

WELCOME

OPENING SENTENCES

Lord Christ, open our eyes to see clearly the light of the world.

Holy Spirit, illumine our minds to perceive God's glory shining among us.

Almighty God, prepare our hearts to see, to trust, to worship the Messiah.

PRAYER:

Gracious God, in order that we might discern good from evil you sent your Son to be the light to the world. As Christ shines upon us, may we learn what pleases you, and live in all truth and goodness. O God, as we worship and as we serve and as we live, may there be sight to our blindness, light to our darkness, faith to our unbelief, love to our apathy; in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

As children of God's light, we are called to do what is pleasing to the Lord: to participate in what is good and right and true, and expose what is unfruitful and evil. Knowing that we turn from the light, we bring our confession to God, so that what is hidden in us becomes visible, and the shadows of our hearts may be illumined by grace.

Let us pray:

God, our comforter and guide, we confess what comes between us and you. We have been blind to the faults in ourselves that we so readily detect in others. We prize appearance and credentials, and failing to see the heart, we rush headlong into temptation, without thought for what is right. We keep secret that which should bring us shame, and deny truths voiced by peoples we disdain. God of light, expose to us our sin, that we may confess and turn from it, and so live in the light of your forgiveness and love. Amen.

SILENCE

The psalmist assures us that God's goodness and mercy will follow us, even pursue us, all the days of our life. As God's forgiven people, let us receive this goodness and mercy, and live a new life in the grace of Jesus Christ. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, illumine our hearts and minds as the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may see what is good and right and true. And seeing, help us to do what is pleasing to you, so that your glory becomes visible in our words and deeds. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul and guides me along right paths for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you anoint my head with oil; my cup is running over. Surely your goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

MESSAGE

MUSICAL RESPONSE:

The Lord Will Be My Shepherd

Ellen Osborn

INTERCESSIONS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING SENTENCES

As we move onward toward the cross and the grave, We ask for faith, hope, and trust.

As we navigate through the chaos of our current time, We ask for calm, assurance, and strength.

May we all remember that in the midst of all of life and living, God's grace reaches us, God's hope enlightens us, And God's love surrounds us all.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the kinship of the Holy Spirit be with us whether we are here, at home, or wherever we may be. Amen.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER MEMBERS Bob & Vina Rodecker, Bob & Janet Ross, Mark & Angie Schmith & family, Mike & Donaline Schmith & family, John & Connie Sponder, Don & Mary Stokes

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS Sally Manker(3/26), Daren Koehler(3/27)

FAITH UNITED PRESBYTERIAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

WFAM No WFAM until school is back in session.

EASTER BASKETS It's Easter basket time again! We will be doing Easter baskets for the children ages 0-18 for the Crittenton Center. You can make your own, buy one, or donate money. Money can be given to one of the Mission Committee members, Peggy Reid, Harriett Marsh, Kelly Berkanpas, or Becky Bainbridge, and they will make the Easter basket for you. We will need to have all the Easter baskets by Sunday April 5. Thank you!

EASTER EGG HUNT Faith United will be having an Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday during Sunday school at 9:30. We will provide baskets but you are welcome to bring your own. We will be happy to accept any contribution of individually wrapped candy or donation to the candy fund that you would like to make. Please give your contribution to any member of the Christian Ed committee by Wednesday, April 1st. The youth will be stuffing eggs on Palm Sunday the 5th of April. The Christian Ed committee thanks you all for your care of our children and those in Siouxland. Carol Butler, Michele Butler, Becky Bainbridge, Mary Daniels, Tina Hansen, and Peggy Reid