

An abstract painting with a complex composition of colors and textures. The dominant colors are various shades of blue, from deep navy to bright cyan. Interspersed are vibrant reds and oranges, some appearing as splatters or streaks. The brushwork is visible, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall mood is contemplative and dynamic.

LENT 4

MARCH 19, 2023

# UNFINISHED

DISCOVERING GOD'S CALL  
IN THE NOT YET

CALLED TO ATTENTIVENESS

**Lent 4**  
**“Called to Attentiveness”**  
**Sunday, March 19, 2023**  
*(\* indicates the assembly stands)*

**Gathering**

Prelude *“Élégie”* H. Gagnon

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

\*Confession and Forgiveness (see page 4)

\*Hymn 777 *“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”*

\*Greeting

\*Kyrie p. 203

\*Prayer of the Day

Anthem *“Prayer for Healing”* M. Ijames

**Word**

First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalm 23 (see page 5) *(sung responsively)*

Second Reading Ephesians 5:8-14

\*Gospel Acclamation *“We are turning”* p. 205

\*Gospel Reading John 9:1-41

Sermon

\*Hymn of the Day 581 *“You Are Mine”*

\*Apostles’ Creed p. 217

Music for Reflection *“For Broken and Tired Am I”* M. Emery

\*Prayers of Intercession **A: Receive our prayer.**

\*Peace

**Thanksgiving**

\*Offering Hymn 924 (see page 6) *“As the Winter Days Grow Longer”*

\*Thanksgiving for the Word (see page 7)

\*Lord's Prayer (*Our Father, who art in heaven...*)

p. 221

## **Sending**

General Announcements

\*Blessing

\*Hymn 779

*"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"*

\*Dismissal

**A: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*"Fugue in C minor"*

M. Drynan

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*Cover image and liturgy from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB142079*

**Look back on the past day, week, or month.** Think about how you spent your time and attention. How were you - or are you - shaped by where your attention goes? In the story of the Man born unable to see, we find an evolution in his attentiveness. Having to repeatedly tell how he came to have sight, we discover that the more he tells his unfinished story, the less it becomes about him, and the more it becomes about Jesus.

**Fire Exits:** All Sanctuary fire exits remain operational during lower-level demolition and renovations. This includes the three Narthex (Entrance) doors, the mid-tower door (half-way up the right side), and the staircase at the front left, piano side.

**Church Fire Plan** For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.

## Confession and Forgiveness

Holy God,

**A: we confess to you our faults and failings.**

**Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;**

**we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;**

**we spoil rather than steward your creation;**

**we cause hurt though you call us to heal;**

**we choose fear over compassion.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**

**as we seek to follow in your way of life.**

**Amen.**

*(Source: Sunday and Seasons)*

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### **Leading Worship Today**

**Minister:** Rev. Claudine Carlson

**Diaconal Minister of Music:** Deacon Scott Knarr

**Lector:** John Heil

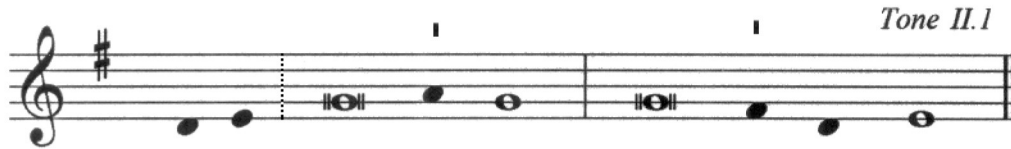
**Choral Scholars:** Nicole Hamilton, Laura Moolenbeek, Dylan Siebert,  
Jacob Steinmann

**Broadcast:** Gary Pootz

**Building Monitor:** Steve Dickin (519-580-8407)

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## Psalm 23



<sup>1</sup>*The LORD* is my | shepherd;  
I shall not | be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in | green pastures  
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, | O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for | your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear | no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of | my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of | my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.**

