

7TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY—FEBRUARY 20, 2022

A MOMENT OF SABBATH REFLECTION

“Fugue in D Major”

–G. F. Handel

Helen Weiss Phelps, organ

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***INVOCATION**

In the name of the Father, and of ✝ the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who creates us,
redeems us, and calls us by name.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.**

**We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.**

**We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.**

**We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.**

**Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.**

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.**

Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:

In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

Amen.

***GATHERING SONG**

“All Creatures, Worship God Most High!” ELW # 835; *Stanzas 1, 4*

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**All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain and sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
still make your song amid the tears:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O Lord Jesus,

**make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow
love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant,
O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in
your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever. Amen.**

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 *(read responsively)*

¹Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

**²For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**

³Put your trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

**⁴Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart's desire.**

⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,
and see what God will do.

**⁶The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice
of your case like the noonday sun.**

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil
schemes.

**⁸Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

**¹⁰In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

¹¹But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.

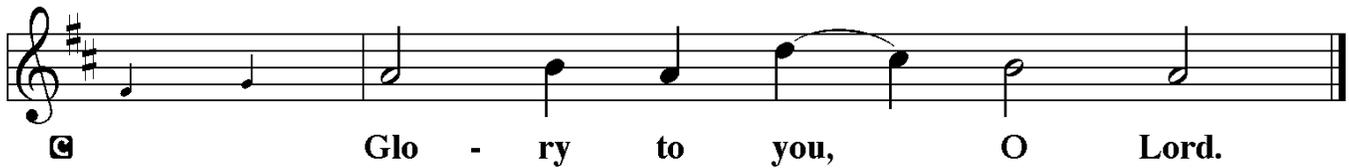
**³⁹But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you,
O LORD; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;
**you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you
they seek refuge.**

TEACHING MOMENT

***GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38**

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter.

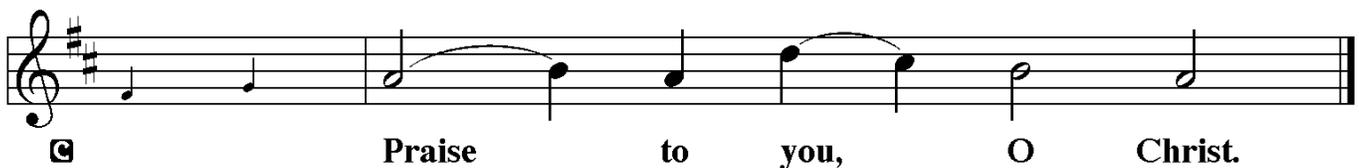


[Jesus said:] ²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The gospel of the Lord.

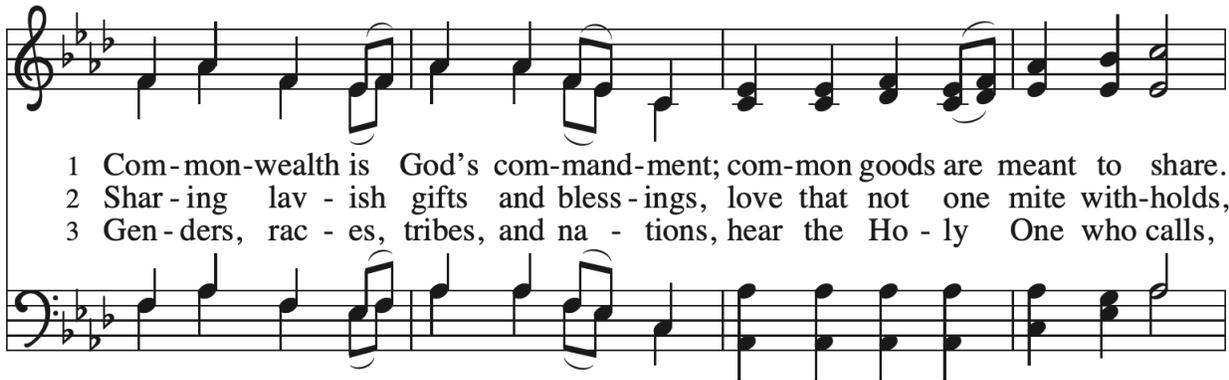


HOMILY “How Do You Spell L-O-V-E?”

