



We might not see Albert Einstein as a mystic, but his quotes about life and spirituality have lived as long as his scientific theories. He said this: "We are slowed down sound and light waves, a walking bundle of frequencies tuned into the cosmos. We are souls dressed up in sacred biochemical garments and our bodies are the instruments through which our souls play their music."

Fourth Sunday in Lent: Delight
March 30, 2025 10:30 AM

GATHERING

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

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

PRELUDE *Introduction and Prayer* from "Suite Gothic" Leon Boellmann

() 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 "Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good"#6 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

Sing praise to God, our highest good, profound respect expressing.

God gives us health, life, livelihood, with every needed blessing.

To God, who wondrous works performs, creating life and calming storms,

To God give praise and glory!

Creation thanks you, Holy One: you made us and renew us.

Delighted at what you have done, you show your greatness through us.

So may all living things proclaim the wonders of their Maker's name:

To God give praise and glory!

What God has made, God will preserve, with righteousness unfailing.

Regardless what we may deserve, we see this good prevailing.

To God who governs evermore with justice serving rich and poor,

To God give praise and glory!

I cry to God, in pain and grief, "Please, God of mercy hear me!"

My certain help provides relief, faith, hope, and love to cheer me.

So let me know, joyful and free: ah, thankful Christians, sing with me:

To God give praise and glory!

*PASSING THE PEACE

CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

CHORAL ANTHEM "Grace"

Carolyn Hamlin

LISTENING

God speaks to us in the Word proclaimed.

CONTEMPORARY READING

excerpt from Dacher Keltner's research, Awe: The New Science of Everyday Wonder and How It Can Transform Your Life

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 36:5-10 Pew Bible p. 443

SERMON

SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN OF REFLECTION “Take My Life, God, Let It Be” #448 *New Century Hymnal*
(For full music, the *New Century Hymnal* is located in each pew rack)

**Take my life, God, let it be consecrated faithfully,
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my spirit, let it move at the impulse of your love.
Take my intellect and use all its powers as you choose.**

**Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwelling place.**

**Take my love and help it grow; let my loving overflow.
Take me now, and help me be part of Christ’s community.**

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 *Andante* from "Partita on Hyfrydol"

Charles Callahan

*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 "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing" #459

New Century Hymnal

(For full music, the New Century Hymnal is located in each pew rack)

**Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love.**

**Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,
Come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own.**

*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Voluntary in D Minor"

John Stanley

Worship Endnotes: Various worship elements are adapted from www.worshipdesignstudio.com
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Lent Week 4 reflection and activity: Delight

What fills you with unbridled delight? Take a photo of a place, object, person, or experience that makes you feel gleeful and alive. Send Pastor Sarah any pictures you'd like to share with the congregation, at smccann@hopeuccstl.org

Donate from
your smart
phone

