



4th Sunday in Lent  
March 19, 2023



## University Presbyterian Church

3240 Dalrymple Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
(225)383-0345 • [www.upcbr.org](http://www.upcbr.org)

Co-Pastors: Mamie Broadhurst and Patti Snyder

Choir Director: David Walters

Organist: Anne Maverick

Ministers: The people of this church

4th Sunday in Lent  
March 19, 2023

GATHERING TOGETHER

*As we prepare for worship together, in person or virtually, you may wish to light a candle representing the presence of God with you and concerns, laments, desires for healing, confessions or prayers of thanksgiving that you are particularly holding in the light of Christ today.*

*Everyone is invited to join in speaking or singing aloud the **bold** portions of the liturgy in the bulletin. \*The asterisk indicates parts of the worship when members of the congregation are invited to rise in body or spirit as able.*

PRELUDE

**Sleepers, Wake!**

*J.S. Bach*

*Public Domain*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

Peggy Carroll

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pre-K - 6th Graders

Lighting the Candle

Peeking at the Parable

\*HYMN No. 409 vs. 1-3

**God Is Here!**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Lori Tucker

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- IN SONG, SPEECH, AND SILENCE (*responsive*)

No. 698 (*sung through once*)

**Take, O Take Me as I Am**

**Take us as we are, O God. And then give us a glimpse of your hopes for us that our lives might be founded on your vision. We ask that you search our hearts, sift through our thoughts, inquire into our deeds and hear our prayers of confession:**

As recipients and stewards of great gifts (*silence*),

As those who share in family life and engage with friends (*silence*),

As those who work and study alongside others (*silence*),

As partners in this faith community (*silence*),

As members of the Baton Rouge community and stewards of creation (*silence*).

**In your grace, forgive us. Enable us to repair damage where possible, to change our approach where needed, and to find the imagination to live fully, trusting not in ourselves but in you.**

No. 698 (*sung through once*)

**Take, O Take Me as I Am**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

If anyone is in Christ there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new and filled with possibility!

**This mysterious gift is from God to whom we have been reconciled by Christ.**

Rejoice then, for we are known, loved, and forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**

\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Hymn No. 839 *vs. 1* **Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!**

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!**

**Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!**

**Heir of salvation, purchase of God**

**Born of God's spirit. lost in God's love.**

**This is my story, this is my song**

**Praising my Savior all the day long**

**This is my story, this is my song**

**Praising my Savior all the day long**

### WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

**Source of all good gifts open our eyes that we may see, our ears that we may hear, and our hearts that we may respond faithfully and creatively to your word. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:14-30

SERMON

Patti Snyder

WE RESPOND WITH DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

*Hymnal p. 35*

\*HYMN No. 716

**God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending**

OFFERING of GIFTS

*Reflect on your response to the work of Christ in the world today, and consider making a commitment of time, talents, and resources. If you choose to contribute to the work of Christ through UPC at this time, on line giving is available. See the announcements for more information.*

INVITATION

ANTHEM

*O Lamb of God  
Richard Shephard  
Permission granted by St. James Music Press  
Customer No. 15978*

*O Lamb of God who gave thyself for me;  
Now in my heart I give myself to thee.  
Forgive us Lord, and grant with prayer and praise,  
That we may come to love you all our days.  
Teach us to know and keep your ways, O Lord;  
That we would hold thy wondrous Name adored.*

\*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Old Hundredth*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*unison*)

**God, you have entrusted much into our care. Move us to live together in ways that reflect our gratitude. Encourage our courageous and imaginative investment of the riches you pour forth. For we ask it in Christ's name. Amen.**

\*HYMN No. 409 *vs. 1 and 4*

**God Is Here!**

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

\*CHARGE

\*BENEDICTION and RESPONSE

Our story continues...

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

*Sleepers, Wake!*

*Max Reger*

*Public Domain*



**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE.  
ASK THE USHER IF YOU NEED A COPY.**

*We are blessed to be able to record our worship services. Be aware you may be filmed and/or otherwise recorded for live-streaming on our website and on Facebook. While no guarantee can be given, persons preferring not to be recorded may speak with staff or ushers who can direct them to locations where being recorded is less likely.*

**CHURCH NURSERY**

The church nursery is open during the worship service  
for infants and children through kindergarten.

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