

**Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 22, 2020**

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude & Candle Lighting

Welcome

Call to Worship & Prayer of Approach

Hymn: Open my eyes, that I may see #500

Litany & Prayer for the Fourth Sunday in Lent

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23

Sung Response:

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.

John 9:1-41

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Ministry of Music: "I Saw the Light"

Sermon: *Blind, Lost, and Needing God's Help*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

Hymn: Amazing Grace #670

We Present our Gifts to God

Offertory

Doxology (#830):

**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.**

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn: The Lord's my shepherd #11

Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen (#780):

Amen, amen, amen.

Aaronic Blessing (#619):

**The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you
and give you his peace.**

#500 - Open my eyes, that I may see

Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see;
open my eyes: illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear,
and while the wave-notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my god, thy will to see;
open my ears: illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my god, thy will to see;
open my heart: illumine me, Spirit divine!

#670 - Amazing grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than
when we'd first begun.

#11 - The Lord's my shepherd

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness
e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill,
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

One: God provides for every need

Many: **guidance in right paths,
presence in darkest valleys,
nourishment beyond measure.**

One: God shines light on the world in Jesus

Many: **opening eyes that are blind,
exposing prejudice and fear,
offering new understanding of life's good
purpose.**

One: But we persist in our own ways

Many: **judging by appearance,
denying others' experience,
hoarding what we can for ourselves.**

One: Lord, have mercy

Many: **Christ, have mercy**

One: Lord, have mercy

Let us pray:

**Creator God,
you are the Source of light and love,
rest and nurture, hope and peace.
Open our eyes to your goodness.
Empower us to live as children of light,
bringing a rich harvest of all that is good
and right and true.
Enlighten us to see the world with your eyes of love.
So may all people know
your goodness and mercy forever;
through Jesus Christ the light of the world. Amen.**

Clean Water: A Game Changer in the Journey to End Hunger

There is no doubt that access to clean water is vital to ensure communities around the world can have a reliable source of food.

When water sources are contaminated—due to lack of proper toilets and sanitation services—diseases such as cholera and typhoid can be widespread. It is essential to have clean water so that farmers, who plant and harvest the crops that feed their communities, can stay healthy and able to work.

Access to water also improves irrigation, which in turn increases food production and better sustains rural communities.

Unfortunately, our global community continues to experience major inequalities in access to water. Vulnerable and marginalized populations like women and smallholder farmers can face challenges getting the water they need.

When all farmers can access this important resource, women, men and children around the world have a better chance to enjoy nutritious and sufficient food all year round.

This Lenten season, faithfully respond to provide communities with sanitation and safe sources of water.

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