

Hymn of Praise—98 O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Unison Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, in a world filled with so much pain, we would rather shut our eyes and be blind than see things as they really are. Grant us the courage to face the reality of our world, and give us the strength to bring your light to those who walk in darkness. Help us see others as you see them, and forgive us when we do not trust you enough to open our eyes to the possibilities before us. Heal our self-inflicted blindness, O God, and lead us in the footsteps of the Light of the World, who reveals your glory in his life, his teachings, and his love. In his holy name, we pray.

(A moment of silent confession.) Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

L: The Spirit of the Lord has come upon us, bringing hope, life, and forgiveness for each person.

P: Now we will go forth as God's children, sent to bring the good news to everyone we meet. Amen.

The Word Proclaimed

First Lesson

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: El Shaddai

Second Lesson

John 9: 1-41

Sermon:

Transforming Love

Jim Taylor, CLP

Response to the Word

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving**

God, our shepherd, you provide for us in all things so that we shall not want for the things that will sustain us: food, water, air, and your love. Help us remember as we bring our gifts to your altar how easy it is to confuse ourselves about what is really needed for a full life. As you help us grow in generosity, give us a clearer vision of the things that clutter our lives, that clog the streams that you send our way. Help us grow in our trusting you to guide us, and let us find the joy and satisfaction in faithfully following. We pray this in the name of your son, the good shepherd. Amen. (*Psalm 23*)

Communion Hymn—94 An Upper Room did our Lord Prepare

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing the Bread and Cup

***Closing Hymn—84 In the Cross of Christ I Glory**

***Charge and Benediction**

**Please stand if able.*