

PRAYING  
WITH JOHN  
— FOR —  
DEAR LIFE



**Service of Midday Prayer for Lent**

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

First Presbyterian Church, Gathered Online

Opening Sentences

Our help is in the name of the Lord.  
**Maker of heaven and earth.**

Ps. 124:8

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but may have eternal life.

John 3:16

Praise the Lord.  
**The Lord's name be praised.**

Hymn 157

*I Danced in the Morning*

LORD OF THE DANCE

1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth.  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

*Refrain:*

**Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.**

2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
but they would not dance and they would not follow me.  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John.  
They came with me and the dance went on. [Refrain]
3. I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame.  
The holy people said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,  
and left me there on a cross to die. [Refrain]
4. I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black.  
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.  
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,  
but I am the dance and I still go on. [Refrain]
5. They cut me down and I leapt up high.  
I am the life that will never, never die.  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. [Refrain]

## Prayer

Discerner of hearts,  
you look beneath our outward appearance  
and see your image in each of us.  
Banish in us the blindness  
that prevents us from recognizing truth,  
so we may see the world through your eyes  
and with the compassion of Jesus Christ who redeems us. Amen.

## Scripture Lesson

*Before the lesson:*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.      John 6:68  
Hear the word of the Lord.

*John 9: 1-41*

The Word became flesh and lived among us.      John 1:14  
**And we have seen his glory. Thanks be to God.**

## Reflection

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Hymn 795

*Healer of Our Every Ill*

HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL

*Refrain:*

**Healer of our every ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,  
and hope beyond our sorrow.**

1. You who know our fears and sadness,  
grace us with your peace and gladness;  
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. [Refrain]
2. In the pain and joy beholding  
how your grace is still unfolding,  
give us all your vision, God of love. [Refrain]
3. Give us strength to love each other,  
every sister, every brother;  
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. [Refrain]
4. You who know each thought and feeling,  
teach us all your way of healing;  
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. [Refrain]

Dismissal

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled,  
and do not let them be afraid.

John 14:27

The God of peace be with us. **Amen.**  
Bless the Lord. **The Lord's name be praised.**