



Sunday Worship
March 19, 2023
Draw near to God
for God is waiting for you.

* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able
italic type is spoken by the liturgist – bold is spoken by the congregation

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We have encountered the Word, calling us into communion with God and with each other.

And calling us into discipleship to carry on Christ's work in our world.

So we come together here, joining hands in the great quest:

To worship God, to love each other, and to serve the world.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Source of Light, God of great mercy and love, we come to you this day seeking restoration of our sight. Clear away our blindness, and give us a new vision of all that we can accomplish in your name. Give us strength and confidence to truly witness to your abiding love and faithfulness. For we offer this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

***HYMN #451** Open My Eyes, That I May See

1. Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me. Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!

2. Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear. And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

3. Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere. Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

CALL TO CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND BROKENESS

Forgiving God, in a world filled with so much pain, we would rather shut our eyes and be blind than see things as they really are. Grant us the courage to face the reality of our world, and give us the strength to bring your light to those who walk in darkness. Help us see others as you see them, and forgive us when we do not trust you enough to open our eyes to the possibilities before us. Heal our self-inflicted blindness, O God, and lead us in the footsteps of the Light of the World, who reveals your glory in his life, his teachings, and his love. In his holy name, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND BLESSING

...as we remember the good news: **Jesus died for me. Jesus forgives me. Jesus loves me. Jesus is good to me. Amen.**

***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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON 1 Samuel 16:1-13|
TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

***HYMN #188** Jesus Loves Me

1. Jesus loves me! This I know; for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong. They are weak but he is strong.

Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

2. Jesus loves me! This I know; as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee, saying "Let them come to me." *Refrain*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON John 9:1-41

SERMON Here's Mud in Your Eye

CALL FOR THE OFFERING AND MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious Lord, as followers who are blinded by your wondrous light, we seek to be amplified beacons of your astonishing light to others. Help us to reflect your love by listening to your call and to your will for our lives. In gratitude, we dedicate these gifts in the name of the one who lived, died, and rose for our sake, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND 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.

***HYMN #726** Will You Come and Follow Me

1. "Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"

2. "Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?"

3. "Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoner free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen, and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"

4. "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"

5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where you love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS March 12, 2023.

This week's carillon is in memory of Martin Klair.

Singers wanted for Easter morning service: Join us today following service for approximately 20 minutes. All singers welcome!

One Great Hour of Sharing: During the remainder of the Lenten season we will provide the opportunity for donations for One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS). These can be made on a weekly basis either by mailing donations, or by placing them in the large glass container in the sanctuary. Fish banks will be given to the children and are available for anyone else who would like to use them. The final offering will be received on Easter Sunday.

One Great Hour of Sharing is a special offering taken each year at this time. Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, the work made possible by OGHS provides people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Rev. Schaunel Steinnagel to return on Wednesday: Many enjoyed hearing about the ministry at The Welcome Church in Philadelphia when Rev. Steinnagel preached a few weeks ago. She will be returning this Wednesday, March 22 to share more informally stories about that ministry during our weekly Wednesday lunch at the church. Please join us and bring a lunch for what will be interesting and enlightening conversation.

April Friday Night Fellowship Sign Up: Due to the conflict with Holy Week services, Friday Night Fellowship will be held on April 14 (second Friday). The theme is *Italian Night*. Spaghetti and meatballs will be provided. We will need a couple of salads and bread as well as dessert. Part of our mission project is collecting shoes for Soles 4 Souls. This organization will take new or gently used shoes, and give them to those in need including providing them to women who start a small business selling the shoes in order to provide for their families. Sign up in Fellowship Hall or call the church office for Friday Night Fellowship.

Thursday night Bible Study: Thursday evenings we will explore scripture on Zoom from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. We will have one last discussion on the meaning of the cross, the central symbol of the Christian faith.

Food Pantry Needs: **This week we are asking for the following items: toilet paper, cake mix, flour or sugar.** Bring your item(s) to the church during the week or next Sunday morning. Donations are to be placed in the wagon located in the vestibule.

Vacation Bible School: Save the date – June 26-30, 9:00 am – Noon at The Anchor Presbyterian Church. Please contact Pastor Su if you can help.

<u>Calendar:</u>	March 19	9:00 am	Confirmation Class
		10:00 am	Worship Service - followed by Coffee Hour, Fellowship and Sunday school
		6:30 pm	Youth Group
	March 20	5:30 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
		7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop Meeting
	March 21	5:00 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting
		7:00 pm	Property Committee Meeting

