

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

## *The Fourth Sunday in Lent*

March 22, 2020

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

\*All who are able may stand.

**Bold type spoken by the congregation**

### GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

*How Great Thou Art*

Rhett Barnwell, arr.

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

Come awake! The light of God is breaking through the darkness.  
**We bless the light, an unyielding sign of hope in times of trouble.**  
Do not fear! The love of Christ opens up a space of respite and peace for us.  
**We bless this place, a sanctuary of rest.**  
Delight in the gifts of the Spirit, Who sets a table of welcome for all.  
**Surely goodness and mercy have found us here,**  
**in the house of our Lord, the God of abounding love.**

The Prayer of Adoration

**Gentle God, You shepherd us in times of trouble. When the way seems dark, You guide us safely through. When we cannot bear to slow down, You show us the wisdom of Sabbath rest. In Your presence there is life, overflowing, abundant and free. Hear the praise of our hearts and the exultation of our souls. Glory and honor be unto You, O Eternal God- Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Amen.**

\*The Hymn 32

### *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

- 1. I sing the mighty power of God, that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;  
the moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.*
- 2. I sing the goodness of the Lord, who filled the earth with food,  
God formed the creatures thru the Word, and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky.*
- 3. There's not a plant or flower below, but makes thy glories known,  
and clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne;  
while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care;  
and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.*

\*The Prayer of Confession

**O Wise and Gracious God, we are each a small dot, a pixel, in the picture of Your amazing creation. You have designed us to work together; and yet, we continue to live as if our strength lies in our individuality. We confess to You that we often find it easier to thrive on our individual gain, and seek ways to lift ourselves above the canvas as more important than others. We pray that You will impress upon us Your definition of "one" as together, and that we will seek both the ability and the courage to move away from "one" that is each of us alone. Forgive us, we pray**  
...(time for silent confession)...

\*The Assurance of Pardon

. . . As God's forgiven people, receive this goodness and mercy,  
and live a new life in the grace of Jesus Christ.  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia. Amen.**

\*The Gloria Patri

p. 581 in the Hymnal

\*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: *1 Samuel 16:1-13*p. 322 in the pew Bible

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 23*

p. 617 in the pew Bible

The Anthem

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

Henry Baker/Mack Wilberg, arr.

*The King of Love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.  
Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth  
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.  
And so through all the length of days, Thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.*

The Epistle Lesson: *Ephesians 5:8-14*

p. 237 in the pew Bible

The Gospel Lesson: *John 9:1-41*

p. 125 in the pew Bible

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

*The Lord is Our Shepherd*  
Brittany Tamminga

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

\*The Apostles' Creed

p. 35 in the Hymnal

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

p. 35 in the Hymnal

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME . . .

\*The Hymn 816

*If Thou but trust in God to Guide Thee*

*1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, with hopeful heart through all thy ways,  
God will give strength, whate'er betide thee, to bear thee through the evil days.  
Who trusts in God's unchanging love builds on the rock that nought can move.*

*2 Only be still, and wait God's leisure in cheerful hope, with heart content  
to take whate'er thy Keeper's pleasure and all-discerning love hath sent.  
No doubt our inmost wants are clear to One who holds us always dear.*

*3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways, but do thine own part faithfully.  
Trust the rich promises of grace; so shall they be fulfilled in thee.  
God never yet forsook at need the soul secured by trust indeed.*

\*The Charge & Benediction

\*The Postlude

*Toccato in A Minor*

Jan Pieter Sweelinck