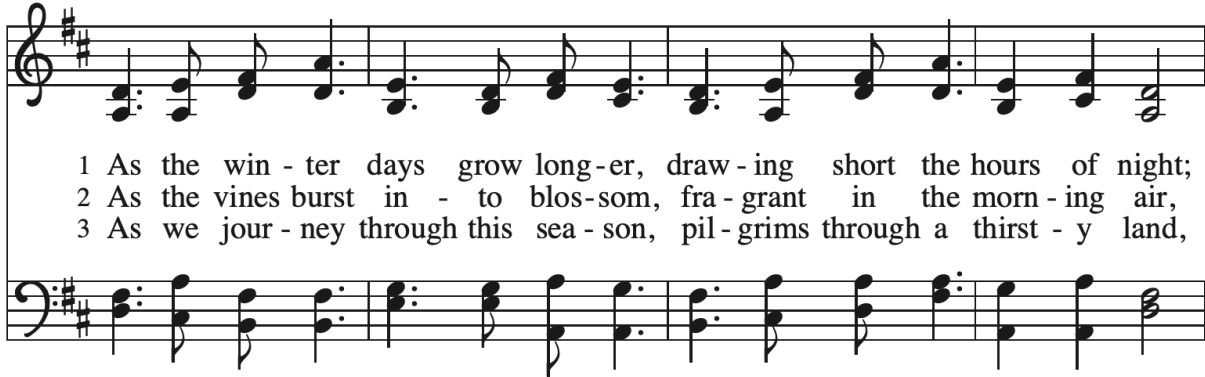


## JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

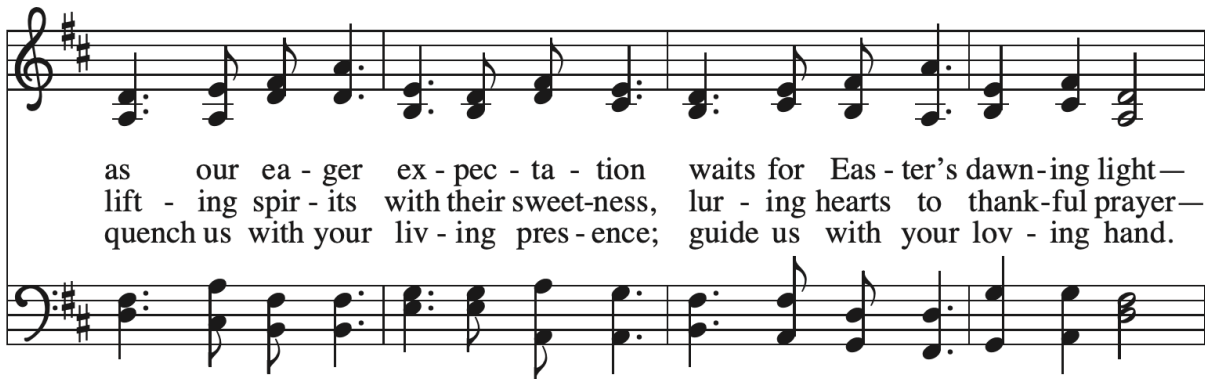
Get the newsletter and email updates on  
upcoming church events, announcements,  
reminders and service changes.

Contact [info@stmattskw.com](mailto:info@stmattskw.com) today!

