

March 4, 2018 – 10:00 am
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our mission is to worship and serve God
in our church, community, and the world.



**John 2:16b “Don’t make my Father’s house
a place of business”**

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Please respond with words in **bold print**.

*Please stand if comfortably able

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

THE BELLS CALL US INTO SILENT REVERENCE.
THE CANDLES ARE LIT TO LIGHT OUR WAY INTO WORSHIP.

PRELUDE: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" Hugh S.
Livingston, Jr.

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God.
The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

**MANY: We celebrate the steadfast love of God, our Creator.
Surely God is faithful to all who live in covenant.**

One: From the sun's rising to its setting, the creation speaks.
Day and night, earth's creatures announce God's works.

**MANY: The commandments of God are clear, enlightening
the eyes. God's law is perfect, calling forth our best.**

One: God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.
God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

**MANY: The ordinances of God are true and righteous.
In following them, we gain wisdom and strength.**

*OPENING HYMN: **#193 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"**

*CALL TO CONFESSION:

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**We have come to your temple, loving God, because this is
your place, not ours. We confess that we sometimes forget
whose house this is. We forget that all the world belongs to
you as we scramble for all we can claim for ourselves. Our
actions deny your love, which is at the heart of your perfect
law. Clear us of hidden faults and redeem us from those we
recognize and confess. Amen.**

*SUNG RESPONSE: **"Create in me, a clean heart, O God."**

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

*GLORIA: #759

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit,
Three-in-One; As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

FIRST TESTAMENT READINGS: **Exodus 20:1-17**

EPISTLE READING: **1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL:

*GOSPEL LESSON: **John 2:13-22** Pastor Rosemary

SERMON: **“What kind of sacrifice does Jesus require?”**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: **#783 “As the Grains of Wheat”**

PASTORAL PRAYER ENDING:

PRAYER RESPONSE: **NCH #774**

**Shepherd, lead, lead me in your righteousness,
make your way plain before my face. For it is you, God,
you, God only, who makes me to lie down in safety.**

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND SELVES

OFFERTORY: **“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”** Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

*DOXOLOGY: # 780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION: THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your 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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***HOLY COMMUNION: New Century Hymnal Page 16
Selection A**

**SANCTUS : #790 Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty,
The whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!
Hosanna in the highest.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: Top of page 20
Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west
and north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We
thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual good of
Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit,
keep us faithful to your will. God with us to the streets, to our
homes and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we
are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of
the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN: #436 "God of Grace and God of Glory"**

**DURING THE HYMN, THE LIGHT IS EXTINGUISHED AND
CARRIED OUT INTO THE WORLD.**

***BENEDICTION:**

**THE BELL RINGS, AS WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD, TO
SPREAD THE JOY OF CHRIST TO ALL.**

***POSTLUDE: "With Sounding Brass" Chester Nordman**

"Our Worship has ended – Now our Service begins."
