

*The 13th century Christian mystic, Meister Eckhart, said this:
"Be willing to be a beginner every single morning."*

Third Sunday in Lent: Curiosity
March 23, 2025 10:30 AM

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE "When We are Living" Emma Lou Diemer

() Indicates that all are invited to stand*

***LENTEN INVITATION**

One: Awe-inspiring God, we come together this day
because we need to be reminded to see through the lens of wonder.

All: Inspire us to receive our surroundings with awe.

One: Forgive us when we focus only on what's wrong
rather than allowing the right and good to show us the way forward.

All: Be with us on this journey as we seek again to marvel at all your works of love!

*GATHERING HYMN “God of Grace and God of Glory” #436 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack) verses 1,3, and 5
**God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power;
Crown your ancient church’s story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**Cure your children’s warring madness; bend our pride to your control.
Shame our reckless, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, make our broken spirits whole,
Make our broken spirits whole.**

**Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the source for your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore,
Serving you whom we adore.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" Sebastian Temple;
Arr. Tom Fettke

LISTENING

God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.

CONTEMPORARY READING

an excerpt from Scott Shigeoka, author of Seek: How Curiosity Can Transform Your Life and Change the World

SCRIPTURE READING Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Pew Bible p. 515

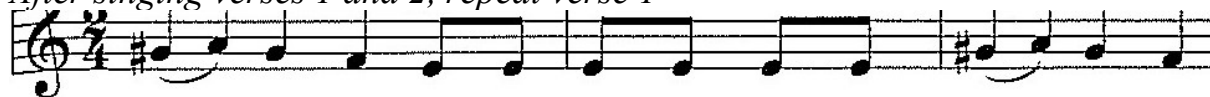
One: A Word of God that is stilling speaking. **All: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF REFLECTION "Open Your Ears, O Faithful People" #453 *Glory God Hymnal*

After singing verses 1 and 2, repeat verse 1



1 O - pen your ears, O faith - ful peo - ple; o - pen your
2 They who have ears to hear the mes - sage, they who have



ears and hear God's word. O - pen your hearts, O
ears, now let them hear; they who would learn the



roy - al priest - hood; God has come to you.
way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.

Refrain



God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!



God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!



God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!



God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!

RESPONDING

We respond to God's Word through our prayers and our gifts.

NAMING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: "Visio Divina"



Image by Freepik

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 Chorale Prelude, on the tune "Bevan"

Healey Willan

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE: tune #778 *New Century Hymnal*

**Praise God, Creator of us all, Praise Christ, by whom we hear our call,
Praise Spirit, that which sets us free, Our awe is yours, the One-in-Three.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

With God's blessing, we are sent forth to follow Christ in the world.

* COMMISSIONING HYMN “Be Now My Vision” #451 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**Be now my vision, O God of my heart; nothing surpasses the love you impart—
You my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, your presence my light.**

**Be now my wisdom, and be my true word; ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me, now and forever your child I will be.**

**Riches I need not, nor life’s empty praise, you, my inheritance, now and always;
You and you only are first in my heart, great God, my treasure, may we never part.**

**Sovereign of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s
Sun!**

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Tell Out, My Soul”

J. Wayne Kerr

Worship Endnotes: Various worship elements are adapted from www.worshipdesignstudio.com
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Lent Week 3 reflection and activity: Curiosity

What would you like to learn more about? Take a photo of something that stirs up curiosity and the desire to know more. Is there perhaps a mysterious object or place that you find intriguing? Send Pastor Sarah any pictures you’d like to share with the congregation, at smccann@hopeuccstl.org

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