

St. John 9:1-41



Jesus heals a blind man

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2023

Prelude

*The Processional Hymn *Holy God, We Praise Your Name* (ELW) No. 414

*The Confession and Forgiveness (ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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.

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The Apostolic Greeting (ELW) page 138

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

C: And also with you.

*The Kyrie (*sung response*) (ELW) page 138

P:, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Almighty God, grant that we, who for our evil deeds worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of Your grace, may mercifully be relieved; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 42:14-21

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalm 142

¹ I cry to the Lord with my voice; to the Lord I make loud supplication.

² I pour out my complaint before Him and tell Him all my trouble.

³ When my spirit languishes within me, You know my path; in the way wherein I walk they have hidden a trap for me.

⁴ I look to my right hand and find no one who knows me; I have no place to flee to, and no one cares for me.

⁵ I cry out to You, O Lord; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."

⁶ Listen to my cry for help, for I have been brought very low; save me from those who pursue me, for they are too strong for me.

⁷ Bring me out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name; when You have dealt bountifully with me, the righteous will gather around me.

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*The Lenten Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

C: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

*The Gospel

John 9:1-41

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

*The Hymn of the Day

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

(ELW) No. 779

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting.
Amen.**

*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(ELW) No. 188

*The Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Announcements

*The Benediction (*sung response*)

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

(ELW) No. 793

*The Dismissal (*response*)

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

First Lutheran Church

92 W. Walnut St., Washington, PA

724-225-4040

e-mail: secretary@flcwash.church

website: www.flcwash.church

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

The flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God and for a Happy Heavenly Birthday to my amazing husband, Jerry on March 31. God rest your soul. Love forever, Leann.

The Lay Reader is Kimberly Grewe.

Acolytes are Denico Walsh and Heidi Walsh.

Counters today are L. Sten and S. Berry.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church?

Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs of infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

Bell Choir Practice on Monday at 6 PM.

The Flower Chart for 2023 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2023. Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2023. Please sign up.

Please remember to continue contributing donations to our girls in Ethiopia.
Please consider this as a call to help others in need.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Janet Burke, Eveline Reihner, Carol, Shari Kienzle, Chiquita, Stacy Carroll, Billie Sue Serbak, Susan Westott, Fred Dupas, baby Isaac Christian, the Pollana family, Amy Verderber, Sylvia Sunstrum, Kevin Ryan, baby Ryan, Dan, Fritz Group, Amy, Lucy & Dave Mehaffey, Jessi, Bill Hisiro, Richard, Klaus Behrens, Joanne Reck, Bill Stewart, Morgan, Sharon Fritz, Tim & Karen Edwards, Tom Liam, Gary, Daniel, Judy Dombrowsky, Emily Buchleitner, Jean Erdmann, Greg Mason, Alexandra Perry, Lu Mayne, Pat, Chaz Sands, Rev. Phil Gagnon, Jacob, Maxine Banko, Brooke, Ellen, Jacob Orr, USN, Jammie, Roger, John Bartanus, Becky & Chuck, Rosemary Dittman, Marty Hebrank, Noah Walker, Janet Williams, Nathan, Mary, and the Lobach Family.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line

1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE

1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE

724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE

724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

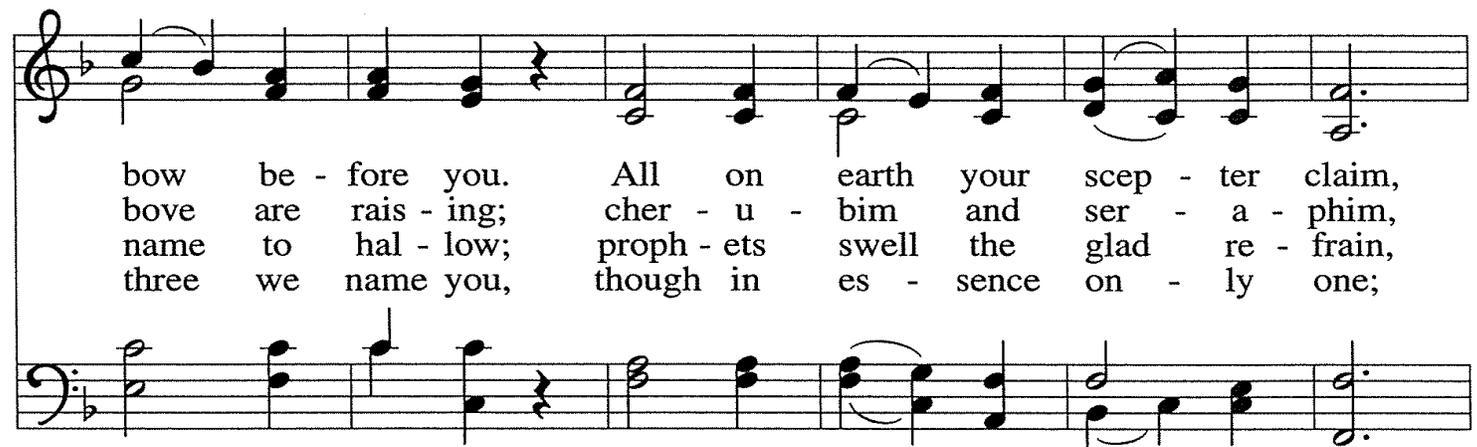
Church Offering Change: In order to keep everyone safe we have changed how we collect the Sunday Offering. We do not have our ushers pass the plates around. Instead, we have one offering plate located by the last pew and one by the choir loft. Please place your offering in one of those plates. Feel free to place your offering in the plates during our Offertory if you did not do so on the way in.

