



Order of Worship for March 19, 2023

***Please rise if comfortably able**

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Prelude

River In Judea

Chancel Choir

composed by Linda Marcus & Jack Feldman

Welcoming and Announcements

Pastor Sharon Kichline

Blessing of the Children as they join Living Stones

Centering

***Welcoming the Light of Christ with Song**

Be Thou My Vision

UMH 451

***Call to Worship**

Pastor Joshua Krakos

Leader: Once you lived in darkness.

People: Now the light of God has shone upon us.

Leader: Find what is pleasing to God and follow God's ways.

People: The acts of darkness are left behind as we journey to God's light.

Leader: Thanks be to God who gives us the light.

People: Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your light of salvation.

***Opening Prayer**

In Unison

Gracious God, who created us in God's own image, we are grateful for all that you have done for us, for all that you are doing in us, and for all that you will do through us. Open our eyes to see your presence among us, moving in powerful ways at all times and in all places. Open our ears to hear familiar words in new ways— ways that will change us and challenge us to become the people you created us to be. Grant us the power and the courage to come out of the darkness and into the light of Jesus Christ that we may serve you by serving others. We love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Amen.

***Passing the Peace of Christ Among Us**

Let us greet one another with words of hope—words that come from the wellspring of love flowing within us because of our encounter with the living Christ.

*You are invited to greet your neighbors offering the peace of Christ
with a wave and a smile ☐*

Through this invitation to share our gifts, we acknowledge that God has blessed us abundantly, and that we are to be a blessing to the world. In the very act of giving, in every act of bestowing blessings on another, we find that we are blessed yet again. I encourage you now to enter fully into this amazing cycle of blessing.

Collection of Our Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology and Blessing our Offerings

Generous God, you shower us with gifts, including the greatest gift of all, your own Son, Jesus Christ. In thanksgiving and praise, we offer you our time, our money, our very selves. In these actions, we proclaim our intention to be a blessing in your world. Amen.

Prayers of the People

*Gospel Lesson

John 9:1-25

Preparing our Hearts

Open our Eyes

FWS 2086

The Message

“When the Bottom Falls Out”

Pastor Sharon

Prayer Response

In the light of God, all is made clear. We see how much God loves us and how much God loves all people. We see Christ, the Light of the World, in Scripture and in our lives; and although we once were blind, now we see! Thanks be to God! Amen.

Sending Song

Amazing Grace vs 1-2,6

UMH 378

*Benediction

Pastor: Go into the world, carrying the light of Christ into the darkness!

People: We go, with hearts full and eyes open!

Pastor: Receive God’s love and care, and share that love and care with others!

People: We go, with eyes reflecting God’s light and hands open to share it!

Pastor: May you walk in the light of Christ all the days of your life!

People: We will follow Christ wherever he leads us! Amen!

*Sending Forth



*How wonderful to have you in worship with us today!
We are a church family that welcomes you.*