A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023
*All who are able may stand.
Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING... 

The Prelude
Jesus Loves Me
Mary Ann Casey, harp

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

The Call To Worship
The Lord is our shepherd,
leading us into green pastures and beside still waters.

The Lord is with us, guiding and comforting us
through the valleys of life.

God spreads out a feast before us,
the cup of blessing overflows.

Goodness and mercy pursue me every day;
in God’s house I will dwell forever!

Prayer of Adoration
O God, you shepherd your people toward goodness and justice. We praise you for all the ways you sustain us. Thank you for knowing us each by name and for teaching us your ways. You are gentle and loving; you are also a defender of the weak and those in need. We long to follow you in the paths of righteousness that are set before us. We are the grateful sheep of your fold; we put our trust in you forever. Amen

*The Hymn 385

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice; him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell. Come ye before him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed; Without our aid He did us make; we are his folk; he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise; approach with joy his courts unto; praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good; his mercy is forever sure; his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

*Prayer of Confession

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent and grant that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name...

Silent Prayer ...Amen

*Assurance of Pardon

Because we have been buried with Christ in the waters of baptism, we are also raised to new life with him!

The good news of the gospel is this: That in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!
*The Gloria Patri

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

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. And also with you!
(Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ. For those worshiping at home, please share Christ's peace with someone outside Your home this week.)

(11:00 am only)

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Michael Dale Strawn and Vivian Maria Strawn
Parents: Jonathan and Nicole Strawn

Hymn 486

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign,
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.
Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits; into joy and laughter lead.
Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are, from God you came.
Back to God we humbly give you: live as one who bears Christ's name.
Child of God, your loving Parent, learn to listen for God's call.
Grow to laugh and sing and worship; trust and love God more than all.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD . . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Children's Anthem  Little David, Play on Your Harp
Covenant Choir  Lynn Bailey Shaw

Little David, play on your harp, hallelu, hallelu.
Now David watched his father's sheep and played his harp to help them sleep
He played his harp and sang with joy, God's faithful child and shepherd boy.
Goliath dared him to a fight while every soldier shook with fright.
That giant stood so big and tall 'til David's slingshot made him fall.
Though David grew to be a king he loved to play his harp and sing.
He played his harp and sang for joy, God's faithful child and shepherd boy.

The Psalter Lesson: Psalm 23

The Epistle Lesson: Ephesians 5:8-14

The Anthem  The Lord is My Shepherd
Ginger Oplinger, violin  John Oplinger, viola  Howard Goodall

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want, He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.
He leadeth me beside the still waters. Yea, though I walk through the valley of death I will fear no evil.
For you are with me, you will comfort me. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The Gospel Lesson: John 9:1-41

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The Sermon  Change in Leadership  Kim Clayton
RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

**The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by
the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day
he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Tithes and Offerings Presented

**The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication**

*Doxology, p. 606 in the Hymnal*

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

GOING FORTH AND SERVING IN GOD'S NAME

*The Hymn 803*

**My Shepherd will Supply My Need**

My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is His Name.
In pastures fresh He makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake His ways,
and leads me, for His mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk thru the shades of death your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows; your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
There I would find a settled rest, while others go and come;
no more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.

*The Charge & Benediction*

**Recessional in a Gregorian Mode**

Henry Kihlken

The flowers today are given by Al Moreau and family to the glory of God and in memory of Ruth Moreau.

**Today's Worship Leaders:**

Preacher: Kim Clayton
Liturgists: Scott Fischer, Brittany Harvey
Choir Masters: Mary Ann and Larry Casey
Organist: Amy Shirk
All People That on Earth Do Dwell – Text: William Kethe, 1560; MUSIC: Attrib. Louis Bourgeois, 1551; Public Domain


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