



## Presbyterian Church of Western Springs

Sunday, March 22, 2020 | 9:30 A.M.

# Worshipping Together this Fourth Sunday in Lent

### Gathering Together in God's Name – *Wherever We May Be*

Prelude

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

Traditional Spiritual  
arr. by Myra Schubert

Gathering & Greeting

The Rev. Erik P. Khoobyarian

Gathering Song

Come, Let Us Worship and Bow Down

Dave Doherty

Come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.

Come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.  
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand, just the sheep of his hand.

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

*Come, let us worship and bow down! Let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker!*

We worship God who is not contained in a building –  
the God from whom we can never truly distance ourselves!

*Come, let us worship and bow down! Let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker!*

What a wonder it is that God calls us the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

What a wonder it is indeed.

What a wonder and a blessing that God rejoices in us and welcomes us and surrounds us with God's loving arms.

Let us pray:

We rejoice in your faithful love for us,  
and we give you thanks for the joy we anticipate  
when the day comes that we are summoned back together.  
In the meantime, narrow the distance between us,  
connect us by your Holy Spirit,  
and help us to worship you anew, today. Amen.

## Opening Hymn #306

## Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Verses 1-4

DENNIS

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in  
 2 Be - fore our \*Fa - ther's throne we pour our  
 3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual  
 4 When we are called to part, it gives us  
 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we

Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of  
 ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our  
 bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each  
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be  
 shall be free; and per - fect love and

kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.  
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.  
 friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## Call to Confession

## Prayer of Confession (first in silence and then in one voice)

Gracious and loving God, we confess that our lives are often overwhelmed by many voices other than yours. Help us to silence any other voices and be guided instead by you. Give us your heart. Transform our minds that we might be tuned to bring your love into the world. In the midst of fear, may we bring comfort. In the midst of anxiety, may we walk alongside the anxious and allow others to walk with us in our anxiety. God of all creation, you have been moving in the world since the beginning, and we confess that we forget sometimes that this world is yours, and all that is in it. Embrace us and remind us in whose arms we are held. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

## Response of Praise #581

## Glory Be to the Father

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.

## Passing the Peace of Christ

## Proclaiming the Word of God

### Gospel Lesson

### John 9:1-27

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The 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?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He 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." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then 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." Some 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. So 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."

The 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 and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but 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." His 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. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So 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." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He 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?"

Sermon

Rejoice

The Rev. Erik P. Khoobyarian



## Responding to God's Word

Hymn of Response #649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

AMAZING GRACE

The musical score consists of three staves of music in common time (indicated by '3/4') and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The top staff is in treble clef, the middle staff is in bass clef, and the bottom staff is in treble clef. The lyrics are as follows:

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

### Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

*Please send prayer concerns by phone or email to Pastor Erik at [erik@presbyws.org](mailto:erik@presbyws.org).*

*The prayer list will be included in the Weekly Connection starting this Thursday.*

[Click here](#) to sign up to receive the Weekly Connection and other important communications from PCWS.

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.

### Invitation for Financial Stewardship

*Your ongoing financial giving is important as we seek to continue our ministry at PCWS.*

Please consider making your contribution online. You can make a one-time payment or set-up automatic payments.

<https://presbyws.org/donate/>

Reach out to Patrick Rivers ([patrick@presbyws.org](mailto:patrick@presbyws.org)) with any questions  
or for help in setting up payments through your bank.

## Go in God's Name

Sending Hymn #697

Take My Life

Verses 1, 2, 5, 6

HENDON



1 Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
3 Take my voice and let me sing al-ways, on - ly, for my King;  
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would I with-hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in  
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -  
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -  
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - ery power as

cease - less praise; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
ges from thee, filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.  
thou shalt choose, ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne,  
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee,  
ever, only, all for thee.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Will You Come and Follow Me?

arr. by C.E. Walz

THANK YOU TO: *Stephanie Coates,  
Kate Kelly, and Roger Dold* for their  
leadership in worship today!

Livestream and inclusion of copyrighted lyrics and music  
granted by OneLicense.net #A-713281.



Presbyterian  
Church  
of Western  
Springs

5250 Wolf Road  
Western Springs, IL 60558-1898

[www.presbyws.org](http://www.presbyws.org)

708-246-5220 Phone  
708-246-4276 Fax