:

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you....

#### And also with you.

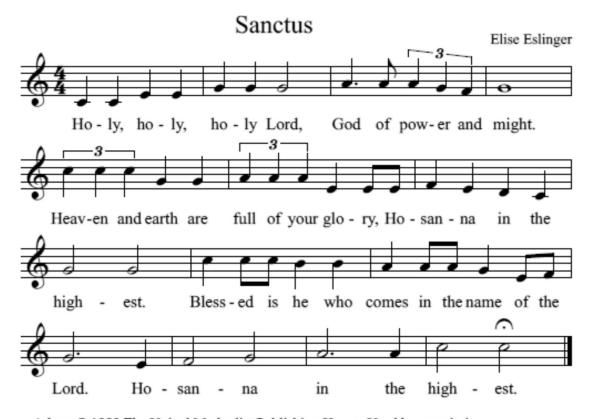
Lift Up Your hearts.....

#### We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.....

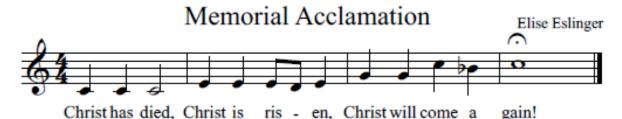
#### It is right to give our thanks and praise

..... and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



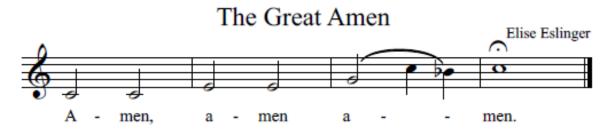
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..... in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.....



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..... all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.



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## **The Lord's Prayer**

(UMH p. 895)

#### Communion is Celebrated

At this time in your homes, please feel free to share the bread and the cup as you are able and know that we are still connected in the family of God.

### **Prayer Following Communion:**

in which you have given yourself to us.

Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE

#### \*HYMN OF DEDICATION



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#### \*BENEDICTION

#### **VOLUNTARY**

## Volunteers Assisting with Worship today:

<u>Liturgist:</u> Karen Lindsay

<u>Video and Sound:</u> Brogan Meehan

Cover Image: Greco, 1541?-1614. Christ Expelling the Money Changers in the Temple, from **Art in** 

the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville,

TN. <a href="https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48047">https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48047</a> [retrieved February 19, 2024]. Original source: <a href="https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:El\_Greco\_Christ\_Driving\_the\_Money\_Changers\_from\_the\_Temple.jpg">https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:El\_Greco\_Christ\_Driving\_the\_Money\_Changers\_from\_the\_Temple.jpg</a>.

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\*\*\* Worship elements from "Unfolding Light"

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#### **Looking Ahead**

Readings for March 10, 2024
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9 / Psalm 107:1-3,17-22 Ephesians 2:1-10 / John 3:14-21

For more about our ministries please visit our website <a href="https://www.firstumcrochester.org/">https://www.firstumcrochester.org/</a>
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