

## Welcome

*(Use this time to welcome people)*

## Gathering and Welcoming Prayer

*(Fourth Sunday – a Sacrificial Journey. Worship in the Wilderness.*

*www.engageworship.org)*

Jesus, you made the way  
For us to come and worship God.  
As we see your sacrifice,  
Lead us in the way of the wilderness,  
The way of the cross,  
And the way that leads to eternal life.  
Amen

## Music/Song *(You can copy, paste & download these songs with Lyrics)*

When I Survey the Wonderous Cross - <https://vimeo.com/406063562>

Here is Love – Robin Mark <https://vimeo.com/521705996>

## Prayer for Forgiveness & Thanksgiving

Loving God, we praise you today with all our heart.  
We praise you for your faithfulness,  
we praise you for your great power and love.  
We confess our need for you,  
our lives don't go so well when we just spin around on our own.  
We struggle and worry, get weary and worn.  
Yet you never leave us.  
Thank you for your presence.  
Thank you for your care over us,  
thank you that you breathe renewal right into our souls.  
We ask that your spirit fill us anew,  
for you to draw close to us,  
and to work your purposes through us,  
as we set our eyes on you.  
Amen.

**Our Father . . .**

## Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*(Turn to those around you and greet them with the words above)*

## Notices

## Offerings

*Prayers for Others* *(Take this time to pray for our world, our local community and individuals)*

## Music/Song

The Servant King – Graham Kendrick <https://vimeo.com/521700666>

## Reading for Today

Hosea 6:6

Matthew 9:9-13

## Reflection

Mercy or Sacrifice by Rev Cherie Strudwick

<https://vimeo.com/reflectionsonline/review/522186013/3050d22afa>

## Questions related to the Reflection

- Have you ever had a time when you experienced the power of mercy?
- What do you see as the difference between mercy and sacrifice?
- Was Jesus going to the cross an act of mercy or an act of sacrifice?

## Silence

Sit still and silent. Sink into your heart and think about how you allow Christ's light to shine in you?

When has the light of Christ guided you when times were tough?

## *Closing Prayer & Blessing*

*(Written by Mark Earey)*

See my Servant, says the God of hope,  
Wounded, scarred and broken.

Many shall see and be astonished:  
Nations, startled and shocked,  
Their leaders staring and speechless.  
He was wounded to bring wholeness.

Come my servant, says our God of hope,  
Wounded, scarred and broken.

Go into a world which is battered and bruised,  
Its peoples hungry and without hope.  
Walk with my people and bring wholeness.

God of hope, you sent Jesus,  
Wounded, scarred and broken,  
To walk with us

Send us now,  
Your wounded, scarred and broken church,  
To bring wholeness and hope.  
Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*Music/Song* (Optional - You may wish to include another piece of music or song here)



Lent 4  
Mercy or Sacrifice  
14/03/2021