



Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday Worship Service

March 22, 2020

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
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Pastor Chris Waldvogel
Pastor Brian Shane

Welcome! Throughout this season of Lent, we see how our Lord Jesus compassionately serves others, bringing them to faith through the power of God's Word. Today, Jesus brings light to the darkness of a man born blind, opening his eyes not only to see the world but also to see Jesus as the Savior of the world. Our Lords' words also serve as a stark reminder of our own blind spots as we ignore, reject and rebel against God's will and ways. Jesus calls us out of that darkness, inviting us to know God's will fully and to look to Jesus alone for our salvation.

+ Order of Worship +

Hymn

"Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

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Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Versicles

P: This is the day that the Lord has made.

C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C: **The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

P: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

C: **Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

P: Jesus said: If any man would come after me,

C: **Let Him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.**

P: Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

C: **He was bruised for our iniquities.**

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C: **The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

Confession and Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, asking 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 and 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 deserve 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 to 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.

Introit

(Psalm 142; antiphon, v. 5)

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

**C: With my voice, I cry out to the LORD;
with my voice, I plead for mercy to the LORD.**

P: I pour out my complaint before him; I tell my trouble before him.

**C: When my spirit faints within me, you know my way!
In the path where I walk, they have hidden a trap for me.**

P: Look to the right and see: there is not who takes notice of me;
no refuge remains to me; no one cares for my soul.

**C: Attend to me cry, for I am brought very low!
Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me.**

P: Bring me out of prison that I may give thanks to your name.

The righteous will surround me, for you deal bountifully with me.

**C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

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

Hymn

“Beautiful Savior”

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Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:14-21

For 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. I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands and dry up the pools. And 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. They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, “You are our gods.”

Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! Who 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? He sees many things but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness’ sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Eph. 5:8-14

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

John 9:1-41

As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud and said to him,

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“Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So 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.”

Some 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. So 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.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) Therefore, his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him.



Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory

P: We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the righteous one.

C: **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C: **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

P: We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the righteous one.

C: **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

The Ten Commandments

C: **You shall have no other gods.**

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.

You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his manservant or his maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Children's Sermon

Hymn "When to our World the Savior Came" 551

Sermon

Offering

Offertory "We Give Thee but Thine Own" 781, vv. 1,2,5

Prayer of the Church

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: (*Specific petitions*) Let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

Prayer of the Church

P: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C: **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

P: 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 might 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.**

Collect for the Word

P: Blessed Lord, You have caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so read, hear, mark, and take them to heart that by the power and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger, and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings in life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Blessing

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us" 851