Morning Worship
10:00 AM
March 22, 2020
4th Sunday in Lent

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Leader: The Lord be with you!
People: And also with you!

PASSING OF THE PEACE
CALL SOMEONE FROM YOUR CHURCH AND CHECK ON THEM AND PRAY TOGETHER

PRELUDE

“The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision.”
--Helen Keller
CALL TO WORSHIP*  (from Psalm 23)
Leader: God, You are our Shepherd, we shall not want for what we need.
People: You make us lie down in green pastures, You lead us beside
still waters, You restore our souls.
Leader: You lead us on the right paths for Your name’s sake.
People: Though we walk through the darkest valley, we will not be
consumed by fear, because You are with us.
Leader: You prepare a table before us, anointing us with Your healing oil,
pouring out Your goodness and mercy until our cups overflow.
People: We rejoice, God our Shepherd, knowing that we dwell in Your
house our whole lives long.

HYMN #816  If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee
1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee, with hopeful
2 Only be still, and wait God’s leisure in cheerful
3 Sing, pray, and swerve not from God’s ways, but do thine

heart through all thy ways, God will give strength, what-e’er be-

hope, with heart content to take what-e’er thy Keep-er’s

own part faith-ful-ly. Trust the rich prom-ises of

tide thee, to bear thee through the evil days. Who trusts in

plea-sure and all-dis-cern-ing love hath sent. No doubt our

grace; so shall they be ful-filled in thee. God nev-er

God’s un-chang-ing love builds on the rock that nought can move.
in-most wants are clear to One who holds us al-ways dear.
yet for-sook at need the soul se- cured by trust in-deed.
The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus, who came not to condemn the world, but to save it. Trusting in God’s love for us, let us speak honestly of the ways we miss the mark:

God who sees us, so often we fail to see You and how You are working among us. Our view is obscured by our fear, by constant news updates, by the sudden lack of in-person contact. We struggle to see clearly how to respond to this current crisis, how to love in these new circumstances. At times we stroll down the path of denial, other times we careen down the road of panic. Sometimes we simply sit down in the dust of our hopelessness. Have mercy on us, O God. Help us experience Your gaze of love no matter where we find ourselves. Help us to trust You to guide us one step at a time.

Jesus came to proclaim good news to the poor, to release those who are captive, to give sight to the blind, and to set the oppressed free. Let us embrace the truth of our faith: In Christ Jesus we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Peace of God Be with You

As-salaamu lakum

Am G F Am G F C

Peace of God be with you. Peace of God be with you. Sa-
As - sa - laa - mu la - kum. As - sa - laa - mu la - kum. Sa-
Am G F Am

laam, sa - laam. Peace of God be with you.
laam, sa - laam. As - sa - laa - mu la - kum.
PROCLAIMING THE WORD

MUSICAL OFFERING
Avery and Marsh

"Nobody Said It Was Going to Be Easy."

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Leader: O God, as your Word became flesh in the coming of Jesus, so we pray that the scriptures we read today might come alive in our hearts and minds.

People: Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING
John 9:1-17

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man who was blind from birth. Jesus’ disciples asked, “Rabbi, who sinned so that he was born blind, this man or his parents?” Jesus answered, “Neither he nor his parents. This happened so that God’s mighty works might be displayed in him. While it’s daytime, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” After he said this, he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and smeared the mud on the man’s eyes. Jesus said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (this word means sent). So the man went away and washed. When he returned, he could see. The man’s neighbors and those who used to see him when he was a beggar said, “Isn’t this the man who used to sit and beg?” Some said, “It is,” and others said, “No, it’s someone who looks like him.” But the man said, “Yes, it’s me!” So they asked him, “How are you now able to see?” He answered, “The man they call Jesus made mud, smeared it on my eyes, and said, ‘Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed, and then I could see.” They asked, “Where is this man?” He replied, “I don’t know.” Then they led the man who had been born blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus made the mud and smeared it on the man’s eyes on a Sabbath day. So Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. The man told them, “He put mud on my eyes, I washed, and now I see.” Some Pharisees said, “This man isn’t from God, because he breaks the Sabbath law.” Others said, “How can a sinner do miraculous signs like these?” So they were divided. Some of the Pharisees questioned the man who had been born blind again: “What do you have to say about him, since he healed your eyes?” He replied, “He’s a prophet.”

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to you and to the church.

People: Thanks be to God.

MOMENTS WITH THE CHILDREN

SERMON
Reflections from Our Pastors
RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN #314  Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

Christ, Be Our Light

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for
2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for
3. Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for
4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for
5. Many of the gifts, many the people, many the

Am7  Bm7  Esus  Em  Am7
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, many despair. Your word alone
water, many still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, many are cold. Make us your building,
hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants

D  G  C  Am  Dsus  D
your holy people, light for the world to see.
has power to save us. Make us your living voice.
broken for others, shared until all are fed.
sheltering others, walls made of living stone.
to one another, making your kingdom come.

Refrain  G  C  G  Em  Bm  Em
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

Am7  D  G  Dsus  D  Em  Em7
darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your

c Church gathered today.

JOYS AND CONCERNS**  (A Silence)
PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

RESPONSE #469  Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying 469

Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place. Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

OFFERING
(You are encouraged to go to your church’s website if they have online giving, if not, perhaps consider writing a check and mailing it. Our churches need your support right now to keep doing ministry. You might also want to give to the Presbytery’s Family to Family Fund, to support those who are hardest hit by the new realities of social distancing at https://santafepresbytery.org/)
SILENT REFLECTIONS ON THANKSGIVING

RESPONSE  Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow  Avery and Marsh

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DOXOLOGY

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1. *Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
2. Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endures,

there is no shadow of turning with thee,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,

Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
join with all nature in manifold witness
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:

As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE  Sing Love Songs  Avery and Marsh

* Liturgy written by Sarah Chivington-Buck
**Joys and Concerns of the People: We invite you to share a joy or concern during worship by commenting on the livestream and we will read those out loud for the community of faith.

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