Fourth Sunday in Lent March 27, 2022

Gathering God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Bring Them In Almost Persuaded Birchwood Barnett

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

Call to Worship (*Responsively*)

Hob Pusey

Let us contemplate Jesus the Lord: Instead of the joy meant for him, he endured the cross, disregarding its disgrace. We worship you, Lord. O Jesus Christ, born in humility to confound the proud and to raise the humble: We worship you, Lord. You lived among us, healing the sick, proclaiming good news to the poor and freedom to prisoners. We worship you, Lord. You came to unbind the chains of every slavery, O friend of the humble, bread of hungry hearts. We worship you, Lord. Jesus, full of patience and goodness, you showed forgiveness and kindness to the very end. We worship you, Lord. Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, you call to yourself all who are weary and burdened. We worship you, Lord. Jesus, you came into the world to serve and to give your life; you were betrayed for money, dragged before judges, and nailed to a cross. We worship you, Lord. Jesus, Lord of the universe, by your resurrection from the dead you are alive at the Father's side, and there you prepare a place for us. We worship you, Lord.

Invocation

Hob Pusey

All-knowing and all-caring God, we gather this day drained by another week. We are like a parched desert, empty and in need of replenishment. Visit us with your presence, saturate us with your Spirit, and bathe us in your streams of living water, that our lives might acknowledge and worship you to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ. **Amen!**

Hymn Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed be Your name In the land that is plentiful Where Your streams of abundance flow Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name When I'm found in the desert place Though I walk through the wilderness Blessed be Your name

Pre-Chorus Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll Turn back to praise When the darkness closes in Lord Still I will say

Chorus Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your name Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name When the sun's shining down on me When the world's all as it should be Blessed be Your name

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge (x2) You give and take away You give and take away My heart will choose to say Lord blessed be Your name

<u>Confessing</u> God invites us to be honest with Him

Prayer of Confession

Hob Pusey

God of comfort and mercy, you sent your prophets to proclaim, "Make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God." We confess we have not done as you asked; instead, we have sinned in thoughts, words, and deeds by what we have done and by what we have left undone. [silent confession]

In your mercy, forgive us, O Lord; help us to proclaim your message. Equip us to walk more faithfully in the footsteps of Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Hob Pusey

Cindy Ruakere

Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God!**

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, Is now and ever shall be, world without end. A-men, A-men.

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation	Let us be faithful stewards of our time, our talents,
	and our money. so that our treasure is in heaven
	and our giving pleases God.

Offering

Offertory

Receive (Mike Lenz)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

Prayer of Dedication

God of wonder, we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and mercy. Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know the riches of your love in the Word-made-flesh. **Amen.**

Y Hymn 3 Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

Proclaiming God speaks to us through His Word

Children's Sermon

In God We Trust

Dennis Lesher

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading Matthew 7:13-14

¹³ "Enter through the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the road broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who go through it. ¹⁴ How narrow is the gate and difficult the road that leads to life, and few find it.

Sermon

"The Narrow Gate" Rev. Tim Latham

Responding We respond to God's Word

Hymn 376 *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

Profession of Faith

I believe that God, because of Christ's satisfaction, will no longer remember any of my sins or my sinful nature which I need to struggle against all my life. Rather, by grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgment.

Prayers of the People

<u>Commissioning</u> God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

Hymn 66 To God Be the Glory

Benediction & Blessing

This morning's Prayer Partners are Carolyn Thompson and Don Titus

Postlude

With Might and Majesty

Scott