

ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH

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Organist/Pianist *Bonnie Rodberg/Deb Nyhus*
Third Week of Lent March 15, 2023

AMAZING GRACE THE SEASON OF LENT “The Blind Man”

Order of Worship

One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see. John 9:24

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Prelude
Welcome & Announcements

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 146:5-10

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God,

Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

Who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed,

Who gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets the prisoners free;

The Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord watches over the sojourners;

He upholds the widow and the fatherless,

But the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.

Praise the Lord!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Jesus showed grace to the blind man and restored his sight. Trusting in God's compassion and saving love, we confess our sins and ask his forgiveness for Jesus' sake.

Almighty God, although we claim to see and know so much, all too often we are lost in the blindness of our sins. We follow tempting pathways instead of walking in your commandments. We act according to our own desires instead of obeying the guidance of your holy Word. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Open our eyes so that, by faith, we will see the wonders of your love and grace.

God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son to be our Savior. The Lord and Messiah, who opened the eyes of the blind, came to lay down his life as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind!

OPENING SONG “There Is a Balm in Gilead” #614

Refrain

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.*

*Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. Refrain*

*If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all." Refrain*

*Don't ever be discouraged, for Jesus is your friend;
and if you lack for knowledge he'll ne'er refuse to lend. Refrain*

Text: African American spiritual

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we pray that by your Spirit you would grant us the clear sight of faith to see the wonders of your love and power in our lives. Through Jesus' redeeming death, we have forgiveness and eternal life. As the blind man told others about the miracle that had been accomplished in his life, help us to witness boldly to your amazing grace and tell others of the hope and peace that can be theirs through faith in Jesus. As the man who was healed worshiped Jesus, we too worship Jesus as our Messiah and Lord. Hear our prayer and accept our praise in his holy name. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 35:4-10

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:6-9

GOSPEL LESSON

John 9:1-7, 24-38

The gospel lesson for this evening is written in the ninth chapter of John beginning with the 1st verse. **Glory to you O Lord.**

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

SERMON

"Grace for the Blind"

Pastor Randy Baldwin & Pastor Bill Peters

SONG

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" #779

*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.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.*

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

OFFERING *ELCA Disaster Response for Turkey Earthquake Victims*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful Father,

We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us; ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

Postlude

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LENTEN WORSHIP "AMAZING GRACE"

In honor of the 250th anniversary of the writing of "Amazing Grace," this worship series for Lent by theologian Michael Hoy ties the words of the beloved song to our lives today as Christ's disciples. Those in the Bible who experienced the amazing grace of God help us each week to realize that though we once were lost in sin, we now have been found by Jesus, and though we once were blind to God's mercy, we now can see his love at work in us through our Savior's death and resurrection.

All Lent worships will be live-streamed on

*One In Christ Lutheran Parish Facebook page
& later put on the YouTube Channel.*

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIPS

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Lenten Supper 6:15

Each week the midweek worship will be held at a different parish congregation.

March 22nd *"The Woman at the Well"* @ Silver Lake

March 29th *"Paul"* @ Immanuel



ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH

◆Bethany ◆Immanuel ◆Lunder ◆Silver Lake ◆Winnebago

Lent 3

March 15, 2023