

not be confused in our understanding of what it really means to follow you. Accept this offering in the form of cash, checks, and on-line giving, in addition to that of our time and talent, as our commitment to following you and being your Body of Christ on earth, in our day and time in history. Give us courage, as we choose your way forward. Amen.

HYMN *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* **Blue Hymnal #453**

COMMISSION & BLESSING

Pastor: Each week, the Worship Committee and I invite you to take photos— to capture “life moments” through the lens of your camera or phone and post it to our church Facebook page with the hashtag “#lifeframe” and “#starviewucc”. If you’re not on social media, please send your pictures to the church via email, or bring them with a note, and we’ll post them for you!

The Worship Committee also encourages you to use the props and take pictures in the various areas decorated as ancient Jerusalem in Roman times, for a photo shoot. Use one of the corresponding signs for your pictures. Then, at the end of Lent, we will use your photos create something very special out of the collection of people photographed in this church.

All people: *This season we are putting a frame around a bit of life; we will section off a scriptural scene; we will look long into a face, to see what we can see; to know what we can know.*

Liturgist: Just as we have done with art and the story today, zoom in your focus on the art and story of your life all throughout the week. The Divine Artist offers us such poignant beauty each day in our own stories, in the stories around us, in the heartbreak and pain and joy and awe of a simple moment turned significant

All people: *That's what happens when we put a frame around it. We zoom in for a close-up and search for clues for living this life with more attention and intention.*

Pastor: May you be blessed by the sacred frames that surround the moments of your life - that you dare not miss!

POSTLUDE *Exiting the Passion* (Bell)

CANDLE EXTINGUISHING **ACOLYTE**

WORSHIP LEADERS & CHOIR RECESS

THE BODY OF CHRIST EXITS THE SANCTUARY AND ENTERS THE WORLD

¹¹¹ Bair, Rev. Laura C. Invitation to Confession based on her reflection of Matthew 21:2 when Jesus tells his disciples to “loose the donkey and bring him to me” and Matthew 16:19 when Jesus says to Peter, “I will give

Second Sunday of Lent
March 16, 2025
The Temple: Risking Righteous Anger

PREWORSHIP MUSIC

PRELUDE *Entering the Passion* (Bell) **Kevin Crone, piano**

CANDLELIGHTING & CHOIR PROCESSION

GREETING & WELCOME

Pastor: We continue our journey through Lent, as we step inside the story of “Jesus Cleansing of the Temple”. We put ourselves in the picture (see video screen and bulletin cover) so that we might take a closer look and let the Gospel story open us to a deeper conviction as to our role as his disciples (continues) Jesus’ overturning tables in this “house of prayer for all nations” can offer us a way to see what we might do to reassess our own actions and make our own corner of the world (or our “temples”) a more welcoming place for all people. With Jesus, let us enter the Passion.

INTROIT

Entering the Passion

En - ter. ___ En-ter the pas - sion. ___ En-ter the place we be-long,
not just look-ing on. For this is our pas - sion. ___ En-ter the pas - sion. ___
En-ter the sto - ry... ___ En-ter the pas - sion... ___ En-ter His pas - sion... ___

INVITATION TO CONFESSION¹

Liturgist: Beloved, God invites us to draw near to confess. The Act of Confession is a gift from God, for it is in confessing our sin that we draw near to God’s grace and are set free from that which binds us – that which separates us from God, one another, and our own best intentions. God, through Jesus, invites us to come as we are and to lay before him, all the ugliness, fear and pain that binds us. Believe in God’s love and power to “loose” you from sin’s grip and set you on a journey of transformation.

you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” March 2, 2020.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor: Let us pray first in silence. (*Moment of silence*) Let us now, pray together:
All people: *The temples of the world and the temple of our hearts and minds can be busy, noisy places, O God. Too often the rule in each 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. You entered humanity’s story through Jesus, now help us to enter fully into the story of your kingdom on earth - as it is in heaven. Amen.*

OPENING HYMN *Jesus Christ is Waiting* (VU 117) **Bulletin Insert**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS & PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor: Followers of Jesus, know that you *can* open your eyes and see with your *heart*, at any moment, no matter how hesitant you have been in the past. You are forgiven and freed, encouraged and loved by a God who wants you to live fully. Let us enter the passion of Christ, and pass the peace of Christ with each other, using the words: Peace be with you.

