

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023

Assistive technology for the hearing impaired is available. Please see the operator in the sound booth.

Introduction:

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.

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please rise.

GATHERING SONG

Beneath the Cross of Jesus



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

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.

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

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.

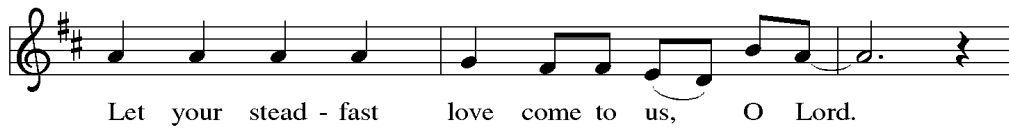
¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³Invite 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." ⁴Samuel 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?" ⁵He 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.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But 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." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel 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." ¹²He 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." ¹³Then 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.

Please rise.



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

The holy gospel according to John, the ninth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

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

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The 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?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He 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.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then 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.” ¹⁶Some 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. ¹⁷So 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.”

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

²⁴So 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.” ²⁵He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He 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?” ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships

him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus 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.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹Jesus 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.

Please be seated.

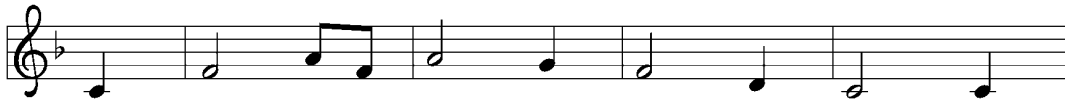
SERMON

The Reverend Wayne Shelor

Please rise.

SERMON HYMN

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith with the words of the 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.**

Please sit or kneel.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire us by your love as together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest springtime bud. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials. Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; tend all who are sick and comfort those who grieve:

We especially pray for those who are unable to be with us today: Jerry, Sandy, Dot, Nancy, Catherine, Barbara, Evelyn and Diane.

For those who need your healing: Barbara, Nate, Edward, Debbie, Jay, Paula, Leslie, Henry, Meg, Mark, Jeff, Lou, Brittany, Mike, Mary, Georgia, Melissa. Les, Lourdes, Rhiana, James, Terry, Joe, Carol, Steve, Bill, Elise, Stacy, Joan, Roberta, Leslie and Susan.

For our sisters and brothers who serve and protect our nation: Jordan and Brian.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God our host, you fill us at your table with more than we could ever ask. Feed us with hunger for justice. Equip the feeding ministries of this congregation and community. Nourish us so we can nourish our neighbors.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

OFFERING

*God has blessed us in so many ways. Take this moment to consider the numerous ways
God supports your life, so you may be of aid to others.*

Thank you for placing your offering in the plate which can be found at the font.

Offering by online giving: Make a gift to the general fund at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YR6Z/home>



Bill pay option with your local bank

By Mail:

Send your offering to:

Trinity Lutheran Church PO Box 340 Fairview Village, PA 19409

MEDITATION MUSIC

Please rise.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever.

You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.

Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

:

SANCTUS

San - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on

tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el
earth. Blest is he who comes in the

nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth.

di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.
Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

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.**

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

*To receive Holy Communion please come by the center aisle to the pastor to receive the bread (wafer)
and then proceed to the communion assistant for intinction (dipping your wafer in the wine) and then eat,
then return to your seat by the side aisle.*

*Also, a gluten free wafer or a pre-packaged kit is available
as you desire, simply tell Pastor when you approach.*

If you are not communing and desire a personal blessing please come to Pastor with your hands at your sides.

Non alcoholic wine is used at all services.

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you forever in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven.

Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage:

may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer,
the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please rise.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with his favor, and give you his peace.

In the name of the Father, ✙ and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing - place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav - 'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of William Smith Jr.
by Tom Smith.



Serving Today:		Serving Next Sunday:	
Lector	Michael Martorelli	Lector	Lynn Chialastri
Greeter	Anne Meibohm	Greeter	Jennifer dePaulis
Communion Assistants	Rick & Chris Cole	Communion Assistants	Marilou Doughty & Alma Nowmos
Ushers	John & Alma Nowmos	Ushers	Jim & JoAnn Sorom
Building Opener	Ann Dungan	Building Opener	Rick Cole
Counting Team	JoAnn Sorom, Betty Kratz, Trish Graves	Counting Team	JoAnn Sorom, Betty Kratz, Trish Graves
Coffee Hour	Ann Dungan/Judy Flanigan & Liz Gallenti	Coffee Hour	Jim & JoAnn Sorom & Anne Meibohm
Altar Guild	Brenda Astin	Altar Guild	Linda Stone
Council Representative	Alma Nowmos	Council Representative	Alma Nowmos

Announcements:

- Welcome to all who are visiting us today. We pray you experience God's presence here this morning. Please let us know if we may be of service. Please complete a purple visitor's card (found on the clipboard in the pew chair in front of you) and place it in the offering plate by the font. Thank you for taking the time to be with us in worship.
- We have new hearing assist equipment in the sanctuary!! There are earbuds, over the ear speakers, and lanyards that connect with most commercial hearing aids. Please check with Ed, Sydney, or Jim about using one of these during the service. The reviews have been very positive!
- Adult Faith Formation: Today Ann Dungan will lead our discussion of Old Testament texts in Joshua 5:9–12 and Psalm 32 as we continue our Lenten study "An Acceptable Fast". We meet in Room 129 at 11 am and all are welcome.
- As a follow up to the recent communications you received regarding the Council's unanimous belief in the necessity to move to a part time pastor position, we will be holding an information and discussion session in the parish hall on Sunday, March 26, immediately following worship. We invite all congregation members to attend.
- Calling all bakers! We need to replenish our supply of sweets for coffee time. Please put cookies or bars in a zip lock bag labeled with the contents and date and place in the freezer in the kitchen. Thank you for your help!
- Please lend a hand for coffee set up or clean up. Open set up dates: April 23, May 7, 14, 21 & 28. Open clean up dates: May 7, 14, 21 & 28. Sign up in the narthex on Sunday or contact Marilou at mariloudoughty@gmail.com.
- Open Altar Flower Dates: 9/24 and 12/3. Please contact Linda Stone at lgstone48@gmail.com or at 610-246-2853 to sponsor.
- SAVE THE DATE ~ AND THE BOOKS AND THE ATTIC TREASURES! The 2023 Country Fair and Strawberry Festival is Saturday June 24th with Attic Treasures and Take Out Spaghetti dinner Friday June 23rd. Please see Joann Brunhofer If you have used books to donate as we are collecting them now. Please save those Attic Treasures until closer to the date as storage is a premium at Trinity, but please hold them for us!!!! We are looking forward to another fun and successful event with all of your help.
- Join us on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00 pm for Pastor Wayne's midweek bible study.
Pericope for March 21st Bible Study: First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14 Second Reading: Romans 8:1-45; Gospel: John 11:1-45



Easter Flowers

\$15.00 each

Orders Due 3/26



Place your Easter Flower Order by completing this form & returning to church with your payment:

- Place in the offering plate or
- Drop off at the Food Pantry Collection on Sundays from 1-3 pm or
- Mail to: PO Box 340 Fairview Village, PA 19409

*Plant must be picked up after the
Easter Service on 4/9*

In Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

OR

In Memory of: _____

Given by: _____

Name _____

Phone or Email _____