



Valley United Methodist Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, March 19, 2023

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Thank you for joining in this worship service! We hope you will enter in the spirit of worship from wherever you are, and whenever you join. We'll follow this order of worship. You'll have to decide whether to stand () and sit when invited! If you're joining in real time, you can add your comments and/or prayer requests in the comments on our livestream [at this link](#). Words in **bold** print are read together. Words from our United Methodist Hymnal (UMH), The Faith We Sing songbook (FWS) and other sources will appear on screen. We're so glad you're here!*

Gathering Music

Larghetto Affettuoso
Pi  Jesu, from "Requiem"

Handel
Faur 

Welcome

*Call to Worship

We'll find a rhythm together:
Caribbean Soca (via Gabe Schott)

*Opening Hymn

Amazing Grace (UMH 378)

1-Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

2-'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

3-Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4-The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.

5-Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.

6-When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

*Opening Prayer

We come before you, O God, in the shadow of the cross, grateful for your great love for us. As you came to us in Jesus to win our love and obedience, reveal yourself among us still. Give us courage to follow Jesus over rocky hills where we carry our crosses and green valleys where you restore our souls. Our deepest longing is always for you. Amen.

Ibid., 61

*Peace

The peace of Christ is with you.
And also with you.

Time with Children

Gospel Reading

John 9.1-41

¹As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." ¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." ²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it

been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.

³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Message	Sacred Rhythms: Self-Examination with practice: <i>Examen</i>	Pastor Lee
Prayer Song	<i>Meet with Me</i> (on screen)	

I will run
to the cleft of the mountain and wait for you
Will you come and meet with me?
I will wait
in the cleft of the mountain for you to pass by
Will you come and meet with me?

Refrain

Oh, what a joy it would be
Just for a moment to lay at the feet of the Lord
Oh more than anything that’s what I long for
Oh, what a change it would bring
Just to look deep in the face of the King who gave all
You gave everything so you could meet with me
Will you meet with me?

[repeat all]

I will run
to the cleft of the mountain and wait for you
Will you come and meet with me?

Time of 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Appreciating our Staff

Time of Offering

Offertory

Galliard

Byrd

Offering Prayer

**Embolden us, Mighty God,
to give as fully as we have received.
Multiply the gifts we return to you now,
and multiply our faithfulness in this season,
that lives may be empowered, ours and others',
with your glory and your grace. Amen.**

Abingdon Worship Annual 2023, 33, adapted

*Closing Hymn

Breathe on Me, Breath of God (UMH 420)

1-Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

2-Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

3-Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

4-Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

*Benediction

Postlude

O Come and Mourn

Duro

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sun., March 19	9:00 a.m.	Worship in Person and Livestream (UMCOR SUNDAY) Staff Appreciation
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
Mon., March 20	6:30 p.m.	Sacred Rhythms Bible Study
Tues., March 21		Valley View Deadline
	9:30 a.m.	Valley High School Conversation
Wed., March 22	3:00 p.m.	Prayer Group
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sat., March 25	8:00 a.m.	Men's Group
	9:30 a.m.	Church Work Day
Sun., March 26	9:00 a.m.	Worship in Person and Livestream
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages

Serving us today: Lee Schott, Pastor; Karen Hutzell, Organist; Joyce Templeman, Pianist; Bob Gowdey, Choir Director; Michael and Lorrie Hayes, Ushers; Carolyn Lancaster and Kim Tyrrell, Nursery Attendants; SPRC Committee, Fellowship; Emory and Teresa Cleveland, Tech Team; Jaci Vega, Livestream Greeter.

Congregational Meeting follow-up. Thanks to all who led and joined in our meeting after worship last Sunday. We kicked off a financial and capital campaign and had a robust discussion about continued affiliation as a United Methodist Church. We recorded the meeting and will forward it on request to members and active constituents. **Watch for a mailing** with details and a pledge card, coming next week.

April Valley View Deadline: please submit your articles, photos or calendar items by **Tuesday, March 21**. You may reply to office@valleyumc.org with your submittals.

Men's Group: Men's Group will meet at 8:00 a.m. on **Saturday, March 25**. Come join other Valley UMC men as they practice their faith together in study and fellowship.

March All Church Workday: Plan to come lend a hand on **Saturday, March 25** at church workday. We will get started around 9:30 a.m. with projects around the church and maybe even outdoors if the weather cooperates! Thanks to those who attended in February!

Piano Recital Invitation: Joyce Templeman invites you to a piano recital "Child's Play" with her duet partner, Barbara Nish. This event will be offered on two dates: **April 1 or April 2** at 4:00 p.m. at 4400 Greenwood Drive, Des Moines. You won't want to miss this wonderful showcase of talent!

2023 Lenten Missions: UMCOR Sunday, Disaster Response and CFUM Meals. Place your contributions in the offering plate (with your designation noted in the memo line) or find the online giving option on our Valley UMC website: www.valleyumc.org.

WDM Human Services Need of the Month: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, and dental floss.