# Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 19, 2023



Jesus Heals a Man Born Blínd John 9:1-41



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# **Confession and Absolution**

#### Stand

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

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

#### Kneel/Stand

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

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- **C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore 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

Psalm 27:4-6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15

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 up- | on 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. Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,\* is now, and will be forever. | Amen. My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,\*

for he will pluck my feet out of the net.



LSB 152



**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.



Sit

# **Old Testament Reading**

<sup>14</sup>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.
<sup>15</sup>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.
<sup>16</sup>And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, Isaiah 42:14–21

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. <sup>17</sup>They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images. "You are our gods." <sup>18</sup>Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! <sup>19</sup>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? <sup>20</sup>He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. <sup>21</sup>The 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.

#### Gradual

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,\*

the founder and perfecter | of our faith,

who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,\* and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

#### **Epistle**

Ephesians 5:8–14

<sup>8</sup>For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), <sup>10</sup>and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. <sup>13</sup>But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for 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.

#### Stand

# Alleluia and Verse (Lent)



LSB 157

Hebrews 12:2

#### Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.



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

<sup>8</sup>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?" <sup>9</sup>Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." <sup>10</sup>So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup>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." <sup>12</sup>They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>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." <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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."

<sup>18</sup>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 <sup>19</sup>and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. <sup>21</sup>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." <sup>22</sup>(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.) <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

<sup>24</sup>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." <sup>25</sup>He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." <sup>26</sup>They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" <sup>27</sup>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?" <sup>28</sup>And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." <sup>30</sup>The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." <sup>34</sup>They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup>He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." <sup>38</sup>He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind." <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, "Are we also blind?" <sup>41</sup>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 Gospel of the Lord.



571 God Loved the World So That He Gave



- 5 If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer: Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.
- △ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One! To You, O blessèd Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!
   Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt. Tune: George J. Elvy, 1816-93 Text and tune: Public domain

#### Sermon

Stand

# 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.

# Prayer of the Church

Sit

# Offering

#### "God So Loved the World" Adult Choir

Stand



# Service of the Sacrament



LSB 160

LSB 159



P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:



# Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

# **C** Amen.

# Lord's Prayer

**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.

# The Words of Our Lord

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 

→ 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 + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."



Sit

Distribution



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#### 427 In the Cross of Christ I Glory





# 422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image



Stand

# **Nunc Dimittis**



LSB 165



#### **Post-Communion Collect**

**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.



#### Benediction

LSB 166



and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



# 432 In Silent Pain the Eternal Son



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#### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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