



Welcome to the

Metropolitan Community Church in Glasgow

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 22nd 2020

Reading – Ephesians 5:8-14 (NRSV)

⁸ For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light— ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Opening Prayer

When the world is dark and full of hate and fear,
when we cannot see God

we will turn on the light.

When we cannot find our way back to love and peace

we will turn on the light.

When our vision dims due to the darkness within

we will turn on the light.

Christ opens our eyes with the gift of sight.

The light of the world is Jesus Christ.

Come and worship the one who brings sight to the blind.

We praise our God who gives light to the world.

Gathering Prayer

Gospel reading – John 9:1-7 (NRSV)

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

Prayer of Confession (*source: Ministry Matters*)

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. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the Kingdom, the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever. Amen.**

Celebration of Communion

God is here
God's Spirit is with us
Lift up your hearts
We lift up our hearts
and our voices in praise and thanksgiving
It is good to praise the Lord

Communion Prayer

Closing prayer

Sending God, wherever we stay, wherever we go, stay beside us:
When we encounter deep valleys, stay beside us.
When the hillside offers no comfort, stay beside us.
Beside the still waters walk with us and lead us,
be our companion for we are ever your people,
this day and every day. **Amen**

From 4pm we will be hosting further fellowship via Zoom – please click on the link below to join (if you can't click on the link please copy and paste the link in to your browser):

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/731027772?pwd=Wm5jeWJLT2lwL0l0UGo2T1pDdDFUZz09>