



Wandering Heart

"I'm fixed upon it"

Fourth Sunday in Lent



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 10, 2024 10:30 am



In Preparation for Worship

“Faith is not limited to affirming the existence of God. No, faith tells us that God loves us and demands a loving response. This response is given through love for human beings, and that is what we mean by a commitment to God and to our neighbor.” – *Gustavo Gutiérrez*

Prelude

Bénédiction de Dieu dans la solitude
Franz Liszt

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship*

Leader: On our worst days,

People: God is good.

Leader: On our best days,

People: God is good.

Leader: When life is consistent,

People: God is good.

Leader: And, when life turns on its head,

People: God is good.

Leader: Let us hold tight to that good news!

Opening Hymn*

The Way

Faith - ful - ly I learned to fol - low
Life was ea - sy, faith was sta - ble
Thread by thread my faith un - rav - eled
Though the way leads through steep can - yons

4
Step by step and not to stray
Then the path - way climbed up - hill
When the way be - came un - known
I sur - ren - der my con - trol



Prayer of Confession*

Holy God,
 We often find ourselves moving through a world that does not make sense.
 Like Peter, we want to yell out, "This should not happen!"
 We want to control scenarios beyond our reach.
 We want to hold your world in our hands.
 Forgive us for the moments when we lead with declarations instead of curiosity.
 Forgive us for arguing when we could listen.
 Forgive us for fixating on one truth, when we could open ourselves up to many.
 Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen.
 With hope in our hearts we pray,
(a moment of silence is kept for personal prayers)

Leader: Lord, in your mercy
 People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness*

Song of Praise 582* Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Matthew 16:21-23

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
 People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Rebekah Adams

Children are welcome to come forward for Tell Us Our Story. After Tell Us Our Story, parents of children in Kindergarten or younger, will walk children across courtyard to Room 117 (3 and under) and Room 120 (PreK and K). 1st through 5th graders will gather in the narthex and walk with leaders to 252Kid and 252Preteen. Parents will pick up from The Dock and The Lighthouse. Of course, all children are always welcome to remain in worship with their families.

Anthem

What Wondrous Love
arr. David Edmonds

Chancel Choir

Sermon

Divine Things

Michael Sanchez

Affirmation of Faith*

from A Sanctified Art

I believe in a God of second chances,
a God who sees through my stubbornness
and holds my fear with tenderness.
I believe that this God of second chances
uses ordinary people like Peter to do good in the world.
Therefore, I believe and hope that God can use me too.
I believe that from time to time, God invites us to imagine the impossible.
I believe that from time to time, God invites us to change our minds.
This change is holy and important work, although challenging.
When fear and scarcity plague me,
or when the impossible feels out of reach,
I believe that God meets me with grace and invites me to follow.
Thanks be to God for a love like that.
Amen.

Prayers of the People and 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.

The Offering

Arise!
arr. Timothy H. Waugh

Festival Ringers

Closing Hymn* 165

The Glory of These Forty Days

Benediction*

Choral Amen*

Postlude*

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus
arr. Mark Hayes