

St. John's United Church of Christ
March 14, 2021
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gathering Words

"This is the Day"

Unison Welcome

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here"

Announcements

Mission Moment

Greg St. Clair

Passing of the Peace

"The peace of Christ be with you"

"And also with you"

Prelude

Solemn Declaration

Call to Worship

from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

From water to wilderness:

God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

On stone and in hearts:

God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up:

God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

We follow Jesus on the Lenten path,

for where he is, we would be also.

Musical Meditation

Call to Confession

from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

This is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, for people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. Let us uncover our sin before the liberating light of Christ.

Prayer of Confession

from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

Merciful God, we confess the folly of our sin and the hypocrisy of our complaints. We grumble about the evils in our world, even as we commit injustice and profit through deceit. We fret about the scarcity of resources while hoarding earth's goods and cheating the poor. We protest the problems of the world, but we do not actively work to address them. Merciful God, expose our sins before the light of your grace. Heal our sin and free us from our foolish ways that we may know the joy of eternal life in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Kyrie (spoken rather than sung)

Hymnal Companion C-4

Words of Assurance

from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Glory Be to the Father #704 (spoken rather than sung)

Scripture Reading

Numbers 21:4-9; Ephesians 2:1-10

Children's Sermon

Diana Macfarlane

Anthem

"Guide My Wayfaring Feet"

arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

Scripture Reading

John 3:14-21

Sermon

Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

Musical Meditation

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (debts)

Musical Meditation

Invitation to Giving

Commission & Benediction

from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

Church, we have received the immeasurable riches of God's grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. Go forth to share this gift with others.

Postlude

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Special Thanks to everyone who made our worship possible this morning.

If you are ill, have a fever, or are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, we respectfully ask that you remain at home.

Our **Special Congregational Meeting** concerning upgrading our HVAC system will be held on Sunday, March 21, following the worship service. We will gather in the Sanctuary with the option to attend on Zoom (video chat or call-in). Meeting packets are available at the Welcome Center and on our [website](#).

Join us for our **Virtual Fellowship Time** this afternoon at 2 pm on Zoom. Our meeting ID is 956-4820-9436 and passcode is 755909. The direct link is [here](#).

Worship Resources:

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