

* One asterisk means to stand, as you are able.

After worship, the minister stands at the side door, the closest exit for those with special needs.

Citations for references used during worship are available from the ministers, upon request.

The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible is used during worship, *unless otherwise noted.*

A *lectionary* is a selection of Bible readings to be used for worship and study.

This congregation uses the Revised Common Lectionary, which follows the liturgical year in a three-year cycle. Its scriptural recommendations complement the current season of the liturgical year.

Lectionary Year A for the Fifth Sunday in Lent, **March 26:**
Ezekial 37:1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45.

Lectionary Year A for the Fourth Sunday in Lent,
March 19: *1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 23, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41.*



We welcome all to the community of Jesus: to connect, to learn, to worship, to serve.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023 10 a.m.

LARGE PRINT

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Music *Just As I Am* - arr. Joel Raney

*Call to Worship

One: God does not see as mortals see.
We look on the outward appearance,
but God looks on the heart.

**Many: Jesus, Light of the World,
give us eyes to see as you see!**

One: Once we lived in darkness;
but now, as children of light,
we are called to what is good, right, and true.

**Many: Jesus, Light of the World,
give us eyes to see as you see!**

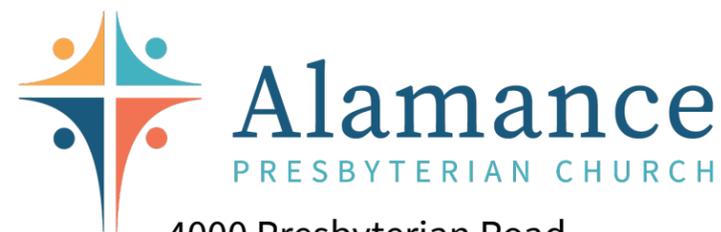
***Opening Hymn** *When We Are Tested* Song sheet

Call to Confession

CHURCH OFFICE: (336)-697-0488

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Dr. Kyle Goodman, Lead Pastor
Rev. Jess Rigel, Discipleship Pastor
Andrew Long, Director, Youth Ministries
Joy Thomas, Director, Children's Ministries
Katie Long, Director of Music
Rebecca Oden, Pianist
Dana Adams, Finance Coordinator
Lynn Barnes, Secretary



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www.alamancechurch.org

We are an ecumenical congregation
in a Presbyterian Church, USA form.

We are a **Matthew 25** Church.

We are a Hunger Action Congregation.
We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

We welcome all to the community of Jesus:
to connect, to learn, to worship, to serve.

Prayer of Confession

God, we confess our blindness. We fail to see the needs of others, choosing selfish ends instead. We turn a blind eye toward injustice and tragedy, choosing our own comfort. We try to hide who we really are, choosing to project a false image of ourselves. We do not see the truth, because we ask for the same tired lies. Forgive us, God. Help us to see, not with eyes, but with our heart. Help us to choose a better way. In Jesus' name, amen.

A Promise of Forgiveness and Peace

Passing of the Peace

We invite everyone to share Christ's peace with your neighbors in whatever way you can, both now and after the service.

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.
Many: And also with you.

***Sung Response** *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*
Song sheet

First Scripture Reading *John 9:1-17*

The Lay Reader today is Lee Shores.

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
Many: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *For Everyone Born* - arr. Tom Trenney

Children's Message

Children from age 4-5th grade may now go to the Grace Space, at the front of the sanctuary.

Second Scripture Reading *John 9:18-41*

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
Many: Thanks be to God.

Message Rev. Jess Rigel

Weekly Poem *Sonnet 19: When I Consider*
- John Milton

When I consider how my light is spent,
ere half my days, in this dark world and wide,
and that one Talent which is death to hide
lodged with me useless, though my Soul more bent
to serve therewith my Maker, and present
my true account, lest he returning chide;
"Doth God exact day-labor, light denied?"
I fondly ask. But patience to prevent
that murmur, soon replies, "God doth not need
either man's work or his own gifts; who best
bear his mild yoke, they serve him best. His state
is Kingly. Thousands at his bidding speed
and post o'er Land and Ocean without rest:
They also serve who only stand and wait."

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.
Many: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
Many: We lift them up to the Lord.
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord.
Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

The Communion of the People

All are welcome to break bread with Jesus.
No one is excluded from his table.

Communion Prayer

Call to Offering

Sharing of Offering

We invite you to prayerfully make a donation that contributes to the continued life and work of our congregation. Please consider mailing contributions directly to the church, or using our online giving platform, available at <https://www.alamancechurch.org/online-giving>.

Offertory *On My Heart Imprint Your Image / Bless Now, O God, the Journey*
- arr. Thomas Keesecker

***Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* Song sheet

*** Sending Hymn** *Faith Begins by Letting Go* Song sheet

*Charge and Benediction

Closing Music