

Blind Bartimaeus

"What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him. The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see." Mark 10:51 (NIV)

Words are taken from Mark 10:46-52 (NIV).



C I F J L E D I S C I P L E S
Z R S O A X A X C X U P K F B
K R S G L Z C I T Y Z H C L A
D A I Q I L R U Q I U E H G R
J B G W R F O O W U L A E X T
S B H X A E D W A I I L E Y I
B I T Y U C S I E D C E R N M
F A I T H U O Y L D S D T R A
L F E F S P C B Q Y N I O C E
P T D E E R V M E H I H D Q U
T T J K E E J V D G C S B E S
D P M M V P T W B I G S N R R
Y B L I N D O Y R H L I V T T
S H O U T R S E H T Y W N A I
B J J C C L J J U M P E D G E

Jericho	city	begging	cheer	faith
Jesus	blind	shout	jumped	healed
disciples	Bartimaeus	mercy	feet	sight
crowd	roadside	quiet	Rabbi	followed

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation. Each petition will end with the words "With praise and thanksgiving" and you are invited to respond with "We lift our prayer to you". [pause]

Risen One, we give you thanks for congregations and ministries throughout the world that serve as centers of prayer and action. In our Anglican cycle of prayer, we remember The Right Reverend John Stephens, Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of New Westminster. In our joint Anglican Lutheran cycle, we pray for an end to gender-based violence and human trafficking. Empower missionaries, teachers, healers, evangelists, and all who are sent to share your song of joy.

With praise and thanksgiving "We lift our prayer to you."

Holy one, we give you thanks for generous land that produces abundant harvests. Strengthen and protect all soils, from rooftop gardens to prairie farmlands, from patio planters to fertile valleys, and bless all who lovingly tend them.

With praise and thanksgiving "We lift our prayer to you."

Ruling One, we give you thanks for leaders of nations who work to build up the common good. Strengthen efforts of reconciliation among all nations, and especially our own efforts of reconciliation with our Indigenous brothers and sisters, that peace extends in every direction.

With praise and thanksgiving "We lift our prayer to you."

Providing One, we give you thanks for all in our congregation who work to provide for others. Bless those we remember this week in our parish prayer cycle, – Jean Phillips; Pastor Lori Pilatzke and Jen Macklin; Shirley Roberts; Wayne Robertson. Inspire generosity in all of us, so that we carry out the work of ministry in our neighbourhood.

With praise and thanksgiving "We lift our prayer to you."

Healing One, we give you thanks for all who labour for the health of others. Send healing and relief to all who are sick. Especially we lift before you George Anderson and family; Nathan and his family; Pat & Garry Grayston; Erica and Ben Duffy and family; Mackenzy and family; and for those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts [pause]. Comfort and strengthen all who struggle with chronic pain.

With praise and thanksgiving "We lift our prayer to you."

Living One, we give you thanks for the saints who have increased our faith.. **[pause]** Give us courage to follow in hope until you gather us all around your table of abundance.

With praise and thanksgiving “We lift our prayer to you.”

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ our truth and life.

Amen.

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

JOB 42: 1-6, 10-17

After the glorious vision of creation contained in God's speeches at the end of Job, the righteous sufferer proclaims that he has seen God and is humbled. The LORD restores Job's fortunes, and Job dares to live again, fathering more children and giving his daughters an inheritance along with their brothers.

PSALM 34: 1-8 [19-22]

Taste and see that the LORD is good. (Ps 34: 8)

HEBREWS 7: 23-28

Human priests of old offered sacrifice for their own sins and served only until their death. In contrast, Jesus is God's Son, the holy, sinless, resurrected high priest. Death did not terminate his priestly service, but through his death he has interceded for our sins.

MARK 10: 46-52

Bartimaeus comes to Jesus with faith, asking that he might see again. Recognizing Jesus' identity, Bartimaeus is the first person to call him "Son of David" in the Gospel of Mark.

READINGS

Sunday Oct 31/21

Jeremiah 31: 31-34
Psalm 46
Romans 3: 19-28
John 8: 31-36

Sunday Nov 07/21

Isaiah 25: 6-9
Psalm 24
Revelation 21: 1-6a
John 11: 32-44

Dear Faithful of God,

How wonderful it is to be back to work. My new titanium hip has settled in well and while there is more healing to happen, so far, so good. I give thanks to God for modern medicine, talented surgeons and amazing nurses, for physiotherapy and for the abundance of healing prayers. I am truly blessed.

Last weekend, Jen and I headed over Niagara way to close up our camper for the winter. I had the opportunity to attend a Taize service at St James and St Brendans in Port Colborne. As I walked through the doors, I realized I have not been a worshipper since before Covid. Yes, I have led worship, but sitting in the pews is a different experience.

I was stunned at the number of times I caught myself on the brink of panicking. I was unsure of what to do and what was expected of me. Once seated, my breathing continued, until the priest walked down the aisle - forgetting to replace her mask after welcoming everyone ... I hadn't realized just how impacted I was from being isolated for these past 19 months.

What I also realized was that it is time. It is time for us to begin making our way back to in person worship and community. We need to be together as we begin to move into this post-pandemic world.

Members of church council and I met this past week and agreed we will be able to ***return to in person worship Sunday October 31 @ 10am!*** The 'return to worship' committee will meet during the week to review the Amber Stage guidelines and have everything in place for your safe return.

While the Diocese of Toronto has instituted a policy that requires all employees and volunteers to be double vaccinated, it does not require folks attending worship to be. Please know we will absolutely continue to encourage everyone to get their shot. And we will continue to follow all safety procedures as we have already been doing.

If you are ready to return on Oct 31, contact the church office either by phone 705.325.1421 or email stdavidalc@bellnet.ca to reserve your spot. We are still only at 30% capacity so seating is limited. Provide your name, telephone # and the number from your household/bubble. We will confirm that space is available. If you have any questions or need help, let us know.

We simply ask for your support, understanding and patience as we make our way back to our building and back to 'journeying together'.

In peace ...
Pastor Lori+