Finding Delight | Fourth Sunday of Lent

MEDITATION

"Delight is human; joy is divine. When you are delighted, you will feel great joy descending on you." —OSHO

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

L: And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. **P: And also with you.**

PRELUDE "On Your Shore" Music by Enya

CALL TO WORSHIP Melessa Fox, Deacon

L: God invites us to delight in the lilies of the field and the birds of the air—especially when we feel depleted.

All: Open the eyes of our hearts, Lord.

L: God invites us to delight so that we might join others to face the mysteries and unknowns together—especially in times of suffering.

All: Open the eyes of our hearts, Lord.

L: God invites us to the abundance delight offers so that we might embrace a generous spirit—especially in times of scarcity.

All: Open the eyes of our hearts, Lord, so that we might delight in your presence that can be found our everyday lives.

*SONG OF GATHERING

"Open the Eyes of My Heart" 2x

On last page

RESPONSIVE OPENING PRAYER

Melessa Fox, Deacon

L: Awe-inspiring God, we come together this day because we need to be reminded to see through the lens of delight.

All: Too often, we forget that we are made to delight in the diversity and abundance of your gifts.

L: Open us to perceive anew. Inspire us to receive our surroundings with awe.

All: Forgive us when we get complacent, when we choose routine over opportunities for new experiences.

L: Be with us on this journey as we seek again to marvel at your works. The Holy delights in its creation and our existence.

All: God forgives us. Jesus embraces us. Spirit enlivens us. We are whole. With awe, we accept this belovedness. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN "God's Eye Is on the Sparrow" Black 475

WORD FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Lisa Allen

ANTHEM "Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing" Choir Walter Shirley 1725-1786, setting: Douglas Wagner

OLD TESTAMENT READING | Psalm 36:5-9 & 37:1-4, pgs. 627 & 628

Melessa Fox, Deacon

NEW TESTAMENT READING | Gospel excerpts on the places Jesus prayed

Jennifer Gramm

L: The Word of God for the people of God. All: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION "Finding Delight" Rev. Christina Williams

*RESPONSIVE HYMN "My Life Flows On In Endless Song" Black 476

PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

During the prayers of the people, you are invited to voice your joys and concerns out loud. When names are spoken, all invited to respond, "O Lord, hear our prayers."

THE LORD'S PRAYER (trespasses)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. All are invited to sing "Amen". (Black 812)

INVITATION TO OFFFRING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

"Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam"

Cherub choir, Iyanu, Gianna and Bella Nellie Talbot, Edwin O. Excell

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessing flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love had done: Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One Amen.

*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Loving God, for the many wonders in our everyday lives how can we not respond with awe. So, we offer these gifts with grateful hearts. May these offerings stand as a testament to your wonder flowing through us. May these generous gifts bring hope, healing, and transformation. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN "The Trees of the Field" Insert

*BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION "Peace I Leave with You" Choir

Amy Beach

POSTLUDE "Sun of My Soul" *Moderato, Vienna, c. 1774*

Transcribed: Clarence Kohlmann

Many thanks to the volunteers who enriched our morning together!

Deacon, Melessa Fox; Tech Deacon, Amelia Allen; Choir, Alan King, Linda Thomas, Meg Tivey and Joyce Kenneally; Reader, Jen Gramm; Hospitality, Sue Long; Food donation, Janet King

^{*} Please stand in body or spirit.

NEW HERE TODAY?

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here! To help you navigate Sunday mornings with us, please see the guide below.

- 1. **Order of Worship: *An asterisk** means stand in body or spirit. **Bold text** is spoken in unison.
- 2. **Kid's Connection:** After the "Word for all God's children," the children leave worship for a time learning and fun with Bible stories, crafts, and games with Lisa Allen.
- 3. **TAKE TWO:** Is an after-worship, adult faith formation group to help deepen and grow our faith. Lisa Allen will lead a book group on The Year of Living Biblically by A. J. Jacobs—a funny, poignant book about literally living every biblical law for one year.
- 4. **Coffee and Conversation:** You are welcome to gather with us after worship to meet some new friends in the Covenant Room, down the hall on the right.
- 5. **Have Questions?** Please reach out to Rev. Christina or the Deacon of the day.

Music covered under One License # A-728849 | Liturgy is inspired by Marcia McFee's Purveyors of Awe.