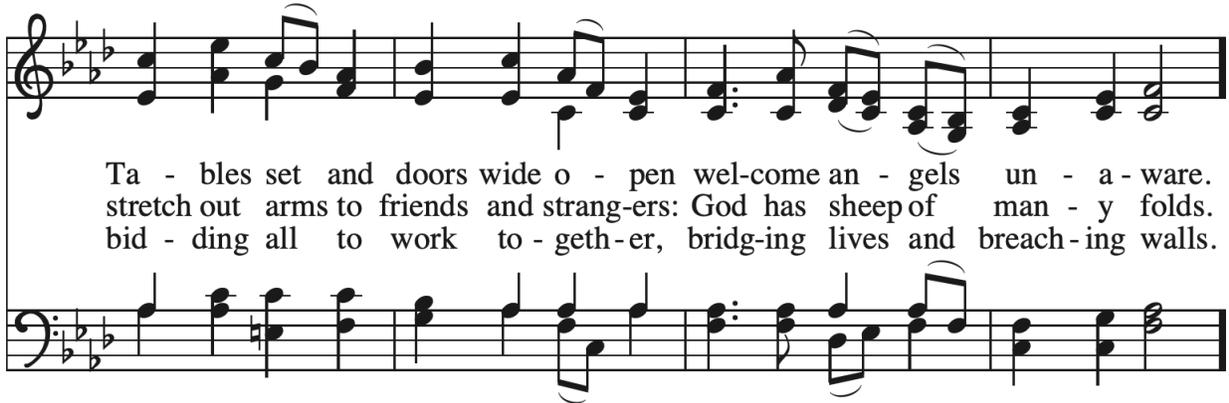
Pastor Dave Helfrich

***SONG OF THE DAY**

Commonwealth Is God's Commandment

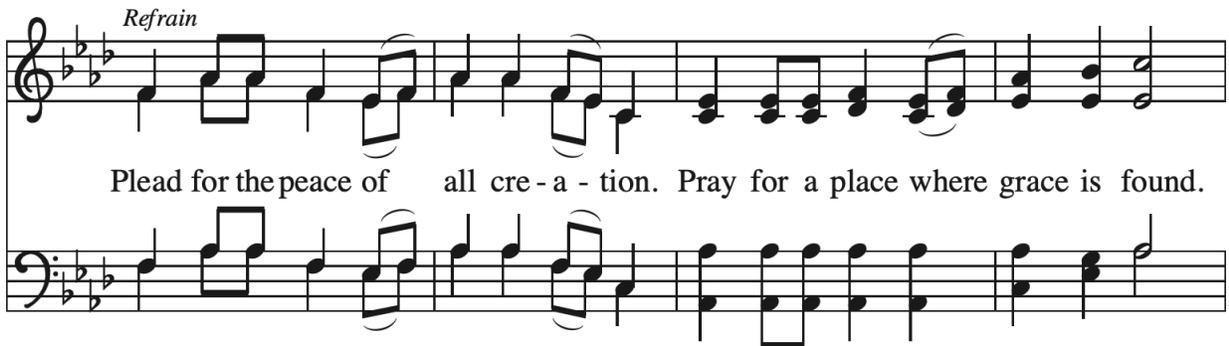


1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
2 Shar-ing lav-ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
3 Gen-ders, rac-es, tribes, and na-tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,



Ta-bles set and doors wide o-pen wel-come an-gels un-a-ware.
stretch out arms to friends and stran-gers: God has sheep of man-y folds.
bid-ding all to work to-geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.

Refrain



Plead for the peace of all cre-a-tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.



Shan-ti, pax, sha-lom, mas-la-ha: com-mon good is ho-ly ground.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953
Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835
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***APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Loving Hands"

—Cary Ratcliff

Celebration Choir; Heather Vincenty, viola

*Loving hands, we all need loving hands,
for the sea and the sands cannot hold
all the rain, all the tears and the pain.*

Where is God's loving hand?

*Loving hands left a sign in the sand;
strong his call: Jesus' hands reach to all,
reaching out, teaching all, looking up
to see God's loving hand,
to be God's loving hand.*

*Giving hands? Will there be giving hands?
Healing hands, when we're hungry or cold,
People sick, people old can all hold
Onto God's loving hand.
Come be God's loving hands.*

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

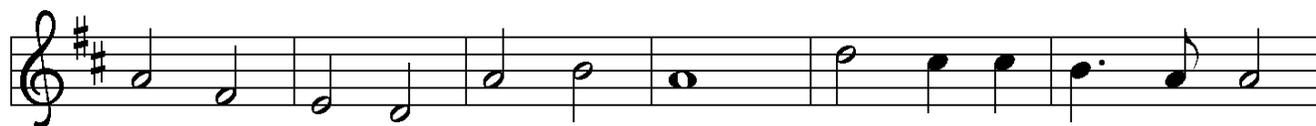
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our calling and our joy,
That we should at all times and in all places
Give thanks and praise to you,
Almighty and merciful God,
Through our Savior Jesus Christ;
Who on this day overcame death and the grave,
And by his glorious resurrection,
Opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
With the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
We praise your name
And join their unending hymn:

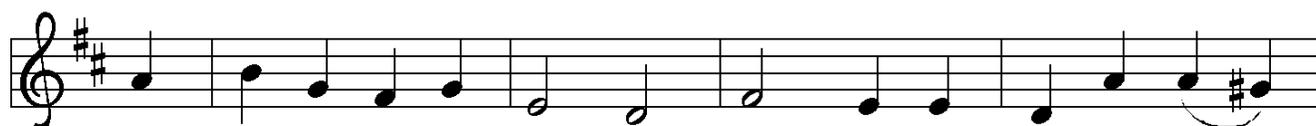
*SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

"Spirit, Open My Heart"

ACS # 1043

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 © 1996 Pilgrim Press.

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Refrain

**Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.**

**As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving.**

Spirit, open my heart.

**God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.**

**All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender.**

**Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.**

**Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory.**

**Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.**

**May I weep with those who weep;
share the joy of friend and neighbor.
As I live from day to day,
love will be my finest labor.**

**Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.**

COMMUNION SONG

"Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive"

ELW # 605

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**"Forgive our sins as we forgive,"
you taught us, Lord, to pray;
but you alone can grant us grace
to live the words we say.**

**How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let
old bitterness depart?**

**In blazing light your cross reveals
the truth we dimly knew:
how trifling others' debts to us;
how great our debt to you!**

**Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
and bid resentment cease;
then, by your mercy reconciled,
our lives will spread your peace.**

***COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen.

***SENDING PRAYER**

***BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, ✝ the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

“Build a Longer Table”

ACS # 1062; stanzas 1 & 3

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(sung to the same tune as “Now the Green Blade Riseth”

**Build a longer table,
Not a higher wall,
Feeding those who hunger,
Making room for all.**

**Feasting together,
stranger turns to friend,
Christ breaks walls to pieces;
False divisions end.**

**Build a broader doorway,
Not a longer fence.
Love protects all people,
Sparing no expense.**

**When we embrace
Compassion more than fear,
Christ tears down our fences:
All are welcome here.**

***DISMISSAL**

Go with Christ into a weary world.
Share the good news.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

“Allegro Maestoso”

G. F. Handel

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