

ORDER OF WORSHIP - MARCH 10, 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

GREETING AND OPENING PRAYER Bishop Al Gwinn
WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF JESUS

PRELUDE Yoonie Choi-Reich, cello **Prelude from Cello Suite No 1, in G**
J.S. Bach

INTROIT Chancel Choir **Wait for the Lord**
Jacques Berthier

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Rev. Joan Wooden

As darkness gives way to light
and winter sleep to fresh beginnings,
We come today to be reminded of God's love for us.
Like the green shoots of renewed life,
stirring beneath the soil,
We welcome an awakening of God's word in our lives.
In this time of reflection and repentance,
We affirm our identity, we claim our security,
as children of God.

***HYMN 185**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Bishop Al Gwinn

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Monica Kaye Clark

Gemma Elowyn Clark

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

MINISTRY MOMENT Rev. Casey Neely, UK Wesley Foundation

CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Joan Wooden

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that we have sometimes filled our lives
with poor beginnings and bad endings.
We have intended to do and be better than we are.
We have wished for good outcomes,
but we have not followed the disciplines that would make them so.
Forgive our negligence of those ways we know from the life and
teachings of Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF PERSONAL CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Believe the good news:

God shows his love for us in that
while we were yet sinners

Christ died for us.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, and through the power of his cross,
we are forgiven. Amen.**

HYMN 415 stanza 1 **Take Up Thy Cross**

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

PASTORAL PRAYER Dr. Bill Moore

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Chancel Choir; Yoonie Choi-Reich, cello **Wayfaring Stranger**
arr. Craig Courtney

I'm just a poor wayfaring stranger while trav'ling through this world below;
yet there's no sickness, toil nor danger in that bright land to which I go. I'm
going there to see my Father. I'm going there no more to roam. I'm just a
going over Jordan, I'm just a going over home.

I know dark clouds will gather o'er me, I know my way is tough and steep;
yet golden fields lie out before me, where weary eyes no more shall weep.
I'm going there to meet my mother. She said she'd meet me when I come.
I'm just a going over Jordan, I'm just a going over home.

I want to wear a crown of glory when I get home to that good land.
I want to shout salvation's story in concert with the heavenly band.
I'm going there to meet my Savior, to sing his praise forevermore.
I'm just a poor wayfaring stranger while traveling through this world below;
I'm just a going over Jordan, I'm just a going over home.

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*DOXOLOGY UMH 95

*PRAYER OF BLESSING

SCRIPTURE LESSON Bishop Al Gwinn **Matthew 6: 16-18**

“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they

disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.”

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

“The Discipline of Fasting”

***HYMN 438**

Forth in Thy Name, O Lord

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** Dr. James Humlong **Allegro from Organ Concerto in a minor, BWV 593**
J. S. Bach

This morning's liturgy:

Call to Worship - written by Gill Le Fevre and found on re-worship.blogspot. com **Prayer of Confession** - From *Prayers for Lent and Holy Week*, edited by David Neil Mosser Sr. © 2010 by Abingdon Press.