

**Wesley Uniting Church
Forrest**

LENT FOUR

**Sunday, 19th March 2023
10.45 am**

Prelude: Fantasia in C Minor (BWV 537) JS Bach, 1685-1750

Introit: The Eyes of All Roger Petrich (2013)

The eyes of all look to you Lord
and you give them their food in due season.

Welcome

Lighting of the Community Candle

Acknowledgement of Country

Safe Place Statement

Greeting

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Call to worship

Come and see the light of Christ shine.

We come to see the light shine.

Come and focus on what is true.

We come to focus on what is true.

Come and allow the light to shine on you.

We come seeking the light.

May the light shine that we may see.

Amen.

Hymn: Bless the Lord my soul (x 3 times)

TiS 706

Opening prayer

Loving God of Light and Life...

...Calm our concerned responses
as the shadows around us melt.

Calm our fear of what we may find there.

Strengthen our resolve to live in the light.

Uphold us when we feel weak.

Encourage our living as we carry the light.

**May we not stumble under our own strength
but trust in you.**

Amen.

Assurance

God is in the world to help us live this life.

God shines a light for us to follow.

God will not leave us nor dim the light.

For even in the darkest, most shadowy places,
why, that is where the light shines brightest!

Be not afraid.

God will not fail us.

**We trust God to help us
as we find our way.**

Amen.

Hymn: *(This hymn to be repeated throughout Lent at this point in the service)*

Love will be our Lenten calling

TiS 684

Bible Readings

Old Testament 1 Samuel 16:1-13 (page 226 of the pew Bibles)

New Testament John 9:1-41 (page 871 of the pew Bibles)

Anthem: The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Harry Rowe Shelley

The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His,
and He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.
Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me,
And on His shoulder gently laid,
And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
With Thee dear Lord beside me;
The rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight,
Thy unctuous grace bestoweth,
And O! the transport of delight,
With which my cup o'erfloweth.

And so through all the length of days,
Thy goodness faileth never,
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!
Amen.

Message

Offering

Music during offering: Jesus, I will ponder now

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

Hymn: The Lord is my shepherd

TiS 659

Announcements

Prayers of the people

Bidding: Loving God,

Response: shine your light on ways to bring about change for good.

The Lord's Prayer

Closing hymn: Beauty for brokenness TiS 690

Blessing and dismissal

Go from this time together
to live in the light,
to be people of the light,
to share the light with others.

And may the grace of Christ
the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you always.
Amen.

Postlude: Fantasia in Five Parts (BWV 562) JS Bach

In keeping with the Lenten focus on reflection and self-examination,
please refrain from applause.

Worship team: Revs Geoff, Karyn and Gareth
Donna Davey (Flowers), Femi Idowu (Reader),
Jade McFaul (Music Coordinator)

With thanks to our A/V, elders, scholars, musicians and steward teams