All people: *And also, with you.*

WELCOME HYMN TO CHILDREN *I Love to Tell the Story* **Blue Hymnal #480**

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 longing, as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story; ‘twill be my theme
in glory – to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

THROUGH A CHILD’S EYES *“Risking Emotion”*

HEBREW READING **Psalms 69: 8-16**

HYMN *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus* **Bulletin Insert**

A CHARACTER EMERGES FROM THE STORY Martha Boyer, Dramatist

SUNG RESPONSE

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus; look full on his wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his wonder and grace.*

SERMON **Rev. Laura C. Baker**

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

All people: *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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kin-dom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

SPECIAL MUSIC *What Wondrous Love* (Geschke) **Chimes**

OFFERING INVITATION²

Liturgist: In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, after the Palm Sunday Parade, Jesus is depicted as being angry when he encounters the moneychangers in the Temple. But in John’s account, which we read earlier, Jesus appears even violent. There are times when we may find that business as usual, or minding our own business, is not only inappropriate, but ridiculously offensive! Something has to be done! For example, “If we don’t become angry when we see signs of suffering children; if we do not feel some sort of rage when preventable tragedies occur; if we do not feel compelled to act - then we are called to ask this question: Has something gone terribly wrong 2 Bair. Rev. Laura C. Offering Invitation based on her study and reflection of the four Gospels and the differing scenes of Jesus “Cleansing the Temple”, and their relevance to the church’s call to holy anger. with us?”³ The giving of our tithes and offerings is one way we can do something. The giving of our tithes and offerings is one way we can “turn the tables.” The giving of our tithes and offerings is one way we can move from frustration and righteous anger to appropriate action. It is in our generous giving that we can work as Christ’s Body to make our world a more just and welcome place for all people. Let us give as passionately and with as much zeal as Jesus exhibited in the Temple.

OFFERING RESPONSE *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*
*Turn your eyes upon Jesus; look full on his wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his wonder and grace.*

OFFERING PRAYER³

All people: *Jesus, thank you for the gift of your passionate love. Thank you for your challenging example of holy anger and righteous living, so that we might*

² Bair. Rev. Laura C. Offering Invitation based on her study and reflection of the four Gospels and the differing scenes of Jesus “Cleansing the Temple”, and their relevance to the church’s call to holy anger.

³ Bair, Rev. Laura C. Offering Prayer. Based on same as footnote 4, in light of stewardship.

Jesus Christ Is Waiting

Em A Em Am B7 Em

1. Je - sus Christ is wait - ing, Wait - ing in the streets;
 2. Je - sus Christ is rag - ing, Rag - ing in the streets,
 3. Je - sus Christ is heal - ing, Heal - ing in the streets;
 4. Je - sus Christ is danc - ing, Danc - ing in the streets,
 5. Je - sus Christ is call - ing, Call - ing in the streets,

Em A Em Am B7 Em

No one is his neigh - bor, All a - lone he eats.
 Where in - jus - tice spi - rals And real hope re - treats.
 Cur - ing those who suf - fer, Touch - ing those he greets.
 Where each sign of ha - tred He, with love, de - feats.
 "Who will join my jour - ney? I will guide their feet."

Em A D B Em A D B7

Lis - ten, Lord Je - sus, I am lone - ly too.
 Lis - ten, Lord Je - sus, I am an - gry too.
 Lis - ten, Lord Je - sus, I have pit - y too.
 Lis - ten, Lord Je - sus, I should tri - umph too.
 Lis - ten, Lord Je - sus, Let my fears be few.

Em A Em Am B7 Em

Make me, friend or stran - ger, Fit to wait on you.
 In the King - dom's caus - es Let me rage with you.
 Let my care be ac - tive, Heal - ing just like you.
 On sus - pi - cion's grave - yard Let me dance with you.
 Walk one step be - fore me; I will fol - low you.

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

1. O soul, are you wea - ry and trou - bled? No
 2. Thro' death in - to life ev - er - last - ing He
 3. His word shall not fail you— He prom - ised; Be -

5

light in the dark - ness you see? There's light for a
 passed, and we fol - low Him there; O - ver us sin no
 lieve Him, and all will be well: Then go to a

10

look at the Sav - ior, And life more a - bun - dant and free!
 more hath do - min - ion— For more than con - q'rors we are!
 world that is dy - ing, His per - fect sal - va - tion to tell!

16

Turn your eyes up - on Je - sus, Look full in His

22

won - der - ful face, And the things of earth will grow

27

strange - ly dim In the light of His glo - ry and grace.