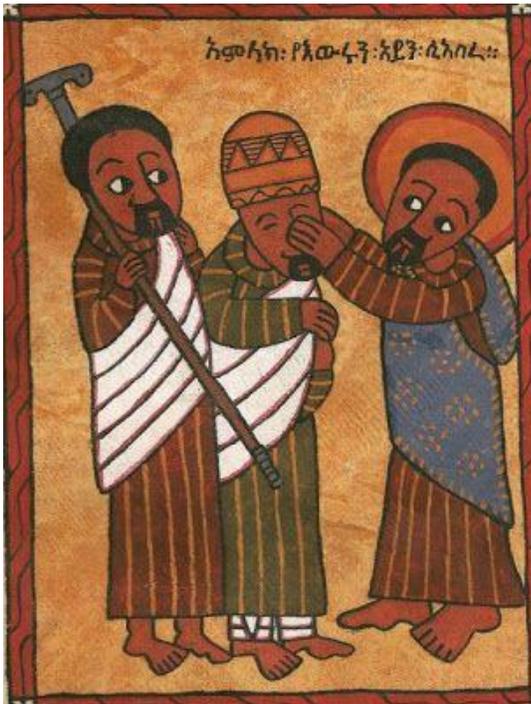


Gathering those who fear they are not enough,
so we may experience grace, wholeness, and renewal as God's beloved.



Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

*Living is easy with eyes closed,
misunderstanding all you see.*

– John Lennon

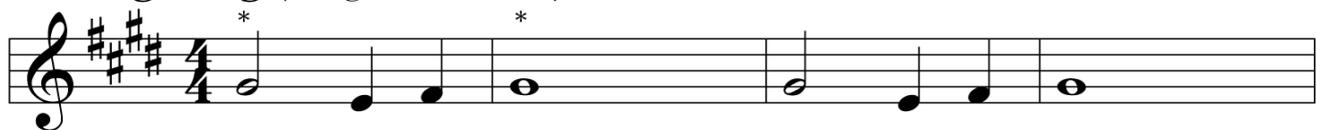
“We do not know what things look like, as you say,” the beast said. “We know what things are like. It must be a very limiting thing, this seeing.”

– Madeleine L’Engle

Jesus healing the blind man (unknown Ethiopian artist)

Prelude

Gathering Song (sung three times)



Be still and know that I am God.

(F) (C) (Dm) (Em) (Fmaj7) (G7)
A E F#m G#m Amaj7 B7



Be still and know that I am God.

* Song for All

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

TEXT: Stanzas 1-4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie
MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony*, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

AMAZING GRACE
CM

** Please stand in body or spirit*

Opening Prayer

Scripture

John 9:1-41

As (Jesus) walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Reflection

James Sledge

Receiving of Gifts and Song for All

Open My Eyes, That I May See



1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.
2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send-est clear.
3 O-pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.



Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un - clasp and
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery-thing false will
O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren



set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
dis - ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy



will to see. O-pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!
will to see. O-pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!
will to see. O-pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!



Prayers of the People

One: In your great love,

All: Hear us, O God.

The Prayers of the People are offered on behalf of and with the congregation, usually by an elder currently serving on Session (governing council). While Sundays are not actually a part of Lent, we will use a spoken response to the prayer petitions rather than our typical sung one until we come to Easter.

Please keep in your prayers...

Wendy Bognar, daughter of Tobi Brock, recovering from disc fusion surgery
Suzanne Martin and family on the death of her mother, Phyllis DeMass, on March 6
Sgt. John R. Goldsmith, nephew of Frank Burdette, upon his second deployment in
the Middle East

Janet Bickel, undergoing surgery for sciatica on March 23

Chuck and Marty Campbell, parents of Jay Campbell, as Chuck struggles with
Parkinson's Disease and as Marty cares for him

The Ammons and Schwartz families upon the death of Gail's mother, Marilyn
Gauzza, and Doug's recent hospitalizations

James Steele, suffering from Alzheimer's Disease

Continued prayers for...

Paige Bach, Kris Barth, Cameron Brown, Judy Cornier, Steve Graff, Mike Hugo,
Merry Huley, Linda Isaacson, Doug Jonas, Nora Long, Nancy Lundien, Ruth
Mileham, Bob Moore, Cheryl Naderman, Ruth Nowjack-Raymer, Barbara Peret, Cort
Peret, Stanley Rusher, Cathy Stewart, Lawson Swift, Doris Webb, Doris Williams,
Christa Young

Communion of the People

Invitation to the Table, Prayer of Thanksgiving, and the Lord's Prayer

ALL: 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.

Communion Song

1 Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the
(A) C (D) F (A) C (D) F (Em) Gm
ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's
(D/A) F/A (G) B^b (D/A) F/C (A7) C7 (D) F (G) B^b (D) F
not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

The simple, formulaic nature of this song makes it especially suitable for use during the communion portion of the Lord's Supper. Because it can be learned readily and does not require reference to a printed source, it frees people to sing before and after receiving the elements.

* Song for All

Light Dawns on a Weary World



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

The Peace

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Supporting us in Worship

Video Streaming

Diane Maloney

Music

Andrew Jonas, David Schoonover

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A Warm Welcome

Thank you for joining us in worship this morning, from afar. We welcome all to our streaming community, and hope that you will join us in song and prayer from the safety of your own homes. If you would like to learn more about our family of faith, visit our website or send an email to office@fallschurchpresby.org.

Falls Church Presbyterian belongs to the Covenant Network of Presbyterians, “working for the unity of the church, furthering the inclusion of LGBTQ persons, seeking understanding and reconciliation, and joining with others seeking a still more just and inclusive church.”

The Rev. James Sledge, Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Diane Walton Hendricks, Pastor for Spiritual Growth

Diane Maloney, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

The Rev. Megan Klose, Parish Associate

The Rev. Rusty Lynn, Hon. Ret., Parish Associate

Dr. Lisa A. Billingham, Chancel Choir Director

Dr. Lisa Bloy, Organist

Andrew Jonas, Pianist