

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

4th Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2014

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Concerns of the Church

Prelude

“Lenten Song”

Anonymous

Chapel Choir

Call to Worship

God does not see as mortals see.

We look on the outward appearance; God looks on the heart.

Jesus, Light of the World, give us eyes to see as you see!

Once we lived in darkness, but now —

as children of light, we are called to what is good and right and true.

Jesus, Light of the World, give us eyes to see as you see!

* Hymn 634

“To God Be the Glory”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,

we are people who still love darkness rather than light.

We keep shameful deeds secret,

but flaunt our occasional acts of virtue.

We see ourselves as blameless, but pass judgment on others.

We do not stand firmly enough with those who are vulnerable,

but step back, protecting ourselves. Forgive us, we pray.

Bring us into your light that we may see ourselves rightly.

Bring us into your light that we may know ourselves loved.

Bring us into your light that we may live more fruitful lives.

Keep raising us, we pray, from the deadness of sin,

and shine upon us with your grace.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response (71)

Surely it is God who saves me, I will trust and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,

and God will be my Savior.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Ephesians 5:8-14

Psalter: Psalm 23 (Hymn 801)

A Time with Children

Anthem

“Kyrie Eleison”

Mayo

“Chapel Choir”

Gospel Lesson: John 9:1-41 (NT, p. 102)

Sermon: “Here’s Mud in Your Eye”

Ms. Tomlinson

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 649

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles’ Creed (p. 35)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (p. 35)

Minute for One Great Hour of Sharing

Offering

Offertory

“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

arr. Kimball

* Doxology (606)

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 738

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude

“Postlude”

Penfield

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers this morning have been given by Jo and John Conklin to the glory of God and in memory of our parents.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Guest Preacher	Ms. Margo Tomlinson
Directory of Educational Ministries	Tina Ide
Director of Music	Susan Kelly
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Members of the Chapel Choir
Ushers	John Conklin, Carole LaCoe, Shirley McLaughlin, Brian Schillinger



We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

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Ephesians 5:8-14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

John 9:1-41

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?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and

obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

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

Jesus 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." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.