

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
10:30 a.m. Sunday 19 March 2023
Fourth Sunday in Lent/One Great Hour of Sharing

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements *(To help us connect, please sign the attendance pad in your pew)*

*Praise Choruses: 3096 "Gentle Shepherd "
2058 "Shepherd Me, O God"

*Greeting**: Jesus said:
"I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink."
Let us act justly.

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
I was naked and you gave me clothing."
Let us love tenderly.

"I was sick and you took care of me,
I was in prison and you visited me."
Let us walk humbly with our God.

May we see Christ in one another,
**that we may be healers and peacemakers
in Christ's name.**
(Matthew 25:31-46; Micah 6:8, Alt.)

*Opening Prayer: 446 "Serving the Poor"

*Opening Hymn: 57 "O For a Thousand Tongues"

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PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: p. 544 *(Spoken)*
"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

First Lesson: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalter: 137 (*Response 1*) Psalm 23

Second Lesson: Ephesians 5:8-14

*Hymn of Preparation: 407 "Close to Thee"

*Gospel Lesson: John 9:1-41

Sermon: "*Stuck*"

Affirmation of Faith: 881 "The Apostles' Creed,
Traditional Version"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

*The Peace: Let us offer one another
signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

*Invitation: As forgiven and reconciled people
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offering/Offertory

*Doxology: p. 95 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**"Prayer of Thanksgiving: "For God's Gifts" p. 489

**"The Lord's Prayer" p. 895

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SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 581 "Lord, Whose Love
Through Humble Service"

*Closing Prayer**: "For Courage to Do Justice" p. 456

*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude

*Going Forth

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

** THE UNITED METHODIST BOOK OF WORSHIP

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