



I fear no evil,
for you are with me

Psalm 23:4

March 19, 2023

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

785.233.9601

www.fpctopeka.org

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March 19, 2023

Order of Worship

4th Sunday in Lent

Where you see an asterisk (), please rise in body or spirit.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE — “Be Thou My Vision” — arr. Mark Hayes

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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Dawn is breaking. Christ's light is shining.

People: **The Light of the world shines in our lives.**

Leader: Put aside the cares of the night.

People: **In the Lord, we live in the light.**

Leader: Even in the darkest valley, God illuminates our path.

People: **Even in times of despair, hope shines forth.**

Leader: Sleeper, awake! Christ's light is shining.

People: **The Light of the world shines in our lives.**

*OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN #804** — “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!” (8:30 vv. 1, 2, and 5 only)

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

In our weakness, O God, we often fear what we do not understand. In our blindness, we fail to see others as you do. Yet, we long to see as you see and to perceive as you perceive. We yearn to cast aside the shadows of the night and live as children born anew in the light of your love. Help us behold your glory this day, that we might reflect your light for all to see.

SILENT CONFESSION and KYRIE — #576

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

During the season of Lent, we do not sing the Gloria

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MINISTRY OF MUSIC (10:30 only) — “What Wondrous Love is This” — arr. L. Eugene Oldham

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — John 9:1-7— pg. 102 in NT

Please note that the scriptures will be read aloud from the NRSV Updated Edition. The Bibles in our pews are NRSV. You may notice a few differences between what you hear and what you read as you follow along.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Psalm 23 — pg. 501 in OT

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

MESSAGE — “Fear No Evil”

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN (10:30 only) #802 — “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”**

BAPTISM/WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Gregg, Laura, and Katelan Albus; Aaron, Samantha, and Guinevere Edwards

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory (8:30) — “Amazing Grace” — arr. Mark Hayes

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(10:30) — “I Sing to the Lord” — Heinrich Schütz

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***Doxology — #607**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.
Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

WE DEPART IN JOY TO SERVE

***SENDING HYMN (8:30) #802 — “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” (vv. 1, 4, and 6)**

(10:30) #837 — “What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

***BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION — “Day by Day” — K. Lee Scott**

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***POSTLUDE — “He Knows My Name” — Tommy Walker**

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Ministers: All the Members of the Congregation

Pastors:

The Rev. Sandra Stogsdill Brown, *Pastor*
Patrick Yancey, *Commissioned Associate Pastor*
The Rev. Dr. Neil Weatherhogg, *Pastor Emeritus*

Liturgist: John Conlee

Music Staff:

Dr. Kevin Kellim, *Director of Music*
Dr. Cynthia Neufeld Smith, *Organist*
Norma Pettijohn, *Organist Emeritus*

Soloist: Elliot Lauxman

Guest Pianist: Cathy Altman

Audio/Video: Treven Broxterman, Will Hartner

Director of Communications: Carrie Riordan

Director of Family Ministries: Allison Brewer

Director of Maintenance: Mark Ingle

Office Manager: Melissa Ashwill

Sunday Custodian: Steve Johnson

Childcare Attendants:

Becky Foster, Christine Reeder

Stephen Ministry Leaders:

John Dorsey, Jane Owen