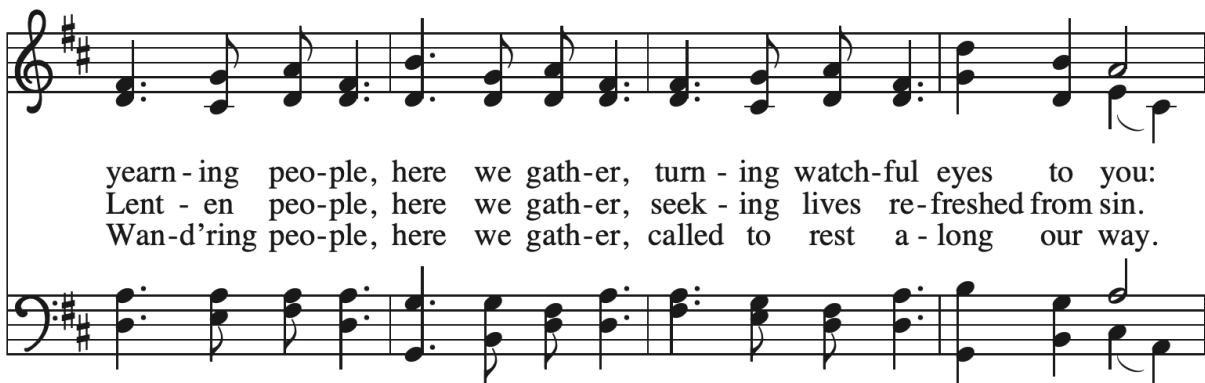
# As the Winter Days Grow Longer



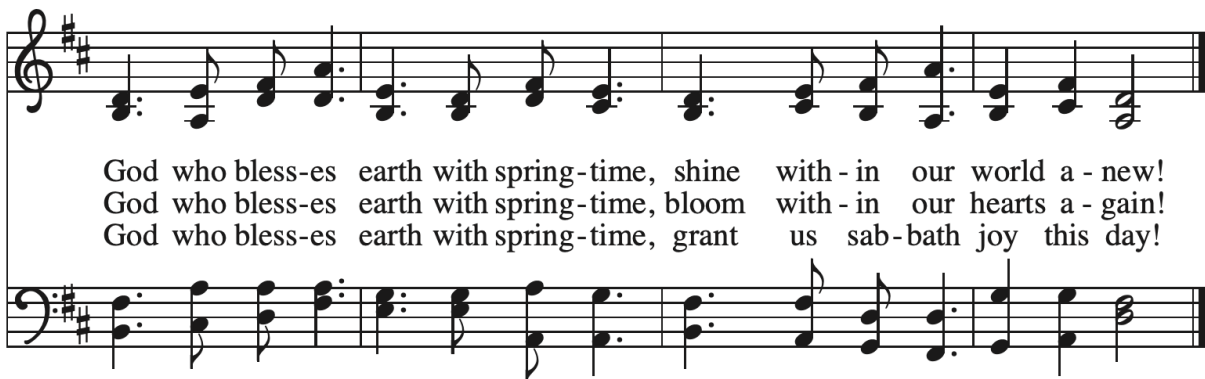
1 As the win - ter days grow long - er, draw - ing short the hours of night;  
2 As the vines burst in - to blos - som, fra - grant in the morn - ing air,  
3 As we jour - ney through this sea - son, pil - grims through a thirst - y land,



as our ea - ger ex - pec - ta - tion waits for Eas - ter's dawn - ing light—  
lift - ing spir - its with their sweet - ness, lur - ing hearts to thank - ful prayer—  
quench us with your liv - ing pres - ence; guide us with your lov - ing hand.



yearn - ing peo - ple, here we gath - er, turn - ing watch - ful eyes to you:  
Lent - en peo - ple, here we gath - er, seek - ing lives re - fresh - ed from sin.  
Wan - d'ring peo - ple, here we gath - er, called to rest a - long our way.



God who bless - es earth with spring - time, shine with - in our world a - new!  
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, bloom with - in our hearts a - gain!  
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, grant us sab - bath joy this day!

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953  
Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody; arr. hymnal version  
Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.  
Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

## **Thanksgiving for the Word**

L: Holy God,

our living Water, our faithful Companion, our true Guide,

by your Word you created a world with rivers and seas, wells and springs,

and in mercy you provided water for your people in the wilderness.

For your Word with the water of baptism, we thank you, O God.

**A: We thank you, O God.**

L: Gracious God, who has named and claimed us,

calling us your beloved children,

you know the secrets of our hearts.

When we sin and stray from your paths,

you astound us with your saving grace.

For this Word of life,

**A: we give you thanks.**

L: Loving Jesus, living Word,

in you the kingdom of God has come near;

through you all that was lost has been found.

Help us to boldly follow wherever you may lead,

trusting your promise that we need not fear,

for you are with us.

For this Word of life,

**A: we give you thanks.**

L: Holy Spirit, the mystery in which we dwell,  
into our scarcity, your abundance flows.  
Enliven all communities with your good news.  
Guide us to love and serve Jesus,  
giving ourselves away for the sake of the world.  
For this Word of life,  
**A: we give you thanks.**

L: All glory to you, holy God, now and forever.

**A: Amen**

*(Source: Sunday and Seasons)*

## **Worship Notes**

**In our prayers** John, Marie, Grace, Maureen, Bernice, John and Nancy.

## **General Announcements**

**Annual Congregational Meeting** on Sunday March 26th following the 9.30 a.m. service, in the Fellowship Hall. All members are encouraged to attend!

**West Tower Door for Emergency Only.** Due to the ongoing construc-



tion planning, when going in to the church house or washrooms, use the west stair tower door and stay on that floor. Use the hallway by the office to the stairway to the floor below. The stairs in the west tower are closed to the lower level sanctuary and should only be used in case of an emergency to exit the building.

### **Important Information for today's worship**

- **Self-Screening:** Members are reminded to continue to perform self-assessments if they have COVID symptoms.
- **Masks:** We support people's choice to wear a mask, and we strongly encourage the following of current guidelines.
- **Physical distancing:** Members are encouraged to continue physical distancing where possible indoors.
- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented to the High Altar during the service.
- **The Peace:** We support people's choices for passing of the peace.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.
- **Ministers** will be greeting worshippers after the postlude in the Narthex, without handshakes.
- **Thank you for helping to keep all of us as safe as possible during this pandemic, by following these directions!**

## Contact Information

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Space for your notes on today's service, for your personal reflection.



# St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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