



Central Presbyterian Church

210 W. Douglas Ave
Petersburg, IL 62675
217-632-2651
office@central-pres.org

March 19, 2023
4th Sunday in Lent

Welcome

Announcements

Please take a quiet moment to prepare your heart for worship.

Prelude *“There Once Was a Man”* Hughes

Prayer of Preparation *(for your personal use, during Prelude)*

Come, O Holy Spirit. Come as Holy Fire and burn in us, come as Holy Wind and cleanse us within, come as Holy Light and lead us in the darkness, come as Holy Truth and dispel our ignorance, come as Holy Power and enable our weakness, come as Holy Life and dwell in us. Convict us, convert us, consecrate us, until we are set free from the service of ourselves, to be your servants to the world. Amen.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

***Call to Worship**

L: Gracious God, who created us in God’s own image,

P: we are grateful for all that you have done for us, for all that you are doing in us, and for all that you will do through us.

L: Open our eyes to see your presence among us,

P: moving in powerful ways at all times and in all places.

L: Open our ears to hear familiar words in new ways,

P: ways that will change us and challenge us to become the people you created us to be.

L: Grant us the power and the courage to come out of the darkness and into the light of Jesus Christ, that we may serve you by serving others.

P: We love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Amen.

***Hymn “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” PH #466**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, in a world filled with so much pain, we would rather shut our eyes and be blind than see things as they really are. Grant us the courage to face the reality of our world, and give us the strength to bring your light to those who walk in darkness. Help us see others as you see them, and forgive us when we do not trust you enough to open our eyes to the possibilities before us. Heal our self-inflicted blindness, O God, and lead us in the footsteps of the Light of the World, who reveals your glory in his life, his teachings and his love. In his holy name, we pray. Amen.

Time of silence for personal reflection.

Assurance of Pardon

The Peace

L: Peace be with you.

P: And also with you.

***Gloria Patri “Glory Be to the Father” PH #579**

Chancel Choir “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Time with Young Disciples Jonah Steele

Old Testament Reading 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm Reading Psalm 23

New Testament Gospel Reading John 9:1-12

Sermon “*Light & Dark*” Jonah Steele

[New Testament Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14]

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who

