

Gospel Reading: John 9:1-41 ¹As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³“Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. ⁷“Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means “Sent”). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. ⁸His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, “Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some claimed that he was. Others said, “No, he only looks like him.” But he himself insisted, “I am the man.” ¹⁰“How then were your eyes opened?” they asked. ¹¹He replied, “The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.” ¹²“Where is this man?” they asked him. “I don’t know,” he said. ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. ¹⁴Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man’s eyes was a Sabbath. ¹⁵Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. “He put mud on my eyes,” the man replied, “and I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others asked, “How can a sinner perform such signs?” So they were divided. ¹⁷Then they turned again to the blind man, “What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” The man replied, “He is a prophet.” ¹⁸They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man’s parents. ¹⁹“Is this your son?” they asked. “Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?” ²⁰“We know he is our son,” the parents answered, “and we know he was born blind. ²¹But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don’t know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³That was why his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” ²⁴A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. “Give glory to God by telling the truth,” they said. “We know this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He replied, “Whether he is a sinner or not, I don’t know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!” ²⁶Then they asked him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered, “I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?” ²⁸Then they hurled insults at him and said, “You are this fellow’s disciple! We are disciples of Moses! ²⁹We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don’t even know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Now that is remarkable! You don’t know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will. ³²Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴To this they replied, “You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!” And they threw him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶“Who is he, sir?” the man asked. “Tell me so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said, “You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.” ³⁸Then the man said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.” ⁴⁰Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, “What? Are we blind too?” ⁴¹Jesus said, “If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message: *Pastor Eric Hanson* (you may be seated)

3rd-6th Graders Sing

Message: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

Hymn of the Day & Offering: (you may be seated)

Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.

“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty” #777

**Verse 1: “Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty; drink the water I will give.
If you knew what gift I offer, you would come to me and live.”**

**Refrain: Jesus, Ever flowing fountain, give us water from your well.
In the gracious gift you offer there is joy no tongue can tell.**

**Verse 2: “Come to me, all travelers weary; come that I may give you rest.
Drink the cup of life I offer; at this table be my guest.” [Refrain.]**

**Verse 3: “Come to me, believers burdened; find refreshment in this place.
Come, receive the gift I offer, turn to me and seek my face.” [Refrain.]**

**Verse 4: “Come to me, repentant sinners; leave behind your guilt and shame.
Come and know divine compassion, turn to me, I call your name.” [Refrain.]**

Offertory Response: “Give Thanks”

**Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.**

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.

Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.

Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive first from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Apostles’ Creed: (please stand as you are able)

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers: (call and response)

Sustained by God’s abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, & all of creation. *A brief silence.*

Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire us by your love together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest spring-time bud. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials. Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; tend all who are sick and comfort those who grieve. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God our host, you fill us at your table with more than we could ever ask. Feed us with hunger for justice. Equip the feeding ministries of this congregation and community. Nourish us so we can nourish our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of history, with thanksgiving we remember our ancestors in faith who cared for your people. We praise you for the ways they formed the faith of others and continue to inspire us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Named Prayer Requests:

P: On this day we especially pray for Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, Judy Carpenter, Larry Reese, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Jen Berg, Marilyn O’Brien, Kellie Peterson, Kay Kurtti, Shawn Frederixon, Harriet Warren, Donald & Marcy Jonas, & the family of Harold Lensch.
For whom or what else shall the people of God pray...

Sharing the Peace:

P: The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you.

The Great Thanksgiving: (stand as you are able)

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks & praise.

The Words of Institution

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 kingdom, those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Meal and Hymns: *(congregation may be seated)*

All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.

Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.

"Lamb Of God"

**Vs 1: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy on me.
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, have mercy on me.**

**Vs 2: Lamb of God, I'm asking you to take away my sin. I confess that I've done wrong, I need your help again.
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy on me.
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, have mercy on me.**

**Vs 3: The precious blood of Jesus Christ cleanses me from sin.
The precious blood of Jesus Christ cleanses me from sin.
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy on me.
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy on me.**

"Surely It Is God Who Saves Me"

**Vs 1: Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.**

**Vs 2: Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name.**

Communion Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

**C: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of life. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage:
may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful
hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing:

P: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you + peace. **Amen.**

Sending: *"Amazing Grace" #779*

**Vs 1: Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.**

**Vs 2: 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!**

**Vs 3: Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.**

**Vs 4: The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
He will my Shield and Portion be, As long as life endures.**

**Vs 5: When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.**

Dismissal: P: Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!



A Journey Through Lent

**St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson
Fourth Sunday in Lent • 9:30AM • March 19, 2023**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Lenten Greeting: *(please stand as you are able)*

L: Friends in Christ, we gather during this season of Lent to remember Jesus' Passover from death to life. We journey through this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's grace. We are created to live in joyful communion with God and one another, but we oftentimes wound our relationship with God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended. As disciples of Jesus, we long for repentance leading to change.

C: God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek your will for our lives.

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: With honesty of heart, we confess our sin together. Merciful God,

C: Lord, Forgive us. Our will is handcuffed to sin, & we cannot break free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet. We were silent when we should have said something. We were still when we should have moved. We moved when we should have been still. For the wrong we have done, and for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us & bring us new life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord. Amen.

P: Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces us in tender care. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet us again this day. In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. We are created anew, freed from sin and death for new life in Christ. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: *"This Is The Spirits Entry Now" #448*

**Vs 1: This is the Spirit's entry now: the water & the word,
the cross of Jesus on your brow, the seal both felt & heard.**

**Vs 2: This miracle of life reborn comes from the Lord of breath;
the sinless one from life was torn; our life comes through his death.**

**Vs 3: Let water be the sacred sign that we must die each day
to rise again by his design as foll'wers of his way.**

**Vs 4: Renewing Spirit, hear our praise for your baptismal pow'r
that washes us through all our days. Come, cleanse again this hour.**

Prayer of the Day: *(you may be seated)*

P: Let us pray together

**C: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us,
bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with
the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Gospel Acclamation: *"Tree Of Life" vs 1, 2, 3 & Lent 4 #334 (stand as you are able)*

**Verse 1: Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry, in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of hist'ry, still you rise with ev'ry morn, still you rise with ev'ry morn.**

**Verse 2: We remember truth once spoken, love passed on through act and word;
ev'ry person lost and broken wears the body of our Lord, wears the body of our Lord.**

**Verse 3: Christ, you lead and we shall follow, stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow, we the river, you the sea, we the river, you the sea.**

**Lent 4: Give us eyes to see you clearly; make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly as your gospel shining bright, as your gospel shining bright.**