Preparing to Hear God’s Word

Prelude
Psalm 23
J. P. Sweelinck

Opening Prayer

God’s Word to Us

First Reading
Psalm 23
Lynne Clements
The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff — they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Second Reading
John 9:1–41
selected verses
Dorothy Piatt

Musical Interlude
Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
William Bradbury
arr. Luigi Zaninelli

Closing Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

Charge and Benediction

Postlude
If thou but trust in God to guide thee
J. S. Bach

continued
Weekly Devotional
by Jill Duffield

God of all that is seen and unseen, our anxiety rises as the invisible coronavirus spreads. We worry about the impact of this illness on healthcare workers, older adults, those already physically fragile, the vulnerable among us and people whose livelihoods are tied to the regular movement of people and commerce. We recognize in this moment how inextricably connected we are to one another and we hope that this unmistakable realization will shape all our actions in ways that foster the common good, increase compassion and expand communal care.

As people in positions of leadership in religious communities, educational institutions, hospitals, government and local communities face difficult choices about how to address the complex challenges this virus brings, grant them wisdom and courage. Knowing that we are flawed and that our knowledge is incomplete, make us humble in our judgment, patient with one another, and gracious toward those tasked with the burden of making hard decisions in the days ahead.

Bring healing to the sick, strength to the caregivers, comfort to those who mourn, peace to those in quarantine and mercy to all of your beloved creation. Amen.

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Through a series of online messages, devotionals, and worship opportunities, we hope to keep you connected to — and nurtured by — the Westminster community. Make sure you're signed up for our eNews, Facebook page, and Instagram account, @westminstercville, and we'll let you know when Ken, Lynne, or Dorothy have posted a new message.

Next Sunday, we’ll send out a link to another worship service video. All these messages will be available at: www.westminsterva.org