



## **The Fourth Sunday in Lent – A**

March 22, 2020

10:00 a.m.

### **Redeemer Lutheran Church**

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Our Mission: Make Christ Known to All in Word and Deed

*Welcome to worship at Redeemer. We believe in the life-giving, inclusive and forgiving love of God manifest through his Son, Jesus Christ. Let us celebrate God's wonderful gifts through hearing his Word, singing, prayer, and as a guest at His table.*

*Children are always welcome in our worship services, but for those who desire it, Childcare for those age 3 and under is provided in the education wing during Sunday School and worship.*

*Today's worship emphasis: Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.*

**The Altar flowers are given by Cornelia Collins to the Glory of God  
and in honor of her Family.**

## Redeemer Lutheran Church

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *We stand.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,  
who is present, who gives life,  
who calls into existence the things that do not exist.  
**Amen.**

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

*We kneel or sit as we are able. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us.**  
**We confess that we have turned away from you,**  
**knowingly and unknowingly.**  
**We have wandered from your resurrection life.**  
**We have strayed from your love for all people.**  
**Turn us back to you, O God.**  
**Give us new hearts and right spirits,**  
**that we may find what is pleasing to you**  
**and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**

Receive good news: God turns to you in love.  
“I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God.  
All your sin is forgiven in the name of ✙ Jesus Christ,  
who is the free and abounding gift of God’s grace for you.  
**Amen.**

# GATHERING

**GATHERING SONG** *We turn to face the cross as it is processed in.*

Hymn 632

Oh God Our Help in Ages Past

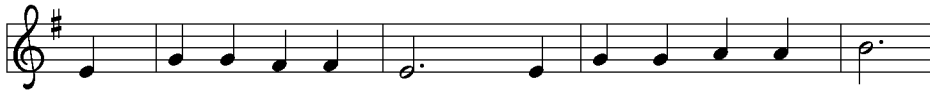
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 O God, our help in ages past,<br>our hope for years to come,<br>our shelter from the stormy blast,<br>and our eternal home:    | 4 A thousand ages in your sight<br>are like an evening gone,<br>short as the watch that ends the night<br>before the rising sun.  |
| 2 Under the shadow of your throne<br>your saints have dwelt secure;<br>sufficient is your arm alone,<br>and our defense is sure. | 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,<br>bears all our years away;<br>they fly forgotten, as a dream<br>dies at the op'ning day.   |
| 3 Before the hills in order stood<br>or earth received its frame,<br>from everlasting you are God,<br>to endless years the same. | 6 O God, our help in ages past,<br>our hope for years to come,<br>still be our guard while troubles last<br>and our eternal home. |

## 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.**

## KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*The hymn of praise is omitted during lent.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray, 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.**

*We sit.*

## Word

### FIRST READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

*Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the Lord, designating David as the Lord's chosen successor to Saul.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel.

Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among

his sons.” <sup>2</sup>Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’” <sup>3</sup>Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” <sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” <sup>5</sup>He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

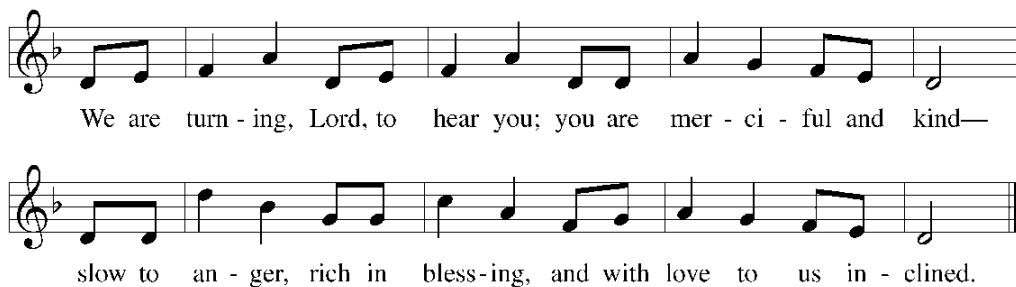
<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is now before the LORD.” <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance,

but the LORD looks on the heart.” <sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>9</sup>Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>10</sup>Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” <sup>11</sup>Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” <sup>12</sup>He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” <sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## LENTEN ACCLAMATION *We stand.*



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## GOSPEL READING

John 9:1-41

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 9th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.** *Spoken boldly!*

*Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.*

<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 the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.** *Spoken boldly!*

*We sit.*

## **SERMON**

**Apart Together**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Hymn 656

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|--|--|
| 1   Blest be the tie that binds<br>our hearts in Christian love;<br>the unity of heart and mind<br>is like to that above.                  | 3   We share our mutual woes,<br>our mutual burdens bear,<br>and often for each other flows<br>the sympathizing tear.              |
| 2   Before our Father's throne<br>we pour our ardent prayers;<br>our fears, our hopes, our aims<br>are one,<br>our comforts and our cares. | 4   From sorrow, toil, and pain,<br>and sin we shall be free;<br>and perfect love and friendship<br>reign<br>through all eternity. |

## **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**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church,  
those in need, and all of God's creation.  
*We kneel or sit as we are able.*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

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

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

*The elements of Holy Communion are consecrated and will be distributed to individuals and families at the church on Wednesday between 2:00-6:00pm.*

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

# Sending

## BLESSING

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

Hymn 764

Have No Fear Little Flock

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Have no fear, little flock;<br>have no fear, little flock,<br>for the Father has chosen<br>to give you the kingdom;<br>have no fear, little flock!         | 3 | Praise the Lord high above;<br>praise the Lord high above,<br>for he stoops down to heal you,<br>uplift and restore you;<br>praise the Lord high above!            |
| 2 | Have good cheer, little flock;<br>have good cheer, little flock,<br>for the Father will keep you<br>in his love forever;<br>have good cheer, little flock! | 4 | Thankful hearts raise to God;<br>thankful hearts raise to God,<br>for he stays close beside you,<br>in all things works with you;<br>thankful hearts raise to God! |

## SENDING

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!  
**Thanks be to God!**

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