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

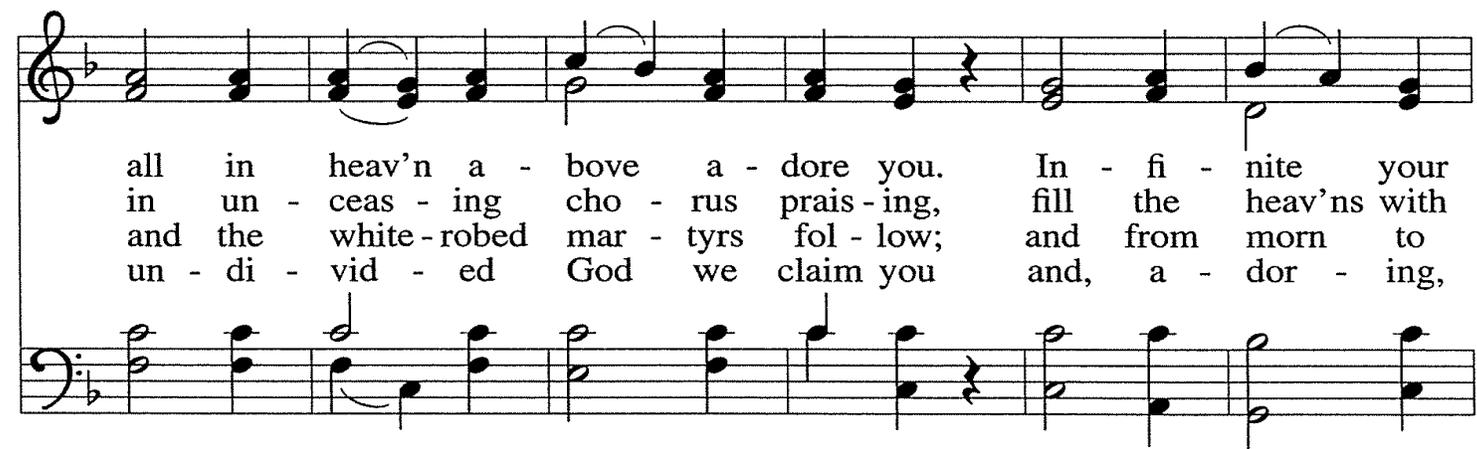
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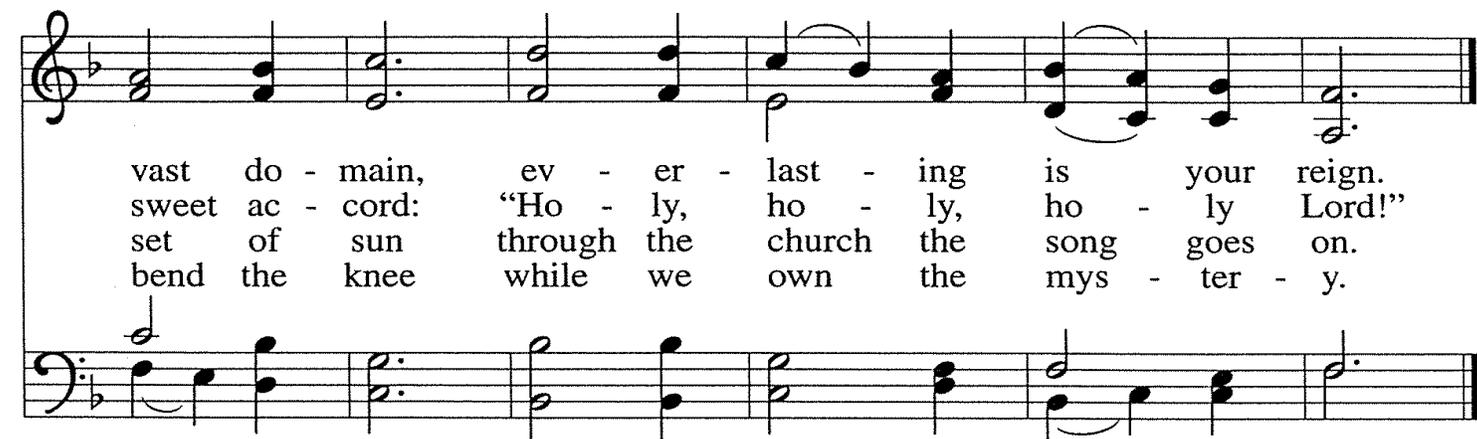
1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred
4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,
bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;



all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with
and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to
un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
set of sun through the church the song goes on.
bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

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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.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody in the treble staff consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some chords. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and some moving lines.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff has a mix of quarter and eighth notes, while the bass staff uses chords and some eighth-note patterns.

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third system shows the continuation of the piece. The treble staff includes some longer note values and rests. The bass staff maintains a steady accompaniment.

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The fourth system continues the musical progression. The treble staff features a variety of note values, and the bass staff provides a consistent harmonic support.

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The fifth and final system on the page concludes the piece. The treble staff ends with a double bar line, and the bass staff also concludes with a double bar line.

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!

thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.