

**Extending God's Grace throughout Northeast Texas**  
**First Presbyterian Church—Winnsboro, TX**  
**Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Carpenter**  
**March 22, 2020**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**The Chimes, the Flames, and the Waters**  
**Greetings and Announcements**  
(\*)-Stand if Able

**We Prepare to Receive the Word**

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship:**

God summons us to wake up and see. Light has come to lead us to all that is good.  
**Our eyes are opened to God's goodness. We seek to live as children of light.**  
God sees beyond the outward appearance. God knows the intents of our hearts.  
**We are here to find out what is pleasing to God, to know what is right and true.**  
God hears all who worship sincerely. Praise God with openness and obedience.  
**We seek to know and follow God's will. This is the day to do the works of God.**

**Unison Prayer:**

*Like a shepherd, O God, you watch over us and provide for our needs. You lead us in right paths when we are tempted to go astray. Let your light shine on us to reveal your truth. May we learn from you and one another today. Amen.*

\*Hymn of Praise: #267

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

**Confession:**

Great Shepherd, we thank you for finding us and bringing us to this time of prayer. We often turn to our own ways and go astray, and much like sheep, you guide us back into the way that we should go. We confess that we often prefer our own way of living rather than to follow in your way that is often contradictory to the ways of our culture. Forgive us, we pray, and set us on the path that will lead to everlasting life and righteousness through your Spirit, We ask these things through Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. (a few moments for the silent confession of personal sin). . . Amen

**Assurance of Pardon**

\*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. Amen.”

**Time With The Younger Church**

**We Receive the Word**

**Prayer for Illumination (In Unison):**

*God of mercy, thank you for reaching out to heal us even when we have not asked. Transform us today, that we may learn and witness to your love. Amen.*

**Old Testament Reading: I Samuel 16:1-13@**

**Epistle Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14@**

**Gospel Reading: John 9:1-41**

@- This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

**Sermon: “Light and Darkness”**

\*Hymn: #280 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

**We Respond to the Word**

**\*The 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 at 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

**Prayers of Intercession/Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)**

**The Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves**

\*The 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”

**\*The Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn #324 “Open My Eyes, That I May See”**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*The Benediction Response:**

**Lord, I want to be a Christian, in-a my heart, in-a my heart, (#372)**

**Lord, I want to be a Christian, in-a my heart,**

**In-a my heart, In-a my heart,**

**Lord, I want to be a Christian, in-a my heart.**

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To our guest,

We are so glad that you joined us today. We believe that it was no accident that you came here, and that God has given us the opportunity to share the love, grace, and saving gospel of Jesus with you. And so, it is our prayer that you feel loved in this place, and we want you to know that you are welcomed no matter what is going on in your life. We will embrace you with the same grace that God has embraced us with, and we will proclaim to you the same good news that has called us and saved us. If you want to make this church your home, and these people your family let us know after the service or by phone or email later this week. We would love to welcome you into Jesus' family.

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