

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Schaller, Iowa
March 14, 2021

10:00 A. M.
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Rev. Michael Sydnor

PRELUDE

Janice Ploeger, Organist

CANDLELIGHTING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Elder: The Lord of life is lifted up!

People: Let us look to Christ and live.¹

Elder: Let us worship God!

*HYMN

“Immortal, Invisible”

#25

INVOCATION (Please be seated)

Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Elder

The Light of the world has come, Ceaseless Creator, but we admit we love the shadows all around us. For there, we can boast of our achievements, rather than point to your grace; there, we can grumble of our unhappiness with you, instead of singing your praises; there, we can give into our natural anger, and not be touched by your call to be agents of peace and hope.

Forgive us, Eternal Love: lead us from the shadows of sin into the light of your joy; raise us up, as your children, so we may kneel in service to others; shower us with the grace, the hope, the peace you have brought to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. ² (Time of silent prayer) Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor

*GLORIA PATRI #623

¹ Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 261). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

² (c) 2015 Thom M. Shuman.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Old Testament:

Numbers 21:4-9

Elder

They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!" Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people. The Lord said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

Leader:

The Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson:

John 3:14-21

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him." For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

Leader:

The Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

CHILDRENS TIME

HYMN

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

183

SERMON

"Looking to Jesus!"

***APOSTLE'S CREED**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #421 (Verse 1)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY #625**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN "Crown Him with Many Crowns" # 234**

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION SONG "Freely, Freely" (V. 1) #447**

POSTLUDE