

Sunday, March 8, 2020

Second Sunday in Lent



BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO

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Prayer Chain Contacts: Char Berg 320-684-2102 or Darlene Christensen 320-279-0097

Church Secretary: Mary Braun

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

MISSION STATEMENT

We will LIVE and SERVE through FAITH

we will ACT with LOVE and KINDNESS

we will GIVE hope and SUPPORT to all.

Hearing Assistance is available during the service.

Please notify usher if you would like assistance

Sunday, March 8, 2020

Bartimaeus Healed

INTRODUCTION

Perhaps today's gospel is talking about more than one kind of blindness and one kind of sight. The disciples had figured out that Jesus was the Messiah, but in their blurry vision they still thought the Messiah couldn't suffer and die. Only with further instruction, and especially with the example of Jesus' own suffering and death, could the disciples gain clear vision and follow Jesus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: "I'm so Glad Jesus Lifted Me" #860 ELW
Please rise on the last verse

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Lord Jesus,

it was hard for your disciples to hear that they would have to suffer in order to follow you. Give us faith and courage to follow you when following is painful or frightening. Amen.

Please be seated

PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 34:11-14

- ¹¹ Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
¹² **Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good?**
¹³ Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.
¹⁴ **Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.**

GOSPEL READING: Mark 10:32-52

Glory to you, O Lord

³² They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³ saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; ³⁴ they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again." ³⁵ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶ And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" ³⁷ And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹ They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." ⁴¹ When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴² So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³ But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many." ⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸ Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹ Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." ⁵⁰ So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him,

"My teacher, let me see again." ⁵² Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You, O Christ

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Healer of Our Every Ill" #612 ELW
(Video on Screen)

Please Stand if able

APOSTLE'S 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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of rebirth, empower your church throughout the world to be a voice of hope for those who fear judgment or condemnation. Assure us of your faithfulness and give us confidence to proclaim your salvation for all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of rebirth, your Spirit hovered over the waters and you called creation into being. Nurture and bless all signs of rebirth around us: budding trees and new shoots, thawing lakes and warm breezes, and animals awaking from hibernation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of rebirth, lead the nations in your way of righteousness. Protect those who advocate for the needs of children, migrants, and victims of violence. Give courage to lawmakers, lawyers, judges, and law enforcement officers, guiding them to do justice and to love mercy. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of rebirth, give us a new vision of your healing power among us. Restore hope to those who remain in the depths of depression or despair. Bring mercy and relief to those who are injured, sick, or suffering (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of rebirth, we thank you for the children of this community and for the people and ministries that care for them (*individuals and ministries in the congregation may be named*). Bless new and expectant parents. Console those who have lost children and those whose desire for children remains unfulfilled. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of rebirth, by wind and spirit you call us into life renewed. We give you thanks for all your saints who have inherited your promises (*especially*). Bring us, with them, into your everlasting kingdom. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated

OFFERING *Ushers will begin passing the offering plate and Blessing Box.
Please stand as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Holy and generous host,

you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Invitation to Communion

God's love is poured out in Christ for you. Open yourselves to receive it.
(Communion by intinction – red wine; white apple juice; gluten free available)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, living God,
for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

BLESSING

Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God,
speaking, spoken, and inspiring, ✠ bless you, unbind you, and send you in love
and in peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

“Follow Me”

On Screen

At the end of myself
I'm empty and dry
I have nothing to give
But surrender inside
Let down your nets
This is not the end
From now on, you'll be
Fishers of men

Follow Me, Follow Me
Follow Me, Follow Me

At the end of myself
Judgment calls out my name
I've been looking for love
But I'm swallowed by shame
Throw away all your stones
Find forgiveness in Me
Let Me be your new passion
My daughter, you're free

Follow Me, Follow Me
Follow Me, Follow Me

At the end of myself
I've done things my own way

This world gave up on me
Now its death I do pay
You know who I am
I'm sin's sacrifice
Today you will be In paradise

Follow Me, Follow Me
Follow Me, Follow Me

Who is this man
who calmed the seas
And who is this man
who loves the least of these

I am the promised One
God gave His only Son
And those who believe
Will live eternally
At the end of yourself, just follow Me
If you lose everything, just follow Me
I will give you new life, just follow Me,
Follow Me

If at the end of yourself, just follow Me
You may lose everything, just follow Me
I will give you new life, just Follow Me,
Follow Me

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENDANCE REGISTRY *Please* sign and pass the attendance registry which you will find in the pew. This information is gathered for annual reports to the Synod.

PRAYER & CARE LIST: Larry Ducx, Sylvia Tapelt

BLESSING BOX We received \$131 last week in the Blessing Box. What a Blessing!

BISHOP ELECTION NOMINEE BIOS: If you want to read the bios on the four Bishop nominees go to: <http://www.nemnsynod.org/bishop-election-nominees.html> to read about them. Hard copies are printed and a table in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall.

AITKIN COUNTY CARE will be here on Sunday, March 29th to talk about programs available to seniors and disabled adults that help them continue to live independently.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP 6 week series on Thursday evenings starting on April 16 thru May 21, 2020. From 4:30 – 6:00pm at Riverwood Healthcare Center, 200 Bunker Hill Drive, Aitkin. See poster on bulletin board in the Narthex for more information.

MARCH PIZZA & MOVIE NIGHT Worship & Music committee will be hosting a “Pizza & Movie Night” on March 29th at 3:00pm. They will be showing the movie “Breakthrough” (based on a true story; a teen who falls through an icy Missouri lake and has no pulse for nearly 45 minutes comes back to life after his mother prays). Free Will donation, kids’ movie available in the nursery.