



March 19, 2023

4th Sunday in Lent

GATHERING IN THE LORD'S PRESENCE

Boldface = All speak

❖ = All who are able, please stand.

PRELUDE..... "Sheep May Safely Graze"
J.S. Bach, Arr. John W. Schaum

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT..... "Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness"
*(Words & Music: Bernadette Farrell © 1993 Bernadette Farrell
Published by OCP)*

❖**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(based on Psalm 23)*

The Lord leads us like a shepherd.

God nourishes our lives and restores our souls.

The Lord is with us, even in the darkest valley.

God's goodness and mercy are always close.

❖**HYMN** "Here in This Place"**#401**
(Marty Haugen (1979) © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. Music: Marty Haugen.)

❖**CALL TO CONFESSION**

❖**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of perfect love, you continually bring forth life, transforming sadness to joy, and despair to hope. We are weak, but you are strong. Our ways are flawed, but your ways are true. We are seldom right, but you are

never wrong. (a time for silent confession)
Forgive us, redeem us, transform us. Take away the sin that burdens us, and restore us to the people you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

❖**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

❖**AFFIRMING THE PEACE AMONG US**

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

The children may go back to Sunday School at this time.

❖**GLORIA PATRI**..Henry W. Greatorex (Public Domain). **#581**

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit, that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you call us to be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

SCRIPTURE1 Samuel 16:1-13, pg. 403
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM "Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone"
*(Words by John Newton, Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio;
arranged by Tom Fettke.)*

SCRIPTURE John 9:1-41, p. 1525
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

❖**HYMN** "Faith Begins by Letting Go"**#684**
(CCLI Song #5688900. Carl P. Daw Jr. © Words: 1996 Hope Publishing Company. Charles Francois Gounod © Music: Public Domain)

❖**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH***(From A Brief Statement of Faith)*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Using Debts and Debtors)*

OFFERING OUR RESOURCES & OUR ENERGY

DOXOLOGY.....Genevan Psalter (Public Domain).....**#606**

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT AND SERVE

Check the Monday email for details about many upcoming opportunities to connect and serve, including:

- **The Gathering** - Join us in person or over Zoom, on Tuesday, March 21 at 10:30.
- **Lenten Lunch Series:** Continues Wednesdays through April 5 at 11:30 AM
- **Grief Presentation** - Wheaton College alumnus, Liesel Mindrebo Mertes, will be leading an interactive story-based presentation entitled, 'Making Meaning After Loss' at the college's Meyer Science Center on Wednesday, March 22 at 7:00 pm.

❖ **HYMN**.. "Take, O Take Me as I Am" sing 3x..**#698**

(CCLI Song #4562041. John L. Bell © 1995 WGRG, c/o Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland (Admin. by Wild Goose Resource Group.)

❖**CHARGE & BLESSING**

POSTLUDE "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

William Bradbury, Arr. Norman J. Clayton

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In gratitude for John Wurster and the Presbyterian Outlook for inspiring portions of today's worship service.

Pastor: The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

Lector: Sue Wexler

Greeter/Usher: Bev Mason

Worship Pianist: Amy Dickman

Elders:

Duncan Cory – Christian Ed

Jerry Knapp – Building & Grounds

Patricia Lind – Worship

Kim Mays – Fellowship

David Wroth – Response & Sending

Jim Outland – Administration

Sue Evans – Administration

Deacons:

Joan Knapp

Caroline Knoff

Bev Mason

Nick Shargo

Leila Trepanier

Sue Wexler

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A family in Christ that strives to
serve others in His love



Insight by Lisle Gwynn Garrity

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