

Lord,  
I believe



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**About the Cover:** The works of God are displayed as the Lord restores sight in this man who was born blind. In the aftermath of the Pharisees’ spiritual blindness, Jesus seeks the man out, leading him to see not only with physical eyes but also with spiritual ones! Sin has cast a deep shadow over our ability to see Jesus aright. And yet our Lord seeks us out, redeems us by His cross, and restores in us sight to see Him as He is—the Christ, our Savior.

**The Fourth Sunday in Lent – March 22, 2020**  
**+ The Order of Service +**

**Ringing of the Bells, Organ Prelude**  
**Invocation**  
**Confession**

O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**Absolution**

**Kyrie** (*sung*)

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**  
**Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## Collect of the Day

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Holy Gospel

*John 9:1–7, 13–17, 34–39*

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed 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>Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud <sup>7</sup>and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. . .

<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>So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

<sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”

## **Nicene Creed**

**I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the  
dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

**Hymn: I Leave All Things to God's Direction**

*LSB 719*

- 1 I leave all things to God's direction;  
He loves me both in joy and woe.  
His will is good, sure His affection;  
His tender love is true, I know.  
My fortress and my rock is He:  
What pleases God, that pleases me.**
  
- 2 God knows what must be done to save me;  
His love for me will never cease.  
Upon His hands He did engrave me  
With purest gold of loving grace.  
His will supreme must ever be:  
What pleases God, that pleases me.**
  
- 3 My God desires the soul's salvation;  
My soul He, too, desires to save.  
Therefore with Christian resignation  
All earthly troubles I will brave.  
His will be done eternally:  
What pleases God, that pleases me.**
  
- 4 My God has all things in His keeping;  
He is the ever faithful friend.  
He gives me laughter after weeping,  
And all His ways in blessings end.  
His love endures eternally:  
What pleases God, that pleases me.**

**Sermon**

**Offertory** (*Sung*)

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from  
me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free  
spirit. Amen.**

**Prayer  
Lord's Prayer  
Benedicamus & Benediction**

**Closing Hymn: Be Still, My Soul**

- 1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
Leave to your God to order and provide;  
In ev'ry change He faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly Friend  
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**
  
- 2 Be still, my soul; your God will undertake  
To guide the future as He has the past.  
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;  
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know  
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.**
  
- 3 Be still, my soul; though dearest friends depart  
And all is darkened in this vale of tears;  
Then you will better know His love, His heart,  
Who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.  
Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay  
From His own fullness all He takes away.**
  
- 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on  
When we shall be forever with the Lord,  
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,  
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.  
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,  
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

**Acknowledgments**

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## THANKS TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH THE SERVICE

**Preacher:** Rev. Dr. Wilfred Karsten  
**Liturgist:** Vicar Paul Marks  
**Organist:** Lynette Karsten  
**Videographer:** Rick Serre

*Prayer Request Submissions: The extended prayer list is located in the monthly newsletter. Please contact Pastor or Connie if you wish to make an addition or remove a name from the list. Weekly updates will be included in each Sunday's bulletin.*

*In Hospice at home:* George Sukach

*At Ronald McDonald House:* Barrett Hock

*Iowa City:* Infant child Lily Hock, great niece of Don & Mary Freeman.

*Serious Medical Condition:* Micah Valine (brother of Naomi Marks), Kathrine Hopkins, Heidi Sias, Fred Poe, Peggy Jones, Rick Bowers, Miya, Larry Leftwich, Janet Selby, Steve Harder.

*Treatment for cancer:* Mike Green, Jerry Tutskey, Joanne Lyons, Steve Scanlan, Orville Reynolds, Pat Champion, Anna Wilson, Dave Patterson, Lynn Soenken, Paul Brug, Bud Miller, Harold Foster, Judy Knudsen, Hannah Clark, Jacey Moege, Kristine Westmoreland, Judy Natzke, Rev. Harold Teuscher, Dan Howe, Chris Pace, Cari Kenney, John Sedberry, Sara Smith.

### **This week's Birthdays**

**3/24** Jenna Fender; **3/25** Linda Johnson; **3/26** Rebecca Hill; **3/27** Dace DeGerengel, Nancy Stewart

Because of the governor's ban on non-essential activities, the **photo directory appointments**, scheduled for March 28 and 29 are cancelled. The Stewardship Committee will set an alternate date when the shelter-in-place mandate is lifted.

We will continue to record Sunday Services, as well as Midweek Lenten services and post them on the Holy Cross homepage. If you desire a CD of the service and are currently not receiving one, please phone or email Pastor Karsten.

**KFUO Radio**, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at [kfuo.org](http://kfuo.org) and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUOradio on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kfuo), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/kfuo), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/kfuo).

**Other websites you might consider visiting during these times are:**

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod: <https://www.lcms.org/>

LCMS radio station KFUO: <https://www.kfu.org/>

Lutheran Public Radio (Sacred Music): <https://issuesetc.org/lutheran-public-radio-music/>

Issues, Etc. Talk Radio: <https://issuesetc.org/>

Lutheran Hour Ministries: <https://www.lhm.org/>

Concordia Publishing House: <https://www.cph.org/>