



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, March 22, 2020
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

FOR WORSHIP

In today's Gospel passage, Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking outrage from the religious authorities. The Pharisees interrogate the man who was miraculously healed, but disbelieve his testimony and drive him away. In compassion, Jesus seeks out the man again and invites him to place his faith in him. The psalmist writes of God's loving desire to restore us fully and the apostle Paul calls us to reject darkness and walk only in the light of Christ.

PRELUDE

Janice Robison

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Robert E. Martin

(Please circulate the friendship forms found in the aisle seats.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Lord Christ, open our eyes to see clearly the light of the world. Holy Spirit, illumine our minds to perceive God's glory shining among us. Almighty God, prepare our hearts to see, to trust, to worship the Messiah. We come to worship God this Lenten season.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, why is it that we look, but do not see? Bring us again and again into your light until your ways become visible to us, and bear fruit in us. Touch us so that we are utterly changed, a "before" and "after," a "now" and "then"; that we may also say, "One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." Lord, we believe; help our unbelief. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

L: Friends, believe the good news.

P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

ANTHEM

Ali Taliani

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE Psalm 23

John 9: 1-41

L. This is the Word of the Lord!

P: Thanks be to God!

HOMILY

Rev. Robert E. Martin

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Martin

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Janice Robison