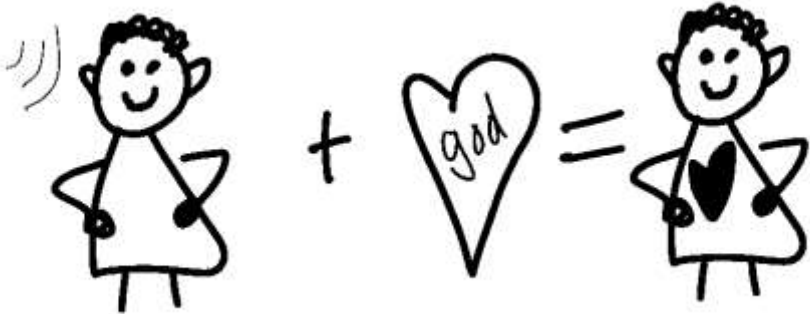


# Lent 3: Open My Ears, Lord



March 15, 2023

First English Lutheran Church, Wapakoneta, OH

*We gather in silence for a time of reflection and prayer.*

## **Welcome**

## **Prelude**

*Yearning, by Mark Hayes*

## **Invocation**

**God be in my head, God be in my heart, God be on my left,  
and God be on my right. Amen.**

## **Opening Dialogue**

As children, we hear:

**Don't touch! Slow down!**

As teenagers, we hear:

**Your curfew begins in an hour.**

As adults, we hear:

**Cash or credit?**

In the water and the word, we hear:

**You are loved, my precious child.**

## **Confession**

Pause & Reflect: What are your Highs and Lows?

Where have you witnessed Christ's Love?

Now, I invite you to turn to your neighbor and confess to them by asking the same questions?

**Song**    *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty, Verses 1 & 5 (ELW 533)*

## **Matthew 13:10-17**

<sup>10</sup> Then the disciples came and asked him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" <sup>11</sup> He answered, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. <sup>12</sup> For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>13</sup> The reason I speak to them in parables is that 'seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they

do not listen, nor do they understand.’<sup>14</sup> With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says:

‘You will indeed listen, but never understand,  
and you will indeed look, but never perceive.

<sup>15</sup> For this people’s heart has grown dull,  
and their ears are hard of hearing,  
and they have shut their eyes;  
so that they might not look with their eyes,  
and listen with their ears,  
and understand with their heart and turn—  
and I would heal them.’

<sup>16</sup> But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. <sup>17</sup> Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.

### **Message**

*Vicar Deb Monnin*

### **Song**

*Dearest Jesus at Your Word, Verses 1& 3 (ELW 520)*

### **Prayers**

*Deven*

Open my eyes, Lord. (*Point toward your eyes*)

Open my hands, Lord. (*Stretch out your hands*)

Open my ears, Lord. (*Point toward your ears*)

Open my heart, Lord. (*Place your hands over your heart*)

Open my life, Lord. (*Raise your arms up to God*) **Amen.**

### **Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### **Song**

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound, v1&2 (ELW 779)*

### **Blessing**

You are a Blessing to God and you are a Blessing to me. Amen



**Lenten Worship Opportunities**

Noon Worship @ St. Joseph, Wapakoneta

March 22, 29

Evening Worship @ First English

March 22, 29 @ 7 p.m.

Maundy Thursday @ St. Mark's, Wapakoneta

April 6 @ 7 p.m.

Good Friday @ First English

April 7 @ 7 p.m.

We would like to thank:

- the confirmation youth for their worship leadership
- Noah Kirby for the sound and A/V support.
- Darla Frame for the music