

Building a more diverse and open community of committed Christian servants. Worship for March 19, 2023

4th Sunday in Lent

Prelude Intermezzo op.117 #2 Johannes Brahms

Narmina Aliyeva, piano

Passing of the Peace*

Call to Worship* (Ephesians 5:8-14)

Rev. Lou Seipel *Rise in body or spirit

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light.

As children of light—the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true.

Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.

Sleeper awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you and me.

Opening Hymn* He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought UMH #128

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me, By his own hand he leadeth me; His faithful follower I would be, For by his hand he leadeth me.

Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, Sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom, By waters still, o'er troubled sea, Still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me, By his own hand he leadeth me; His faithful follower I would be, For by his hand he leadeth me.

Lord, I would place my hand in thine, Nor ever murmur nor repine; Content, whatever lot I see, Since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me, By his own hand he leadeth me; His faithful follower I would be, For by his hand he leadeth me. And when my task on earth is done, When by thy grace the victory's won, E'en death's cold wave I will not flee, Since God through Jordan leadeth me.

He leadeth me, he leadeth me, By his own hand he leadeth me; His faithful follower I would be, For by his hand he leadeth me.

© Words by Joseph H. Gilmore (1862). Music by William B. Bradbury (1864)

Hebrew Bible Reading Rev. Dom Short Mejia

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Children's Moments Rev. Lou Seipel (After the conclusion of the Children's moments, children 4 years old-3rd grade are invited to attend Children's Church

in South Fellowship Hall until the end of the worship service)

Special Music Wounded Alleluias Craig Courtney

Tim Byrer, Erin Angel, Emily Campbell with Narmina Aliyeva, piano

Collection of prayer cards

Season of Prayer Rev. Lou Seipel

Silent Prayer Pastoral Prayer Lord's Prayer

Offering of Ministries and Gifts Rev. Dom Short Mejia

Offertory Music Restored (Gospel Restoration Song) Shawna Edwards Tim Berridge & Friends

Doxology* Lenten Doxology



"Lenten Doxology" words by G.W. Dub Shepherd (2006), music attr to Louis Bourgeois (1551).

Offertory Prayer*

Rev. Dom Short Mejia

Generous God, as we remember Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, we acknowledge the temptation that pursues so many of us: to measure our worth, our power, and our security by what we have. As we offer these gifts to you this morning, we pray that you might deliver us from the temptation of building our lives around what belongs to us. Continually lead us to the conviction that what matters is that we belong to you. We pray in the name of our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.

Gospel Reading* John 9:1-25 Rev. Dom Short Mejia

Sermon "20/20" Rev. Lou Seipel

Closing Hymn* Open My Eyes, That I May See UMH #454

Open my eyes, that I may see Glimpses of truth thou hast for me; Place in my heands the wonderful key That shall unclasp ans set me free.

Silently now I wait for thee, Ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears that I may hear Voices of truth thou sendest clear; And while the wavenotes fall on my ear, Everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee, Ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my moth, and let me bear Gladly the warm truth everywhere; Open my heart and let me prepare Love with thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for thee, Ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

© Words & music by Clara H. Scott (1895).

Benediction* Rev. Lou Seipel

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever he may send you. May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.

May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you.

May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors

Postlude Prelude in C major Gara Garayev

Narmina Aliyeva, organ

Announcements

<u>Altar Flowers</u>: The flowers on the altar represent Spring blessings to my church family from Patti Mills. In honor or in memory of a person important in your life, tell someone **today** that you love them. 53, 75

<u>Livestreamed Service</u>: The 10am service is being livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

Weekly Offering (electronically): Go to https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z2ZG/home

Events today: Lenten Study 9am in Conference Room; Impact 6 pm Potter Chapel

<u>Upcoming events next Sunday, March 26</u>: Easter Egg Hunt and potluck; homebound bag pickup for delivery volunteers; Elizabeth Circle sandwich making

<u>Easter Flower Sale</u>: Potted Easter lilies, tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, and azaleas are on sale. See the Flower Order Form in today's bulletin, at the Easter flower table in the church lobby, or the church office. Sale ends March 26.

<u>One-Hour book club</u>: The Open Hearts Ministry Team recently read My Body is Not a Prayer Request, Disability Justice in the Church by Amy Kenny. The book helped us look inward and at WUMC as we considered ableism and disability justice. We want to share the experience and broaden awareness, so we are offering a book discussion available to everyone on Zoom, March 21 at 7pm. Gari Aber will moderate. The book is available in the office for \$18. It's also available from the public library and on Kindle. Contact the church office for the Zoom link.

<u>Worthington Interfaith Neighbors Conversation Partners Program</u>: The 16-session program will be starting on April 4. It meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. To sign up or for more information, contact Jim Heilman at <u>conversationpartnerswin@gmail.com</u>

<u>Friendship & Attendance Card</u>: Let us know you are here this morning by filling out our Friendship & Attendance card or use our virtual card! Go to https://forms.gle/x31z6SFh1zFiasTn9

Next Week's Lectionary: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Greeters: Sally Falk, Jim Gahman, Sally Jordan, Jerry & Liz Knorr, Kay Mollman, John Wolters, Ann Wheat

Ushers: Dave Dudley, Mark & Michelle Hadley, Marty Schwarz Jacob, Vivian Schweb, Gary Sieg, Ellen Stiner

<u>Audio & Visual Team:</u> Brian Wingerter, Jessica Sapp, Kent Koch, Craig Kramer, Ken MacFarlane

Worthington UMC Staff

Pastoral: Rev. Louise R. Seipel, Rev. Dominic Short Mejia, Rev. Cal Holloway, Ashley Gerard

Administrative: Mindy Go, Jessica Sapp, Dennis Yep

Facilities: Eddie Jarrell, Kelvin Poole

<u>Music:</u> Jarod Ogier, Tim Berridge, Erin Angel, Tim Byrer, Emily Campbell, Emily Phillips, and Narmina Aliyeva

(piano, organ)

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Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors