

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service on the Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

Welcome

Prelude: *Balm in Gilead* – Roger C. Wilson

Hymn: *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Call to Worship

The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure,
making wise the simple;
the precepts of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear,
enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.
**They are more desirable than gold, and sweeter
than honey.**
In keeping them is great reward.

Call to Confession

Despite all that God has taught us, we still act foolishly; we are still weak. In the cross of Christ, we find forgiveness and grace. We confess our sins, trusting in God's wisdom and strength rather than our own.

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
how fickle we are; we sin against you
without even knowing it.
Clear us, we pray, of any unknown sin,
and save us from willfully ignoring your way.
Let your commandments rule and guide us.
Forgive us for worshiping anyone or anything except you;
keep us faithful.
Forgive us for failing to honor all**

**our relationships—
with those closest to us and those
who are distant neighbors.
Help us to speak words of blessing and kindness,
rather than words that belittle or destroy.
Turn us away from violence, falsehood, and selfishness.
Forgive us for thinking everything depends
on our efforts and power,
for you are the God who made us,
led us out slavery,
and has brought us into the community of faith.
Help us to depend on you alone
and to rest in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Brothers and sisters, in Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and coming again, we are forgiven and set free to live in faithfulness with God and with one another!
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Gospel Lesson: John 2:13-25

Sermon: Sacred Space

Sacrament of Communion

Special Music: *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer After Communion

Hymn: *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: *Gigue* – Gordon Young

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music performed by Lorie Francis, Mary Kwantes, and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Rev. Lou Ellen Hartley. Portions of the service drawn from the PC(USA) Book of Common Worship, used by permission.