

WE GATHER IN CHRIST'S NAME

GATHERING MUSIC *Prelude* Henry Coleman

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CENTERING SILENCE The Rev. Dr. James Butler

LENTEN BELL

CALL TO CONFESSION Subhana Graf

The Lenten "sacrifice" God desires is a humble heart and a contrite spirit.

Trusting in your mercy, O Lord, we acknowledge our need of your grace.

In silence, we prepare to confess the ways we have failed to love God and neighbor.

SILENT REFLECTION

UNISON CONFESSION

Merciful God, when we try to hide shameful deeds from you while we flaunt an act of virtue, forgive us and set us free. When we refuse to acknowledge our faults but pass judgment on others for theirs, forgive us and set us free. When we do not stand with the oppressed and the vulnerable but support those who cause them harm, forgive us and set us free. When we avert our eyes from what we need to look at, forgive us and set us free to do what is pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SUNG CONFESSION (Hymn 423, v.1, 3)

Create in me a clean heart, O God. Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Restore in me the joy of your salvation. Restore in me the joy of your salvation.

Restore in me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with your Holy Spirit.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

* HYMN 54 "Make a Joyful Noise to God!" DIX

* ACCLAMATION AND PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Beloved in Christ: God is with us!

We are not alone!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

FIRST LESSON Ephesians 5:8-14 (Pew Bible, N.T. p.194)

BELL CHOIR ANTHEM *Be of Good Courage* Donald Allured

* GOSPEL LESSON John 9:1-41 (Pew Bible, N.T. p.102)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SUNG BLESSING (Hymn 487, v. 5)

Then, tender God, each child embrace. Lord, give them blessings, grant them grace.

Surprise them, Lord, with wonders still. And gently guide them to your will.

SERMON "Turning a Blinded Eye" Dr. Butler

"...and those who do see start to lose their sight."

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

* HYMN 450 "Be Thou My Vision" SLANE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven: hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us, this day, our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY *Prayer* Clément Loret

* DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)
***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 DEDICATION

