

Service for Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Midweek Lenten Worship  
SERVICE OF THE WORD  
GATHERING

Gathering Music

Welcome

Prayer & Meditation

Gathering Hymn, "Be Thou My Vision" ELW #793

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931. Music: Irish traditional. Public Domain.

All:

1. **Be thou my vision,  
O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me,  
save that thou art:  
thou my best thought  
both by day and by night,  
waking or sleeping,  
thy presence my light.**

Cantor:

2. Be thou my wisdom,  
and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and  
thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my soul's shelter,  
and thou my high tower,  
raise thou me heav'nward,  
O pow'r of my pow'r.

Cantor:

3. Riches I heed not,  
nor vain, empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance,  
now and always;  
thou, and thou only,  
the first in my heart,  
great God of heaven,  
my treasure thou art.

All:

4. **Light of my soul,  
after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys,  
O heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart,  
whatever befall,  
still be my vision,  
O ruler of all.**

Greeting

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have given us the Christian habits as a means to draw us closer to you and transform us. Grant us grace to walk in the habit and discipline of guidance so that we may follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

## Scriptures

### Psalm 143:10

<sup>10</sup>Teach me to do your will,  
for you are my God.  
Let your gracious spirit lead me  
on a level path.

### Proverbs 3:5-6

<sup>5</sup>Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
and do not rely on your own insight.  
<sup>6</sup>In all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will direct your paths.

### Romans 12:2

<sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect.

### Acts 16:6-10

<sup>6</sup>They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. <sup>7</sup>When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; <sup>8</sup>so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. <sup>9</sup>During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." <sup>10</sup>When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

### Sermon, "Guidance, That You May Discern"

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

### Hymn, "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer" ELW 618

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt. Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932  
Public Domain.

#### All:

- 1. Guide me ever, great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but you are mighty;  
hold me with your pow'ful hand.  
Bread of heaven,  
bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore,  
feed me now and evermore.**

#### Cantor:

2. Open now the crystal fountain  
where the healing waters flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv'rer,  
strong deliv'rer,  
shield me with your mighty arm,  
shield me with your mighty arm.

#### All:

- 3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs and praises,**

**songs and praises**  
**I will raise forevermore,**  
**I will raise forevermore.**

### **Responsive Prayer**

**P:** Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
**C:** **have mercy on us.**

**Our Father in heaven,**  
**hallowed be your name,**  
**your kingdom come, your will be done,**  
**on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**  
**Forgive us our sins**  
**as we forgive those who sin against us.**  
**Save us from the time of trial**  
**and deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom,**  
**the power, and the glory are yours,**  
**now and forever. Amen.**

### **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty..... and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**P:** Show us your mercy, O God,  
**C:** **and grant us your salvation.**  
**P:** Give us the joy of your saving help again,  
**C:** **and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.**  
**P:** Give us peace in all the world;  
**C:** **For only in you can we live in safety.**  
**P:** Keep the nations under your care,  
**C:** **and guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
**P:** Let your way be known upon earth;  
**C:** **your saving health among all nations.**  
**P:** Let not the needy be forgotten,  
**C:** **nor the hope of the poor taken away.**  
**P:** Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
**C:** **and sustain me with your Holy Spirit.**  
**P:** Lord, hear my prayer,  
**C:** **and let my cry come before you.**  
**P:** We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.  
**C:** **Amen.**

### **SENDING**

#### **Blessing**

**P:** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C:** **Thanks be to God.**  
**P:** Almighty God, bless us, defend us from evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
**C:** **Amen.**

#### **Announcements**

1. Loose Offering during Lent will go to the Food Shelf

2. Easter Services – You will need to register to attend the Easter services at 7:00 am and 9:00 am on Sunday, April 4. You may make reservations by contacting Zion’s office at 218-387-1733 or email [zlcw@mncable.net](mailto:zlcw@mncable.net). Also, a Worship Committee member will be taking reservations after each service during Lent. Please include in your registration information how many people will be attending from your household and others sitting with you. (parents, kids, grandkids, friends, etc.)

**Sending Hymn, “The Day You Gave Us, Lord, Has Ended” ELW #569**

Text: John Ellerton, 1826-1893, alt. Music: Clement C. Scholefield, 1839-1904. Public Domain

**All:**

1. **The day you gave us, Lord, has ended;  
the darkness falls at your behest.  
To you our morning hymns ascended;  
your praise shall hallow now our rest.**

Cantor:

2. We thank you that your church, unsleeping  
while earth rolls onward into light,  
through all the world its watch is keeping,  
and never rests by day or night.

Cantor:

3. As to each continent and island  
the dawn leads on another day,  
the voice of prayer is never silent,  
nor dies the strain of praise away.

Cantor:

4. The sun, here having set, is waking  
your children under western skies,  
and hour by hour, as day is breaking,  
fresh hymns of thankful praise arise.

**All:**

5. **So be it, Lord; your realm shall never,  
like earth’s proud empires, pass away;  
but stand and grow and rule forever,  
till all your creatures own your sway.**

**Sending Music**

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**Confirmation Worship Notes**  
**Wed., March 17, 2021**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

1. The focus for this service is the Christian habit of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Who are 3 people in the Bible that were guided by God? (six were mentioned in the sermon)
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the trouble with following one's conscience?
4. What are three ways we discern God's guidance? (11 ways are mentioned in the sermon)
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
5. In discerning God's guidance, John the Beloved in 1 John 4 warned us to t\_\_\_\_\_ t\_\_\_\_ s\_\_\_\_\_
6. Whose voice are we to follow?
7. What decision do you have now that you are looking for God's guidance?