LUTHERAN CHAPEL



JOHN 9:1-41

"THE MAN BORN BLIND"

Jesus, the Light of the world, gives sight, insight, and wholeness now and forever.

4^{тн} SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 22, 2020

lutheranchapelchurch.org

(704)864-6491

LUTHERAN CHAPEL MARCH 22, 2020 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER FROM WITH ONE VOICE

*Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God. **BOLD** indicates congregational responses.

GATHER

WELCOME AND PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PARISH NEWS

GREETING Psalm 96:1-2, 8-9, 11-13

- P: We gather together in the name of the Father, + the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- P: Seek the Lord while He may be found.
- C: Call upon God while He is near.
- P: Wicked, forsake your ways!
- C: Unrighteous, forsake your thoughts!
- P: Come back to God.
- C: Return to the Lord!
- P: Come back to God.
- C: Return to the Lord!
- P: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love

God, Whose Almighty Word



Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt. Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

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.

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The Jesus Storybook Bible

A Little Girl and a Poor Frail Lady (pass prayer cards to the ushers)

FIRST READING 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here."

¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

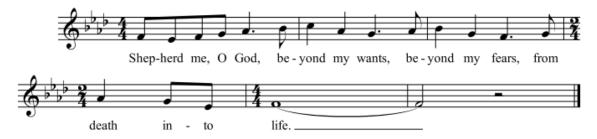
L: The Word of the Lord **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

"Shepherd Me, O God"

Marty Haugen

Congregational Refrain:



 God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of truthfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace.

Refrain:

Gently You raise me and heal my weary soul, You lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of Your Name.

Refrain:

 Though I should wander the valley of death, I fear no evil, for You are at my side, Your rod and Your staff, my comfort and my hope.

Refrain:

4. You have set a banquet of love in face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold.

Refrain:

5. Surely Your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.

Refrain:

THE SECOND LESSON

EPHESIANS 5:8-14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out 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 mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Return to the Lord, your God"

Joel 2:13







GOSPEL JOHN 9:1-41

Response after the announcement:

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

¹As [Jesus] walked 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?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed 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." ⁵When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁻saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁵The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁵Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

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. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The 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 ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He 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?" ²⁶Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and

yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

35 Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36 He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." 37 Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." 36 He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. 36 Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." 40 Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" 41 Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE "The Man Born Blind"

Why Blind?

I Was Blind but Now I See

The Light of the World

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus' saving power: Do I see in the light of Christ? Do I recognize my sin-sickness and spiritual blindness at times?

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus' ultimate saving power: Jesus, the light of the world, gives sight, insight, and illumination.

On Discipleship: Recognize the darkness and distortions of this present age. What insights have I received following Jesus? What is your take away for following Christ?

The Lord's My Shepherd



RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AM: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in Him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

AM: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate this on the prayer card and talk to an usher or the pastor.

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.

AM: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith:

C: pray in the Holy Spirit.

AM: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

AM: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C: Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P: Gracious God.

C: have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **C: Amen.**

*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24: Ephesians 4:1-3

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER

AM: Let us pray. Gracious God,

C: in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

AM: Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

AM: God of insight, open the hearts of the church and the world to all who testify to your deeds of power (*like Jonathan Edwards, whom we commemorate today*). Raise up voices in your church that are often silenced or overlooked due to age, gender expression, race, or economic status. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Prayers conclude:

P: According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

SENDING

*THE BLESSING WOV pg. 53

If You But Trust in God to Guide You



THE DISMISSAL - LUTHERAN CHAPEL CHILDREN AND POSTLUDE

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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OUR ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN to the Glory of God by Buddy Carothers in memory of Phyllis M. Carothers.

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THOSE SERVING AT LUTHERAN CHAPEL TODAY

Ministers......People of Lutheran Chapel Church Pastor (P)......Michael Comer Administrative Assistant......Kim Rundzieher Interim Director of Youth & Family Ministry......Amy Carpenter OrganistLisa Burch Acolyte Elliot Anthony Assistant Minister (AM)Mark Thornburg LectorTrish Ratchford Ushers......Steve Jackson, Ken Lentz, Jason Lineberger & Scott Robinson Finance Assistant......Ed Robinson

PARISH NEWS

FRIENDSHIP ROSTER: Please sign the friendship roster in the black folder at the end of each pew for a record of attendance and to share information with the church office.

ELECTRONIC SIGN: Thanks be to God for the generous response for the electronic sign project. All the money was collected and installation should happen quickly. May this tool be effective in inviting all to Christ and His mission at Lutheran Chapel.

EASTER CANDY NEEDED: Christian Ed is in need of individually wrapped candies to prepare the eggs for our annual **Easter Egg Hunt** on Sunday, April 5th. There will be a box located outside of the church office where you can drop off your donations. Due to allergies, please avoid candy that has nuts.

GIRLS' NIGHT: Women of the church, please join Amy for a night of food and fellowship on Tuesday, **March 24th** at **6:00 p.m.** at *Terra Mia* in downtown McAdenvillePlease let her know if you are available to come by Friday, March 20th. Hope to see you there!

FIRST COMMUNION SEMINAR: A gathering for First Communion will be offered on Saturday, **April 4** from 10 to 11:30am. Some fun arts and crafts, making bread, tasting the elements, story telling from Exodus and the Gospels and a good song or two will be shared to prepare children to receive this great gift instituted by our Lord Jesus. Please share your plans and questions with Amy Carpenter or Pastor Michael.

EASTER EGG HUNT: The Christian Ed and Family Ministries Committee is hosting our annual Easter Egg Hunt on **Sunday, April 5th** immediately following the 10:30 service. Lunch will be provided. Elementary age children and younger are welcome.

