



THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN
lent

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2023

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence, that we may be at peace and may worship you with all our mind and spirit. Startle us, O God, with your truth, that we may be one with Christ our Lord, and serve as faithful disciples, through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

OPENING SENTENCES

Rev. John White

One: Jesus spoke to the man who was born blind and said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

ALL: *The man answered: “Tell me who he is, so that I may believe in him.*

One: Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John White

*SILENT PROCESSION

PRELUDE

Lift High the Cross

arr. Powell

Dr. Terry McRoberts

CHORAL INTROIT

Behold the Lamb of God

Hopson

Chancel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on *Psalm 42:1-2*)

Rev. John White

One: Faithful God, we profess that you are the light of the world!

ALL: **Empower us through our worship today, that we may live as children of the light.**

One: Grant us hearts that are open to your Holy Spirit,

ALL: **That we might be faithful witnesses to your love in the world.**

*HYMN: 411 *God Is Here Today* (sung twice)

DIOS ESTÁ AQUÍ

PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Rev. John White

In this season of Lent, O God, unsettle us. Open us to your disquieting Spirit.

Increase in us that sense of gnawing that arises from the incongruity between our lives and the life to which you call us, and transform us in newness. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

DIRECTED SILENT PRAYER

How has the Spirit unsettled me?

How is my life incongruous from God's new life?

How can I change to show God's Kingdom more clearly?

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Rev. John White

One: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. (Romans 8:34)

ALL: *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen!*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: 437 *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!

WAYFARING STRANGER

You are the Lord, giver of mercy! You are the Christ, giver of mercy! You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Rev. John White

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: *And, also, with you.*

THE WORD

ANTHEM

God So Loved the World
Chancel Choir

Stainer

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Stacey McAdams

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. John White

HYMN: 741 *Guide My Feet

GUIDE MY FEET

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Carol Sue Keathley

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 2:7 (pg. 2)

Elder Carol Sue Keathley

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

ALL: *Thanks be to God.*

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 9 (pg. 102-103)

Rev. John White

One: This is the word of God. The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of the Lord endures forever.

ALL: *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

Splashing in Waves of Mercy

Rev. John White

RESPONSE

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

(see insert)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostles' Creed)

Elder Carol Sue Keathley

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew,
sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)

OFFERING

Elder Carol Sue Keathley

OFFERTORY

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Wood

Dr. Terry McRoberts

*Doxology (Tune: 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*Dedicatory Prayer

Rev. John White

SENDING

*HYMN: 177 *I Will Come to You*

YOU ARE MINE

*CHARGE + BENEDICTION

Rev. John White

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Let the Whole Creation Cry

Psalm 148

Chancel Choir

(We request that you remain seated until after the Postlude and ask that you use the Postlude
as a time to reflect upon the scripture that was read in today's service.)

POSTLUDE

Fugue in C Major

Pachelbel

Dr. Terry McRoberts

*During this Lenten season, Dr. Terry McRoberts will be playing one selection each week related to the cross.