

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2023

9:30 a.m.

*"Life in the kingdom of God requires commitment
to the long haul." ~ Kenneth Bailey*

WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

Toni DiCapua

Pastorale, Movement 1... J.S. Bach

(Please use this time to prepare your heart for worship.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. George Swanson

* HYMN OF PRAISE

No. 467

How Great Thou Art

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Lou Pennebaker

Loving God, we confess that even though we strive to be committed and faithful in our relationship with You, it is difficult to patiently wait and watch for You. Sometimes we grow weary and discouraged, and we are not well-prepared for Your return. Forgive us, we pray, and help us to be committed for the long haul. Hear us now as we silently confess our sins.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* GLORIA PATRI

No. 579

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* Those who wish may stand.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

FIRST GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:36-44

Melissa Seaton

pg. 1539

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

Lamb of God... Twila Paris, arr. Lloyd Larson

Richard Dinwiddie, director; Mollie Wakeman, accompanist

(CCLI #20405356)

SECOND GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:1-13

pg. 1540

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Rev. Anne Swanson

"Prepared for the Long Haul"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN OF RESPONSE

No. 15

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* CLOSING HYMN

No. 341

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

* BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Inside Cover of Hymnal

Go Now in Peace

POSTLUDE

Toni DiCapua

Pastorale, Movement 4... J.S. Bach

* Those who wish may stand.