



A place where heaven and earth meet,
where people encounter God's generosity
and healing presence.

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Pastor Jim Coyl
The Beach Church Podcast

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Once we walked in darkness, unable to see the works of God.

People: But Christ has come as the light of the world.

Leader: Where there was blindness, Jesus brings sight.

People: Where there was doubt, Christ brings faith.

Leader: The light of Christ shines among us, revealing God's mercy and truth.

People: Lord, open our eyes that we may see.

Leader: Come, let us worship the One who restores our vision.

People: We come to praise the Light of the world. Amen.

Scripture Reading John 9:1-41 (Bulletin Insert) Greta Coyl

Devotional Reflection

Benediction

Transcript of Devotional Reading:

In John's story of the man born blind, everyone seems certain they understand the situation—everyone except Jesus. The disciples want to know who sinned. The neighbors debate whether the healed man is really the same person. The religious leaders insist the healing cannot be from God because it happened on the wrong day.

Meanwhile, the man at the center of it all simply tells the truth as he experiences it: "I was blind, now I see."

Spiritual sight does not always come from having the right explanations. Sometimes it begins when we let go of our certainty long enough to notice what God is doing right in front of us.

In this story, the miracle is not only that a blind man receives sight. It is that those who thought they saw clearly begin to discover their own blindness. Jesus turns expectations upside down: the one who was once unable to see recognizes him, while those confident in their vision miss him entirely.

The good news is that Christ still opens eyes. He meets us not when we have everything figured out, but when we are willing to see differently.

Perhaps the prayer for this week is simple:

Lord, open our eyes—especially in the places we are most sure we already see.

John 9:1-41 The man born blind

9:1 As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. 9:2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 9:3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. 9:4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. 9:5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." 9:6 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, 9:7 saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. 9:8 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?" 9:9 Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the he." 9:10 But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes

opened?" 9:11 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." 9:12 They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." 9:13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 9:14 Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 9:15 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." 9:16 Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. 9:17 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." 9:18 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 9:19 and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" 9:20 His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, 9:21 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." 9:22 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. 9:23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." 9:24 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." 9:25 He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." 9:26 They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" 9:27 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?" 9:28 Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 9:29 We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." 9:30 The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. 9:31 We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. 9:32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. 9:33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." 9:34 They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. 9:35 Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 9:36 He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." 9:37 Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." 9:38 He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. 9:39 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." 9:40 Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" 9:41 Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday, March 16, 2026: Psalm 146; Isaiah 59:9-19; Acts 9:1-20;

Tuesday, March 17, 2026: Psalm 146; Isaiah 42:14-21; Colossians 1:9-14;

Wednesday, March 18, 2026: Psalm 146; Isaiah 60:17-22; Matthew 9:27-34;

Thursday, March 19, 2026: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 1:1-3, 2:8-3:3; Revelation 10:1-11;

Friday, March 20, 2026: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 33:10-16; Revelation 11:15-19;

Saturday, March 21, 2026: Psalm 130; Ezekiel 36:8-15; Luke 24:44-53;

A Resource for Lent and Beyond:

Founded by Richard J. Foster in 1988, Renovaré is a nonprofit committed to the renewal of the Church of Jesus Christ in all her multifaceted expressions.

While speaking at churches in the early '80s, Celebration of Discipline author Richard Foster found many Christians weren't living an abundant, full life with God.

They were trying to be good; they needed training in the way of Jesus.

They were isolated, even in church; they needed authentic connection.

They had a myopic picture of Christ, his Church, and the Kingdom of God; they needed a panoramic view.

Richard gathered a few friends — including Dallas Willard and James Bryan Smith — and founded Renovaré in 1988 to give people a balanced vision of life with God and a practical strategy for spiritual growth. God grew these early seeds into the modern spiritual formation movement. It is a movement of being with Jesus, practicing his rhythms in community, and becoming more like him from the inside out. It is a movement, we believe, just catching its stride. <https://renovare.org/>

The Revised Common Lectionary - <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>