

First Presbyterian Church

March 19, 2023

4th Sunday in Lent

Silent Prayer of Preparation

God of glory, we thirst for your presence in the midst of loneliness and despair, for your spirit of love poured into our hearts, for Christ's living water that quenches eternally. May all your children know that they belong, that they are loved, that they are wonderfully made.

Prelude

Welcome

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Introit

Call to Worship (Psalm 23)

Leader: The Lord leads us like a shepherd.

All: God nourishes our lives and restores our souls.

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

All: God's goodness and mercy are always close.

Hymn: #87 "The Glory of These Forty Days"

Call to Confession

Jesus calls us to enter the joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ's invitation. Let us seek God's forgiveness so that we may know more deeply the joy God intends.

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. 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.

Silent Prayer (*Please continue to pray in silence [wait ten seconds or so] Amen.*)

Assurance of Pardon

Relentlessly, God seeks us out. With abundant grace and boundless mercy, God seeks us out.

This is good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Gloria Patri #579

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Lenten Eggs

Anthem Introduction-Pastor Jim

Anthem

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 would us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

First Lesson: Psalm 23

Second Lesson: John 9:1-41

Sermon: “Go to Siloam”

Moment for Silent Meditation

...in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Blessing of the Pilgrims

Hymn: #339 “Be Thou My Vision”

The Offering

Call for the Offering

The Offertory

The Doxology

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

Prayer of Dedication

Announcements, Celebrations, and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: #280 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

Charge and Benediction

Benediction Response #586

Amen

Postlude