

Steveston United Church
Sunday March 22nd, 2020 10:00 am
Rev. Brenda Miller

Fourth Sunday of Lent



We Gather As God's People

Lighting the Christ Candle

All: "Let the Light of Christ fill this place. Amen"

We are Called to Worship

One: God, our Shepherd, calls us.

**All: God leads us beside quiet streams,
and into lush meadows.**

One: Even in dark and difficult places,
God never abandons us.

**All: God pursues us to the ends of Earth,
upholding us in love.
We come to worship God,
and to have our cup runneth over.**

Prayer of Approach

**All: God of all pilgrims, God of all seekers,
we come to hear your word and have it change us.
We come to be refreshed by your presence,
and to be reminded that we are never far from you.
Open our eyes to see your love in the stranger,
open our eyes. Amen.**

Opening Hymn *“The Lord’s My Shepherd”*

VU p, 747

Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: It’s right that we should follow Jesus into the desert.
The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Learning Together

Prayer of Confession

**All: Merciful God, you made your promise with Noah
and the whole earth – a promise you will always keep.
We know we don’t always keep our promises.
There are temptations all around us.
We are tempted to take the easy way out,
instead of doing the hard work you ask of us.
It’s so tempting to live in the way of the world,
we don’t give it another thought.
We don’t live lives that are modelled
on your steadfast love for us and all people.**

It’s tempting to make assumptions about the situation
the world is in right now. “Why don’t They do something?
Why don’t You do something? What’s taking so long,
we’re scared.” We wonder where you are.
Forgive us when we have “little faith” and turn away
from you. Give us strength and lead us in your way, O God.
Please hear our prayers, for others and ourselves. Amen

Words of Assurance

**“The Good News of the Gospel is this:
our God is loving and life-giving.
Always, and always, and always.
We are forgiven, unconditionally.
Thanks be to God.”**

We Listen to God’s Word

Psalter - Psalm 23 (NRSV Bible/ or your own Bible) p. 435,436
Christian Scripture John 9:1-41 (pew Bible p. 871, 872)

One: The Word of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Response

VU 37

“Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, hallelujah, hallelujah!”

Our Response

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

We Are Sent Out

Closing Hymn *“What a Fried We Have in Jesus”*

VU 664

Commissioning *(please remain standing, if comfortable)*

**All: We go out, eyes opened;
with Christ as our vision.
We go out, once wounded;
with Christ as our light and life.
We go out, through the open gate that is Christ.**

Congregational Response

Cliff Barrows

**All: “May God’s blessing surround you each day,
as you trust God and walk in his way.
May God’s presence within
guard and keep you from sin.
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love,
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.”**

The Benediction

**“May the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with all of you.”**

Three-fold Amen