

First Presbyterian Church

Morrison, Illinois

March 19, 2023

4th Sunday in Lent

10:15AM

Enter This Church That We Might Worship Together!



PRELUDE

THE GATHERING WELCOME

Pastor: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

INTROIT

Open My Eyes That I May See

No. 324 Vs. 1

OPENING PRAYER & MOMENT FOR MEDITATION (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.’”

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively) (Psalm 23)

Pastor: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

All: He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

Pastor: He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

All: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

Pastor: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

All: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

***HYMN**

“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us

No. 17

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Lord, forgive us for the many ways in our life in which we remain blind to your love, to your Word, and to your Spirit. We stray from you into the darkness, forgetting that you can still see. Forgive us for our transgressions and bring us home to you so we may fully live. We pray this in Jesus’ name.....*Silent prayer followed by ‘Amen’.*

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (Unison)

Through Jesus, we are able to see once again. Let us redirect our sight unto our Lord and let the love of God triumph within us. Praise be Jesus’ name. Amen.

***HYMN**

Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)

No. 579

TIME WITH THE GROWING CHURCH (Concluding with the Lord’s Prayer (p. 16))

GOSPEL READING

John 9:1-41

SERMON

HYMN

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

No. 280

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Concluding with “Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers”)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***HYMN**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)

No. 592

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION** (Unison)

Let us give thanks to Christ our King for the life we have been given, the love that surrounds it and the forgiveness that gives us new life, which allows us to see once again. In our new life dedicated to Jesus, may our eyes see the oppressions and the needs of the world and may the Holy Spirit help us to address these issues to the best of our ability so that God might truly live through us. We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

***HYMN**

Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining

No. 425

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE**

PASSING OF THE PEACE (*greeting: “Peace be with you,” response: “and also with you”*)

*You are invited to stand for this portion.

**Please remain seated until the conclusion of the postlude.

The Bible verses are read from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).



Depart This House That We Might Witness Together!

Remember in prayer: Individuals and families fighting COVID-19 infection; residents and staff of Resthove, Homestead, and Pleasant View; medical workers, essential employees, school teachers & staff; Dan Brandon, Orville Goodenough, Janet Johnson, Joyce Mathew, Shirley Mills, Marian Osborn, Youdelka Philippe (MSH), Cooke Shawver, Jean Temple, Rachel Tucker, Ray Tucker, Dick Vandermyde, Michael Vegter, Jr.

Love one another!

Livestream Worship Services

Each Sunday at 10:15am from the church's Facebook group page: www.facebook.com/groups/firstpresmorrison. And after the service on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcZlobAb6lcNXGA0cbuuVdg>

Bible Study We will meet Tuesdays at 9:30am at Pleasant View. Rick Barr will lead the weeks that Pastor Mike is unable.

"Messiah" Concert The Morrison Ecumenical Chorus will present the Lent and Easter portions of G.F. Handel's "Messiah" on Palm Sunday, April 2, at St Peter's Lutheran Church, 601 N Jackson St in Morrison. The concert, which is sponsored by the Morrison Ministers Council, begins at 7PM. A free-will offering will

be taken to cover expenses, with any extra funds going to the Ministers Council to help with their activities. All are invited to share in this special way to begin Holy Week.

Drive-Up Meal The next meal will be on March 30. We will be serving ham and potato soup. Meals will begin at **5:00PM**. Help is needed on Wednesday at 1:30pm and Thursday starting at 3:30pm.

Prayer Requests Have a prayer request? You can now email them to prayers.firstpresmorrison@gmail.com

Easter Lillies Please place orders for Easter flowers no later than March 19. See insert for details.

Birthdays

03/20: Collin Wolf
03/25: Heather Sim

STAFF

Minister. Rev. Dr. Mike Selburg
Office Manager. Stacie Baker
Organist. Scott Vandermyde
Custodian. Courtney Bruckner

SESSION ELDERS:

Lynn Knox	Tim Reynolds	Carol Wolf
Lexie Laughlin	Ron Shank	Deb Zigler
Angela Reamer	Scott Vandermyde	Stacie Baker, Clerk

*The Lord said to Samuel,
"How long will you grieve over Saul?
I have rejected him from being king over Israel.
Fill your horn with oil and set out;
I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite,
for I have provided for myself a king among his sons."
Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me."
And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say,
"I have come to sacrifice to the Lord."
Invite Jesse to the sacrifice,
and I will show you what you shall do;
and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you."
Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem.
The elders of the city came to meet him trembling,
and said, "Do you come peaceably?"
He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord;
sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice."
And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.
When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought,
"Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord."
But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature,
because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see;
they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."
Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel.
He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one."
Then Jesse made Shammah pass by.
And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one."
Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel,
and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these."
Jesse said to Samuel, "Are all your sons here?"
And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep."
And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here."
He sent and brought him in.
Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome.
The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one."
Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers;
and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.
Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.*

—1 Samuel 16:1-13


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