



# Salem Lutheran Church, ELCA

Montevideo, Minnesota Pastor Matthew Philaya

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March 22, 2020 · 10:00 a.m. Live Online Worship · Setting 8  
Channel 180 - 9:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 9:00 a.m. Fridays

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Fourth Sunday in Lent

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{†}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{†}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### OPENING HYMN

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

**1 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.**

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

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

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

*A hearing device is available upon request. Please ask an usher for assistance.*

**5 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.**

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**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.**

## **PSALM 23**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. <sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; <sup>3</sup>he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. <sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff — they comfort me. <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

## **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 5:8-14**

<sup>8</sup>Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—<sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup>Try to find out 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 mention what such people do secretly; <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL LESSON: John 9:1-41**

The Holy Gospel according to John in the ninth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed 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>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>The 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?" <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup>He 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." <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>Then 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." <sup>16</sup>Some 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. <sup>17</sup>So 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." <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 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." <sup>22</sup>His 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. <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 they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." <sup>25</sup>He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. 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>Then 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, "Here is an astonishing 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 he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person 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 entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. <sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup>He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." <sup>38</sup>He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>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." <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

"Be Thou My Vision"

**1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art: thou my best thought both by day and by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord. Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r, raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**

3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

4 Light of my soul, after victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into  
heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.

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

#### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

#### **INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The following people have been elected to serve in positions of leadership for Salem  
Lutheran Church.

*A reading from First Corinthians:* There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there  
are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the  
same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the  
Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you:  
Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices  
to which you have been *elected*?

**Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.**

People of God, I ask you:  
Will you support these, your elected leaders,  
and will you share in the mutual ministry  
that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

I now declare you installed as council members of this congregation.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace,  
that you may be faithful servants of Christ. **Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

God of insight, open the hearts of the church and the world to all who testify to your power. Show us how to be your Church in these strange and unfamiliar times, sharing your light with the world.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, even as we wait for this virus outbreak to pass, spring is coming. Provide favorable conditions for spring work. Keep those healthy who need to do that work to provide for us and for their livelihood.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, bring peace to all people and nations as we focus on what it truly means now to work together for the common good. Provide wisdom to leaders that they would empower us to care for one another. Accomplish healing through the work of doctors, nurses, and all in the health care professions.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, you care for our needs even before we ask. Come quickly to all who seek prayer this day Don Sears, Karen Mohagen, Fred Blom, Aaron Dolen, Tom Fossell, Arlys Tilberg, Ruby Flickinger, Olivia Baldwin, Bev Sailer, Carol Johnson, Lorraine Miller, Myrtle Starbeck and Iona Rigge, Susan Siverhus, Dale Norman, Amber Morton, Sharla Kruger, Jon & Marion Mitlyng, Verna Siverhus & Theresa Prins .

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, you call out to those who are asleep and awaken them to new life with you. We pray for the family and loved ones of Marlene Kimpling as they mourn her death.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

## **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN**

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

Refrain

Lead me, guide me, along the way; for if you lead me, I cannot stray.

Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r to help me over my weakest hour.  
Help me through the darkness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. Refrain

2 Help me tread in the paths of righteousness, be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
I am putting all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. Refrain

3 I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am blind without thy light to see.  
Lord, just always let me thy servant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. Refrain

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS (Salem)**

All activities at Salem Lutheran Church are canceled unless they can be held online. Go to [slcmonte.org](http://slcmonte.org) to find ways to stay engaged with the church and each other.

The Salem office is still open unless recommended to close by the state or county. Office hours are Wednesdays and Fridays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Pr. Matt and Amy are prepared to work from home if necessary.

Please remember to continue your offering to Salem at this time. All methods other than the Sunday offering plate are still available. Online giving is available by going to our website, [slcmonte.org](http://slcmonte.org). You can also mail your offering to the church at 631 N 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

Salem's website, [slcmonte](http://slcmonte.org), has a new look and more features. Thank you to Jackie Lindvall for the time she has spent helping us to upgrade this now valuable resource for our ministry during this time.