



Divine Worship Service

March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Pastor Sam Powell



One Thing I Know, I Was Blind But Now I See

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School

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Divine Service 3

Welcome!

We are happy that you are with us to hear the Word of God and receive His gifts.

Communion: The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm, and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at the altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. If you are unsure or do not wish to receive the Lord's Supper at this time you are still welcome to come forward with the others communing. Please fold your arms in an X shape of the cross to be reminded of Jesus' love for you and the pastor will give you a blessing today.

Preparing for Church This Sunday:

Our Gospel reading for today is the healing of the man born blind. Jesus heals him and then reveals to him that He is the Christ. And the man believes. Jesus came to us when we were spiritually blind and gave us sight by the power of the Holy Spirit to see Him through the eyes of faith.

St. Paul tells us in Ephesians 5 that once we were in darkness and now are light in the Lord, so we are to walk in that light. The darkness is sin and the light is Christ. As we sing in the beautiful hymn "Amazing Grace", I once was blind, but now I see. May you always see Jesus and walk in His light.

CONFSSION AND ABSOLUTION

Opening Hymn 411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the **☩** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.
- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **☩** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.
One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon
the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.
For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.
And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will
offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

I will sing and make melody to the LORD.
My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;**
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen.

Kyrie

LSB 186

C **Lord, have mercy upon us.**
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:14–21

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace;
I have kept still and restrained myself;
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills,
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn the rivers into islands,
and dry up the pools.

¹⁶And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know,
in paths that they have not known
I will guide them.

I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.

These are the things I do,
and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
who trust in carved idols,

who say to metal images,
 "You are our gods."

¹⁸Hear, you deaf,
 and look, you blind, that you may see!

¹⁹Who is blind but my servant,
 or deaf as my messenger whom I send?
Who is blind as my dedicated one,
 or blind as the servant of the LORD?

²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them;
 his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake,
 to magnify his law and make it glorious.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 142; antiphon: v. 5

¹With my voice I cry out to the LORD;
 with my voice I plead for mercy to the LORD.

²I pour out my complaint before him;
 I tell my trouble before him.

³When my spirit faints within me,
 you know my way!

In the path where I walk
 they have hidden a trap for me.

⁴Look to the right and see:
 there is none who takes notice of me;
no refuge remains to me;
 no one cares for my soul.

⁵I cry to you, O LORD;
 I say, "You are my refuge,
 my portion in the land of the living."

⁶Attend to my cry,
 for I am brought very low!

Deliver me from my persecutors,
 for they are too strong for me!

⁷Bring me out of prison,
 that I may give thanks to your name!
The righteous will surround me,
 for you will deal bountifully with me.

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true),

¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 9:1–7, 13–17, 34–39

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.
C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. . . .

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” . . .

³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

¶ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life [†] of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon “The Man born Blind”

Offering

Offertory

LSB 192

¶ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and
.... Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- P** trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

LSB 194

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
C **It is meet and right so to do.**
- P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

195

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;**
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He
that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
C **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.**

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My $\text{\tfrac{X}{T}}$ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My $\text{\tfrac{X}{T}}$ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Distribution

Distribution Hymns: 636 "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" vs 1-4

"Eat This Bread"

430 "My Song is Love Unknown"

637 "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

636 "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" vs 5-8

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
C Amen, amen, amen.

Closing Hymn 744 Amazing Grace

sts. 1–5

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Sermon Notes - 3-19-23

Where in the sermon did you hear the Law – bringing up the sinful nature of mankind and our need for a Savior?

Where in the sermon did you hear the Gospel – what God has done to free us from the troubles of the Law?

Where in the sermon did you hear the Application of God's Word for us – what actions should we take in response to God's grace toward us?