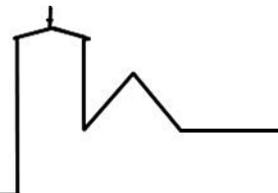


4TH SUNDAY IN LENT



GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

THE PREPARATION

A Psalm Prelude: Psalm 23:vs.4

Herbert Howells

“Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”

Introit

Create in me a Clean Heart

(The congregation is invited to sing the 2nd time)

mp
1. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God. Re - new a right
spir - it with - in me; And cast me not from your pres - ence,
Lord, And take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to God all my life.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord.

Who created the heavens and the earth, along with everything within them.

Who administers justice for the oppressed and provides food for the hungry.

The Lord releases the prisoner; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

The Lord cares for strangers and defends the orphan and widow.

But the Lord brings ruin upon the wicked.

The Lord will reign forever. Praise the Lord!

OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)

Come, O Holy Spirit.

Come as Holy Light and lead us in the darkness,

come as Holy Power and enable our weakness,

come as Holy Life and dwell in us,

until we are set free from the service of ourselves

to be your servants to the world. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Compassionate and merciful God, we continue to desire more, blind to the blessings we already have. We want everything now, unaware of the value of patience and hard work. We take so much pride in our own achievements that we overlook people in need. Forgive us! Remove our sense of entitlement, anxiety, and pride. Help us see the world through your eyes so that we can be people of gratitude, courage, and compassion because of what we see in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

TIME FOR SILENCE AND PERSONAL CONFESSION

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D)
 F C F B^b C F

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have
 (A) (D/F[#]) (F[#]m) (G) (A) (Bm)
 C F/A Am B^b C Dm
 mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy;
 (G) (D) (A)(Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
 B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F
 Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

PSALM 23 Hymn 170 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

Crimond

EPISTLE: Ephesians 5:8-14

GOSPEL: John 9:1-12

The Word of the Lord...

Thanks be to God.

SERMON:

“Blind Eyes Seeing Brings Challenges”

Rev. Tim Mitchell

HYMN 387

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Bradbury

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us the courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in the Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

Grateful to God and empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

THE GIFT OF MUSIC

Behold, the Lamb of God from the Messiah

G.F. Handel

“Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world.” (John 1:29)



SEALING THE WORD

INTERCESSIONS AND SUPPLICATIONS

In your mercy... **Lord, hear our prayer**

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(SINGING TOGETHER, Hymn 571)*

CARRYING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 380**

O Christ, The Healer

Erhalt Uns, Herr

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Erhalt Uns, Herr

Gerald Near

Leading in worship today:

Rev. Tim Mitchell

Dr. Polly Brecht, Organist-Choirmaster

J. Douglas McQueen, tenor · Kate Kortemeier, alto

David Kortemeier, bass · Dan Stanley, tenor

Rebekah Dentino, soprano



3.15.26

Open Mind Open Hands Open Heart

Westminster Presbyterian Church · 1420 W. Moss Ave., Peoria, IL 61606

This morning's service is live-streamed through YouTube. Ref. - Permission to perform and broadcast the music in this service is licensed by One License #A726060, Chicago, IL.