



# FOURTH SUNDAY

## *In Lent*

MARCH 22, 2020  
+ EVENING LENTEN DEVOTIONAL +

✠ Read the following call to worship, either on your own or in a small group:

**O Lord, open my lips,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**Give me a pure heart,  
that I may see Thee;  
a humble heart,  
that I may hear Thee;  
a heart of love,  
that I may serve Thee;  
a heart of faith,  
that I may abide in Thee.**

✠ Followed by this prayer of confession:

**God, we confess that, oftentimes, our boxes are too small.  
We know what, and who, belongs where.  
But your circle is always growing,  
erasing our lines in the sand.  
Call out to us, O God. Widen our vision.  
Lead us, Lord, to walk your way on any road we travel. Amen.**

✘ Take a few minutes of silence to confess your sins, acknowledge your own humanity, and ask for forgiveness from our merciful God.

✘ Have one person read aloud the following assurance of pardon:

**The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:8-12)**

✘ Read the following scripture passages and, if you'd like, meditate on or discuss the questions that follow:

Psalm 89:1-4  
Mark 12:28-44

1. In Psalm 89, David sings of God's faithfulness to all generations. How has God shown God's faithfulness to you recently?
2. The call to discipleship is a call to love God with all of your heart, and all of your soul, and all of your mind, and all of your strength; and to love your neighbor as yourself—to live as the widow did. What does that look like for you right now—in these difficult days?

✘ Pray aloud this prayer:

**Heavenly Father, you gave your only Son to be a life to redeem us, an example to follow, the word for our rule, the grace for our guide, the lamb on the cross for the sins of our souls. Send your Spirit to enter into us and take possession of our hearts, and dwell with us forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

✘ As an ending to this short devotional time, read the words written below (aloud or in silence), from the hymn "I Will Sing of My Redeemer":

I will sing of my Redeemer and his wondrous love to me;  
on the cruel cross he suffered, from the curse to set me free.  
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with his blood he purchased me;  
on the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.

I will sing of my Redeemer and his heav'nly love to me;  
he from death to life has brought me, Son of God with him to be.  
Sing, O sing of my Redeemer, with his blood he purchased me;  
on the cross he sealed my pardon, paid the debt, and made me free.

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. Amen.