

**Lent 4 Year A March 15th 2026**

**Presenter: Pastor Mike Hercock**

**Focus Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13**

**Message:** 8 minutes 35 seconds

**"The Illumination of God in the Unexpected"**

## Discussion Starters

1. What elements did God see in David that Samuel and his father fail to notice?
2. How has joy and struggle shaped your faith journey and relationships?
3. Where is God calling us to act for justice and reconciliation this Lent?
4. How can we reach out and reconnect a message of reconciliation to the community?

## Readings for this day

**Psalms 23** This psalm reflects complete trust in God. This trust is based on the psalmist's experience of God's will and capacity to be always present and leading, to provide absolute serenity and protection.

**Ephesians 5: 8-14** This passage is in exhortation to an already converted audience to keep living into its conversion. Believers are to live ethically in the light and to be light.

**John 9:1-41** In addition to reporting a miraculous healing, the story of the man born blind shows that Jesus, the world's light, simultaneously enlightens those wanting sight and confounds those who think they can see.

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**All Age Address: Carolyn Sharp**

**"God Chooses a King"**

**Length:** 3 minutes 25 seconds

### Precis of AAM

Choosing the right person for the right job is not always easy. Samuel was to choose a new king, so the 7 sons of Jesse were lined up to be interviewed by Samuel. God told Jesse that none of them were the right one. Samuel was confused! Then he found there was an eighth son, a young lad who was out minding the sheep. When he came, God told Samuel that this was His man – David was to be the King he wanted. God sometimes makes choices we do not understand!

**Uniting in Worship (Blue Book). Psalm 23 – page 260**

### Pastor Mike Hercock

I was a Baptist Pastor for 10 years, currently on Ministry Team at Port Macquarie UCA.

Originally from New Zealand, I support All Blacks, have 2 adult sons Samuel and Jude and have been married to Jo for 25 years.