

**CELEBRATING THE SABBATH**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

March 22, 2020 at 10 o'clock



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*I want more than anything to be in the courtyards of the Lord's Temple*

Psalm 84:1

PRELUDE

*I Stand at the Threshold*  
*(Sinfonia to Cantata No. 156)*

J. S. Bach

SHARING OUR WELCOME VIRTUALLY

WE COME TO WORSHIP

**Silence is praise to you,  
Zion-dwelling god,  
and also obedience.  
You hear the prayer in it all.  
We all arrive at your doorstep sooner  
or later, loaded with guilt,  
Our sins too much for us—  
but you get rid of them once and for all.  
Blessed are the chosen! Blessed the guest  
at home in your place!  
We expect our fill of good things  
in your house, your heavenly manse**

Psalm 65:1-4 (The Message)

HYMN:

*Sing Praise To God Who Reigns Above*  
Join as you are able!

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation, the God of power the God of love, the God of our salvation. With healing balm my soul is filled and every faithless murmur stilled: To God all praise and glory.

Our God is never far away, but through all grief distressing, an ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessings. As with a mother's tender hand, God gently lends the chosen band: to God all praise and glory.

OPENING PRAYER

**God of faithful surprises,  
throughout the ages  
you have made known your love and power  
in unexpected ways and places.  
May we daily perceive  
the joy and wonder of your abiding presence  
and offer our lives in gratitude  
for our redemption. Amen.**

SELECTION *How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place* Johannes Brahms  
Torry Steele, Michelle Gara, Michael McAvaney, Kurt Swanson, soloists

SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 84: 1-7 Jennifer deSimas  
Luke 18: 9-14

SERMON *A Song and a Prayer* Rev. Erica Avena

A TIME OF PRAYER

RESPONDING WITH OUR GIFTS

Offertory *Christ lag in Todesbanden* Freidrich Zachau  
*Christ Lay in Death's Dark Bonds*

Doxology, Words: Hymnal, No. 47; Tune: Hymnal, No. 46

**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.**

HYMN: *My Life Flows On*

My life flows on in endless son, above earth's lamentation. I hear the clear, though far off hymn that hails a new creation.

**Refrain:** No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Gott des Himmels und der Erden* Johann Walther  
*"God Who Made Earth and Heaven"*