

**MORTALS ...  
LOOK ON THE OUTWARD  
APPEARANCE, BUT THE LORD  
LOOKS ON THE HEART.**



**1 SAMUEL 16:7, NRSV**

**March 22, 2020**

*In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.*

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**GATHERING . . . WORD . . . MEAL . . . SENDING**

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**PRELUDE . . .** [\*“Beautiful Savior”\*](#) – Leilani Camara

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** Invited into the wilderness of our lives, we follow in the footsteps of our ancestors.

**All: We will journey to a land flowing with milk and honey.**

**L:** Invited to wander as we search for deeper meaning, we follow in the footsteps of Christ.

**All: We will journey without fear through the temptations of life.**

**L:** Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

**All: Let us worship with thanksgiving and praise.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross,  
the sign marked at baptism.

**P:** *Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new.*

**All: Amen**

*P: In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.*

Silence is kept for reflection

*P: God at the margins,*

**All: We have wandered far from your home; again and again, we lose our way. We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen.**

*P: Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces us in tender care.*

**All: Like manna in the desert, God feeds us with surprising mercy.**

*P: Like a loving parent, God runs to meet us again this day,*

**All: forgiving our sins for the sake of Christ, leading us from death into life. Amen.**

## **GREETING**

*P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.*

**All: Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**L: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us.**

**All: By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## CHOIR ANTHEM . . . [“Create in Me a Clean Heart”](#)

Please click on the link above,  
then click on the triangular play button once it appears.

## [CHILDREN’S TIME . . . “40 Days & 40 nights”](#)

– Carmen Blair

- [Coloring Page](#)
- [Activity Page](#)
- [Children’s Bulletin ages 3+](#)
- [Children’s Bulletin ages 7+](#)

## INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

Reader: Lead us in your truths, O God.

**All: Teach us your ways and your paths.**

Reader: Into whatever journey lies before us,

**All: lead on, Holy Spirit; lead on.**

## READING . . . *1 Samuel 16:1-13*

*Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the Lord, designating David as the Lord’s chosen successor to Saul.*

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what

the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE . . .** *Pastor Tim*

[\*Link to Bible reading and message only\*](#)

## **THE PRAYERS**

L: Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. God of insight, open the hearts of the church and the world to all who testify to your deeds of power. Raise up voices in your church that are often silenced or overlooked due to age, gender expression, race, or economic status. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: God of insight, empower us to care for the land and all living things that dwell in it and beneath it. Provide rich soil for crops to grow. Bring rain to lands suffering drought. Protect hills and shorelines from damage caused by erosion. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: God of insight, you care for our needs even before we ask. Come quickly to all who seek prayer this day. Accomplish healing through the work of doctors, nurses, physical therapists, nutritionists, and all who tend to human bodies. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: God of insight, help this assembly lift up the unique gifts of each person who enters, no matter their physical capacity, cognitive ability, or sensory need. Help us to be creative and brave in making our facilities and our ministries accessible to all. Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: God of all, hear the prayers of our heart said silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: Hear us, O God.

**All: Your mercy is great.**

L: According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

*P: God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, bless you and bring you to life everlasting.*

**All: Amen.**

## **DISMISSAL**

L: You are marked with the cross of Christ.

**All: We go forth to love and serve God.**

**POSTLUDE . . . [“Gabriel’s Oboe”](#) – Leilani Camara and Dean Sieglaff**



## A Message regarding our Thankful Offering at HTLC

Hello, Everyone,

I hope you are well and staying safe at home as best you can. I know these are difficult times and that there are many conflicting priorities in our lives at the moment. However, I want to bring one more thing to your attention, if I may.

Although we are cancelling services to protect our at-risk siblings in Christ, that has not stopped our Church Staff from working throughout the week to keep things running. I have no doubt that Pastor Tim has spoken with many of you, listened to your concerns, and prayed both with and for you. Keith is still doing his best to keep the office going and lift our spirits. He did an amazing job given short notice with Pastor Tim's sermon this weekend, and will doubtless have to do it again.

With that in mind, I want to remind you that we still need to give to keep the power on, to keep Keith sending uplifting messages, and to keep Pastor Tim delivering his sermons in whatever form we need to hear them.

You can still send offerings by mail, in the box at the church, or through one of our [online giving options](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please either reach out to Pastor Tim, Keith, or myself and we will help you however we can.

I pray you all stay safe and healthy so we can worship together again once this is over.

All the best,  
Collin Thormoto  
Council President