



## Fourth Sunday in Lent March 10, 2024

**Preparing for Worship:** *Again and again, suffering and brokenness find us. Again and again, we mess up, and yet again and again, God's first response is love; a love that heals, forgives, and creates opportunities for deeper connection with God, with the world, and with our souls. This is Jesus' refrain in his conversation with a man called Nicodemus.*

Gathering Music

Nocturne No.21 (op. post.)

Frédéric Chopin

### We Approach God

Words of Welcome

Acknowledgment of the Land

Centering

*In the name of God, grace and peace be with you.  
And also with you.*

Lighting the Christ Candle

Calling to Worship

*Before we were born,  
Before we took our first breath,  
Before the week started,  
Before the year started,  
Before we said, "I love you,"  
Before we said, "I'm sorry,"  
Before we figured out who we really are,  
Before we figured out who we want to be,  
Before it all—  
God has loved us.  
Unconditionally and freely,  
Fully and honestly—  
God has always loved us.  
Again and again, this is where our story begins,  
and where it will end. God loves. Us.  
Let us worship God. \**

*\* Prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

Opening Song/Hymn

Stay with Us through the Night

VU 182

## Prayer for Gathering/Reflection

### We Explore for God's Word

Song                      Come as You Are                      *Lenora and Gary Rand*  
*performed by Richard Bastien, Shelley Snow*

Reading the Gospel    John 3 (1-13), 14-21

Reflecting on the Text    The Testimony of Nicodemus                      *Rev. Dr. Elisabeth Jones*  
*presented by Bob Birnie*

Sung Reprise              Come as You Are    (*reprise*)

### We Respond to God

Offering Our Time, Talent and Treasure  
Community Compass: Sustainability

Prayer of Dedication & Commitment              What Can I Do?                      **MV 191**

Prayers of the Community

*Prayer Slips*

Music for prayer Improvisation

The Lord's Prayer

*NZ Paraphrase*

*Shelley Snow*

**VU 916**

### We Prepare to Serve God in the World

Life and Work of the Community

Sending Hymn/Song              Guide-moi, Berger fidèle / Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah  
v.1 Fr, v.1-3 Eng                      **VU 651**

Sending Out with Blessing

*May we go into the brightness of the day,  
and the shadows of the night*

**with questions wide and deep enough to search for God's answers.**

*May we live into the truth and light of God's love for the world,  
so that, in our actions, in our connections, in our speech, and in our dreams,  
God's Dream will be made known through us,  
as we live as followers of the Way of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Postlude                      This Little Light of Mine (*piano*)              *attrib. Harry Dixon Loes, arr. Mark Hayes*

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