CRAFTERS' MORNING OUT: The initial meeting of the Crafters took place on February 11 with ten women attending. *It was decided to continue the fun the second Tuesday of each month at the same time, 10:00-12:00.* Some gorgeous work was done, stitches were taught and craft supplies were GIVEN away due to the stash shared by Andy Watson. Mark your March calendar ~ bring something to work on or just come for the fellowship.

WOMEN'S SUMMER BOOK CLUB: In the months of May and June we will study the life of Esther through two novels. The first biblical fiction novel, Esther: Royal Beauty by Angela Hunt, tells an enhanced biblical tale of the life of Esther. The second historical fiction novel, For Such a Time by Kate Breslin, recounts the story of Esther through a powerful retelling about the Holocaust. All women of the church are welcome. The schedule is below. We will meet at 6 pm at the church pavilion. There will be an iced coffee bar and sweet treats. *If you are interested in participating, please let Amy know by <u>April 9th</u>.*

- ♦ Thursday, April 23rd: Introduction to the book of Esther with Pastor Michael
- ♦ Thursday, May 21st: Discussion of Esther: Royal Beauty by Angela Hunt
- ♦ Thursday, June 18th: Discussion of For Such a Time by Kate Breslin

If you are interested in participating in this book club, please let Amy know. More information to come.

HOLY FOLDERS: If you have an hour to spare on *Thursday mornings*, join the Holy Folders at 11:00 to fold and staple the weekly Sunday bulletin. Or consider joining the crew once a month for the folding of the newsletter. This date differs each month and will be designated by Kim. Be a regular folder or drop in as your schedule permits. There's fun and fellowship to be had during this hour!

CARE BAGS FOR THOSE IN NEED: When you see someone asking for money at a busy intersection it is a tough spot. As followers of Jesus, we are called to help and give (Luke 6:30-31). However just giving money can actually hurt someone rather than help them, especially if there is a drug or alcohol addiction present. A care bag may be an option depending on your discernment at the time. This gift offers food, hygiene items, and a flier with ministry contacts that can help in more permanent ways. Never tire in doing what is right (2 Thessalonians 3:13).Items Needed: Lance crackers, granola bars, dried fruit/raisins, bottled water, wipes, mouthwash, toothbrush, deodorant, socks. Please put all items in the box located in the educational building. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Carpenter.

PARENTS: There are crayons, coloring sheets and activity pages for the children to use during the service if needed. All materials are located in the Narthex near the balcony stairs.

YOUTH PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: After the middle and high school youth group meets from 5-6 pm in the Youth Room on Sunday nights, we are in need of youth parent volunteers to supervise open gym and dinner from 6-7 pm. Please contact Amy Carpenter at amy@lutheranchapelchurch.org if you are willing to help.



DAILY PRAYER

EACH MORNING AND EVENING, PRAY TO THE LORD. (Psalm 1:2) A prayer list, daily lessons to read the Bible together each year, and a song of praise are below. The "Our Daily Bread" devotional is available as a booklet, an app in eBook format, daily e-mail, or podcast. Visit odb.org/subscribe. Fill out a prayer card to share or notify the church office with concerns.

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: Braylon Beam, B.T. Bradley, Donna Carpenter, Jerry Carpenter, Sharon Carpenter, Hunter Clark, Tonya Dowdy, Michael Ellington, Kathy Finch, Alfred Lineberger, Robert Park, Betty Petty, Doug Rhyne, Fran Rice, Barbara Robinson, and Bill Robinson.

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Ruth Benoy, Andy Clapham, Josh Dockery serving in South Korea, Amelia Edwards, John Heavner serving in Kuwait, Travis Hogue, Ernie Kincaid, Suzanne Ledford, Sam & Lara Raisanen, Martin Salois, Pastor Peter Setzer, Charlene Sorenson, Dana Williams, and Lulu Zizak.

WEEK 13: MARCH 22, 2020 to MARCH 29, 2020

- 03/22 Morning Reading: Luke 1:39-56—Evening Reading: Joshua 10, 11, 12
- 03/23 Morning Reading: Luke 1:57-80—Evening Reading: Joshua 13, 14, 15
- 03/24 Morning Reading: Luke 2:1-24—Evening Reading: Joshua 16, 17, 18
- 03/25 Morning Reading: Luke 2:25-52—Evening Reading: Joshua 19, 20, 21
- 03/26 Morning Reading: Luke 3—Evening Reading: Joshua 22, 23, 24
- 03/27 Morning Reading: Luke 4:1-30—Evening Reading: Judges 1, 2, 3
- 03/28 Morning Reading: Luke 4:31-44—Evening Reading: Judges 4, 5, 6
- 03/29 Morning Reading: Luke 5:1-16—Evening Reading: Judges 7, 8

Song Of Praise "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded" ELW #351

Next Sunday, MARCH 29, 2020:

8:30 Service with Holy Communion: Joshua 1:1-9 ~ "Entering the Promised Land"

Children's Message: "How to Pray" (Matthew 6)

10:30 Service of the Word: John 11:1-45 ~ "The Raising of Lazarus"

<u>Note</u>: *daily*Lectio.net provides the complete Revised Common Lectionary for both Sunday and daily lessons.

This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that list the commemorations for the week.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK SUNDAY, MARCH 22 - SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2020

Sun-22 10:30 am Late Service to be streamed on Facebook

Tue-24 10:30 am Clothing Closet Work Day

Wed-25 7:00 pm Evening Prayer to be streamed on Facebook