

# Congregational Prayer – Once You Were in Darkness ...

*Year A, Lent 4*

**Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8–14; John 9:1–41**

God of light,  
you have called us out of darkness,  
out of the dark night of our denial.

We have strayed into the valley of death,  
we have taken our own path  
and now cry out for deliverance.  
You have shown us the way of light,  
the way of your good creation.

We have brought chaos over the earth;  
we have been the bearers of pain.  
We have closed our minds  
and let ignorance lead us.

The prophets among us,  
we accuse or ignore.  
Wandering in the fog is preferred  
to the inconvenience of your radiance.

Open our eyes and give us sight,  
wash the mud from our vision;  
Give us honest eyes  
and willing hearts.

Your desire is for us to enjoy  
your beauty and your abundance.  
You call us to rest in your green pastures,  
to be nourished by your still waters.  
You long to prepare for us a feast  
that all may take part.

Creator of all that is good,  
forgive us and change us.

We pray in the name of the one  
who is the light in darkness.

Amen.

Len Bempel (Canada) 2023, Mennonite Church Saskatchewan Climate Emergency Response Team (CERT)