

## TIME OF RESPONSE

When we are called to follow Christ, we are summoned to an exclusive attachment to his person. The grace of Christ's call bursts all the bonds of legalism. It is a gracious call, a gracious commandment. Christ calls, the disciple follows: that is grace and commandment in one.

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer

\*The Recessional Hymn No. 539 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" HOUSTON

I want to walk as a child of the light;  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world;  
the star of my life is Jesus.

**Refrain:**

*In him there is no darkness at all;  
the night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God:  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

I want to see the brightness of God;  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father.

**Refrain:**

I'm looking for the coming of Christ;  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus.

**Refrain:**

\*The Benediction

Charles Poole

\*The Postlude

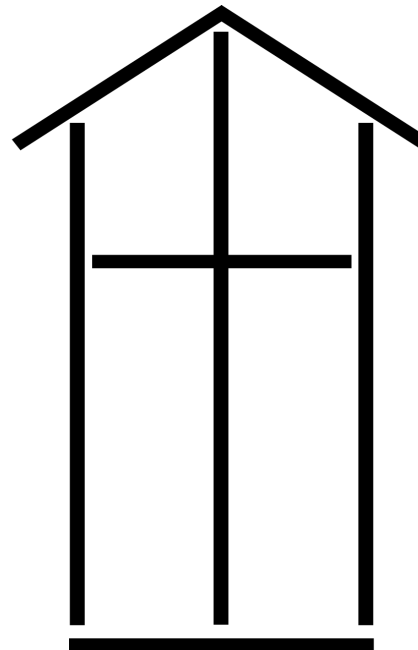
"God of Grace"

Manz

*\*The congregation will please stand.*

**The Lectionary passages for March 22 are found on the following pages in the Pew Bible:**

I Samuel 16:1-13 ~ pages 226-227  
Psalm 23 ~ pages 435-436  
Ephesians 5:8-14 ~ pages 951-952  
John 9:1-41 ~ pages 871-872



## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

This is the prophet's cry: "Turn, turn, return!"  
Keep coming by! God has been met with!  
Here you have an appointment...at the Tent of  
the Eternal...and it is a come and go affair.  
It is a constant reminder of what has gone by.  
One comes here in order to pass by again.

-Carlyle Marney

**THE ACT OF WORSHIP**  
**The Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
March 22, 2020  
Ten-thirty o'clock

**PREPARATION AND PRAISE**

The worship of God begins this morning as you enter the Sanctuary. You are encouraged to use these moments for meditation, reflection and prayer. Following the service, greet our visitors and share your fellowship with those around you.

The Meditation of Preparation

In the silence of a forest glen, beside a gentle stream, or, in the livestream community of believers and sufferers; God is in abundance, faith is real, and prayers abound.

The Prelude "My Heart Abounds with Pleasure" Brahms

\*The Processional Hymn No. 20 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" *ODE TO JOY*

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!  
All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,  
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.  
Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother-all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

\*The Litany of Praise David Benzenhafer

Leader: The Lord be with you;  
**People: And also with you.**  
Leader: We worship the Lord, our Shepherd;  
Who gives us clean pastures in which to rest.  
**People: The Lord, our Guide, leads us beside still waters;  
God the Redeemer restores our souls.**  
Leader: Even when our way has danger, we will not fear,  
For our God walks beside us;  
**People: Our cups are overflowing with blessings,  
And goodness and mercy go with us,  
All the days of our lives;**  
Leader: And we shall dwell in God's House forevermore.  
**All: Praise be to the God of constant love, both now and eternally.**

-Psalm 23, *adapted*

\*The Gloria Patri No. 807: "Glory Be to the Father" *MEINEKE*

\*The Prayer of Invocation David Benzenhafer

The Greeting Charles Poole

The Lessons Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE**

The Meditation of Confession

Be absolved of old ways, and leave old sins behind. As you abandon the life of human weakness, dress in the new clothes of Christ, and be busy with doing Christ's work in the world.

Ephesians 5:13-14; Romans 13:14

The Silent Prayer

The Assurance of Pardon

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Major Treadway

The Meditation "Let Thy Blood in Mercy Poured" Jones

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

The Gospel John 9:1-41 Lesley Ratcliff

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem "Eternal Life" Dungan  
Jack McDaniel, *baritone*

The Sermon Lesley Ratcliff