

4th Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026

GATHERING BEFORE THE WORD

Prelude *I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ* J.S. Bach
(the Chorale will be played followed by the Chorale Prelude) (1685-1750)

Greeting and Announcements **Opening Sentences**

***Doxology** - all to sing No. 592
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Prayer of Praise**

***Call to Worship**

Leader: We are children of light,

People: rejoicing in everything good and right and true.

Leader: We worship the Lord who heals, liberates, and raises us from the dead.

People: In the dream of the beloved community of God, we are awake, and we stand in the light of Christ.

Leader: Let us worship God.

***Opening Hymn** [“Arise Your Light Is Come!”](#)

***Call to Confession**

Leader: How do we know when our actions are right?—When the fruits of our labors are good and true. Christ is the light that exposes all we keep hidden, but offers us healing and renewal instead of judgment. Therefore, let us hold up our sins to Christ’s gaze.

***Prayer of Confession** (in unison)

God of compassion and mercy, we sometimes fail to see what you are doing in the world. We want you to act in ways we predict, but we forget: you do what is good, not what is expected. Forgive us when we do not recognize your miracles. Forgive us when we doubt the wisdom of your

actions. Most of all, forgive us when we do not respond to your call, ignoring what we need to do to show the world your love and grace.

A Time of Silent Prayer

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: Jesus restores our souls and leads us in right paths for his name’s sake. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives long. This is good news!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***Response of Praise**-all to sing “Gloria Patri” No. 579
*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.*

***We Share God’s Peace**

Leader: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

(You are invited to share God’s peace as you greet those around you.)

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Sacrament of Baptism

Special Music *The Old Rugged Cross* Mark Hayes, Arr.
(born 1953)

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading [1 Samuel 16:1-13](#) (NRSV)

Hymn (seated) “Jesus Loves Me” No. 304
*Jesus loves me! This I know. For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

Children’s Message

(Children grades K-8 may be dismissed to Sunday School)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading

[John 9:1-41 \(NRSV\)](#)

Sermon

“Might Be Revealed”

whom I name

The Rev. M. Rex Espiritu

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Sending Hymn [“Amazing Grace”](#)

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Allegro Johann Gottfried Walther
(from *Concerto del Signor Meck*) (1684-1748)

(We invite you to remain seated through the Postlude.)

*Indicates that those who are able may stand.

Lectionary readings for March 22, 2026

Ezekeil 37:1-14; Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45