

Order of Worship
Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

Gathering Music *Hymn Melody* arr. Adam O'Boyle

Welcome

Prelude *Largo from the Four Seasons* Antonio Vivaldi

Call to Worship (Responsive)

With the pressing crowds, searching for healing and hope,

We wish to see Jesus.

With the pushed out and cast aside, with the lonely lost, stripped of pride,

We wish to see Jesus.

With those who seek mystery and meaning, wisdom and grace,

We wish to see Jesus. Let us worship God!

Hymn 451 *Open My Eyes* Open My Eyes

Call to Prayer (Responsive)

The dust that shapes the journey, the cross that guides it, the color that surrounds it, the light that fades through it, the word that foretells it, the wilderness that invites it.

This is Lent, and into its wilderness God calls us.

Come, brothers and sisters, Christ is heading for Jerusalem.

Litany for Lent (Responsive)

Save us, O God,

From the blindness – **which is not even aware that it is sinning;**

From the pride – **which cannot admit that it is wrong;**

From the self-will – **which can see nothing but its own way;**

From the self-righteousness – **which can see no flaw within itself;**

From the callousness – **which has sinned so often that it has ceased to care;**

From the defiance – **which is not even sorry for its sins;**

From the evasion – **which always puts the blame on someone or something else;**

From the heart so hardened – **that it cannot repent.**

Give us at all times,

Eyes – **which are open to our faults,**

A conscience – **which is sensitive and quick to warn;**

A heart that cannot sin in peace – **but is moved to regret and remorse.**

So grant that being truly penitent we may be truly forgiven,

So that we may find that your love is great enough to cover all of our sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scripture Lesson John 9:1-41

Sermon Near-Sighted Rev. Christie Ashton

Hymn 450 *Be Thou My Vision* Slane

Affirmation of Faith (Unison) A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

As we pray together the prayer Christ taught us ...

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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn 649 *Amazing Grace* Amazing Grace

Charge and Benediction

Postlude *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* John Bowring

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Word & Wonder: A Time for the Young & the Young at Heart

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOPE

Wednesday Night Bible Study: Our Wednesday Night Bible Study will continue this Wednesday at 7PM. Our topic this week will be the Reproductive Health. There is no homework so feel free to join us any time and invite friends and/or family. The link to the Zoom meeting will be sent out via email before each Wednesday. Please plan to join us as we explore God's Word and our world together.

One Great Hour of Sharing: On Easter Sunday, churches across the country are participating in One Great Hour of Sharing, an annual special offering which supports the works of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People—programs that continue to make a huge impact in the lives of others across the globe. This offering is sponsored by both the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. We thank you for your generosity.

Church Calendar At-a-Glance

March 19	12:00 p.m.	Session Meeting
March 22	7:00 p.m.	Wednesday Night Bible Study
April 3-6	12:00 p.m.	Noonday Holy Week Services
April 6	6:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Service
April 7	12:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross Walk, Ken Johnston Park
April 9	7:00 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Service
	10:00 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt
	10:30 a.m.	Easter Sunday Service

Worship Leader This Sunday: George Young
Worship Leader for March 26: Brenda Brazier

Licensing:

Hymn Melody

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The Elder on Call for March is Debbie Adsit. She may be contacted at any time for information, in case of emergency, or with any concerns at 256-479-7857.