

VALLEY COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 22, 2020 ✠ 10:00 AM
Bold Text is spoken by everyone

PASTOR: Rev. Jeff Binder
MUSICIANS: Greg Russell, Aaron Lange
AUDIO/VISUAL: Bob Rasmussen, Dan Rueff

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE AND ELEMENTS

WORDS OF PRAISE (Psalm 23)

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

HYMN No. 32 (I Sing the Mighty Power of God)

Verse 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.***

Verse 2: ***I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food. God formed the creatures through 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!***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to be our Good Shepherd. We joyously acknowledge that he has guided us lovingly, kept us from harm, and led us into places of wholeness. Yet, we confess we have still strayed from him and have turned a deaf ear to his voice that calls us to return to his fold.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our wanderings. Return us to the way of our Good Shepherd, and hold us there by your Holy Spirit, that we may live to your honor and glory.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS AND PEACE

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE

Verse 1: ***God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God's so good to me.***

Verse 2: ***God cares for me; God cares for me; God cares for me; God's so good to me.***

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE (John 9:1-41)

MESSAGE (Don't Bury the Lede)

HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 451 (Open My Eyes, That I May See)

Verse 1: ***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!***

Verse 2: ***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!***

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from Iona Abbey Worship Book)

In the midst of hunger and war

We celebrate the promise of plenty and peace.

In the midst of oppression and tyranny

We celebrate the promise of service and freedom.

In the midst of doubt and despair

We celebrate the promise of faith and hope.

In the midst of fear and betrayal

We celebrate the promise of joy and loyalty.

In the midst of hatred and death

We celebrate the promise of love and life.

In the midst of sin and decay

We celebrate the promise of salvation and renewal.

In the midst of death on every side

We celebrate the promise of the living Christ.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY (How can you help your neighbor this week?)

DOXOLOGY

*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 GRATITUDE

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

CLOSING HYMN No. 630 (Fairest Lord Jesus)

Verse 1: *Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O Thou of God to earth come down, Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.*

Verse 2: *Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring. Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing.*

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

May we go from this place to pursue goodness, wisdom, holiness, and love.

God the Creator, call us to the work of the kingdom,

God the Redeemer, keep us from stumbling,

God the Sustainer, transform and inspire us. Amen.

POSTLUDE