

March 3, 2024
3rd Sunday in Lent

*indicates when you are invited to stand
BOLDED WORDS are read aloud together

GATHERING

We are drawn together as God's beloved community

PRELUDE

Prelude in E

Chen Liang

NIELSEN

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Jeny Carlson

INTROIT

Hold Me

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Antonio Rufin

In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.

Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Highest of all creation, he lives among the least. He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.

Come now, all who thirst, and drink the water of life.

Come now, all who hunger, and be filled with good things.

Come now, all who seek, and be warmed by the fire of love.

***HYMN OF GATHERING #61**

Your Law, Oh Lord, is Perfect

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE

Dustin Wilsor

God of compassion, you are slow to anger and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts. Receive in your loving embrace all who come home to you. Seat them at your bountiful table of grace, that, with all your children, they may feast with delight on all that satisfies the hungry heart. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

***KYRIE ELEISON #577**

Lord, have mercy. (3x) or Kyrie eleison. (3x)

You may sing in English, Greek, or both

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

GOD'S WORD

We hear the testimony of God's faithful acts

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Antonio Rufin

Lord God, let the words of your servant's mouth and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer. Through Christ. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Ex. 20:1-17
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Turn Thy Face From My Sins

NPC Choir
ATTWOOD

SECOND LESSON

John 2:13-22
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Covenant of Law

Rev. Jeny Carlson

***HYMN OF REFLECTION #462**

I Love to Tell the Story

THE EUCHARIST

We offer ourselves in thanksgiving. With gratitude, we receive God's gifts.

OFFERING PRAYER

Rev. Martín Jiménez

***DOXOLOGY #609**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God in Jesus fully known. Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia (x5)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After the spoken prayer, there will be an open time of prayer for the congregation to offer a short sentence of prayer.

Leader: Lord, In your mercy,

Congregational refrain: **Hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kin-dom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE SENDING

We move out into the world by the power of the Spirit in boldness

***HYMN OF SENDING #767**

Together We Serve

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lullaby

Chen Liang
BURGMULLER

61 Your Law, O Lord, Is Perfect

(Psalm 19)

1 Your law, O Lord, is per - fect, the sim - ple mak - ing wise;
2 More to be sought than rich - es, your words are my soul's wealth;
3 My strength and my re - deem - er, law - giv - er and true light,

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and a bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

how pure are your com - mand - ments, en - light - en - ing my eyes!
their taste is sweet like hon - ey, im - part - ing life and health.
my words and med - i - ta - tions make wor - thy in your sight.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. It features the same treble and bass staves. The melody concludes with a final cadence. The lyrics are placed between the two staves.

Celebrating God's law in this paraphrase of the second half of Psalm 19 may seem odd if "law" is thought of simply as a list of things not to do. But in Jewish understanding, the law is seen as a gift, because it provides the signposts that show how to live as the people of God.

I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else could do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
 'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

This text is drawn from the second part of a fifty-stanza poem on the life of Christ written in 1866, during the author's recovery from a serious illness. The tune named for her first appeared three years later, and the composer was responsible for the creation of the refrain.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Together We Serve

767

Capo 3: (G) (D) (Em) (Bm7)
 B^b F Gm Dm7

1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,
 2 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope,
 3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,
 4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,

(C) (G) (Am7) (Dsus) (D)
 E^b B^b Cm7 Fsus F

in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.
 a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
 the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.
 re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong.

(G) (D) (C) (Bm)
 B^b F E^b Dm

We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,
 We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
 We of - fer a home to those who will come,
 To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,

(G) (C) (G) (Am) (D7) (G)
 B^b E^b B^b Cm F7 B^b

ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.
 un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
 our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
 re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

The first three words of this text appear in the website address for First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, California, for whose centennial the hymn was commissioned. The text draws on Ephesians 4:11-16, a passage describing the many gifts and ministries within the body of Christ.