

Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 31, 2019

**indicates please stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

***Centering Song** “Open the Eyes of My Heart” **#452**

***Call to Worship (based on Psalm 32:1-2, 6-7)**

Let all who are faithful come before God this morning.

Then none of us would be here!

That’s too bad because God protects the faithful from the rush of mighty waters.

But we too want to be preserved from trouble, we want to hear the glad cries of deliverance.

That’s what I said! Let all who are faithful come before God. Let all who are pure in heart rejoice before God.

But am I pure? Am I faithful?

Then how about this: Let all whose transgressions are forgiven come before God.

Let all whose sin is covered by our Lord come this morning and rejoice. Rejoice!

***Opening Hymn** “Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart!” **#804**

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, is it too soon for me to rejoice in your love? Don’t I have to do something first? Maybe it’s too late for me, maybe I will never be able to rejoice. O God, I sit here almost in despair, I want you to hear me, I need you to hear me. I have sinned, and I continue to sin. But at the same time, I know Jesus Christ died on the cross for me. Help now to feel the truth of his sacrifice. Listen as I silently confess my sins...

Assurance of Pardon & Hope

Be assured, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Sung Response** “In My Life” (verse 4 only) **#468**

***Passing of the Peace** The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

THE WORD

Children’s Message

Hymn “My Life Flows On” (verses 1 & 2 only) **#821**

Scripture Luke 15:11-24 “Parable of the Prodigal and His Brother
(and Their Father)”

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 “Ministry of Reconciliation”

Sermon “Periods of Penance” Rev. Robert Drake

WE RESPOND

Offering (place prayer slips in plate to be read during prayer)

Offertory “Sweet Hour of Prayer” Martin

***Doxology** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” **#606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

SENDING OUT

***Closing Hymn** “My Life Flows On”
(Choir sings verse 3, remains seated. All stand and sing verse 4) **#821**

***Benediction**

***Closing Sung Response** “Send Me, Jesus/Thuma Mina” (verse 1 twice) **#746**

Postlude