March 13, 2019
First Wednesday in Lent
The Blind Side:
Systemic Injustice

JOYOUS LIGHT EVENING PRAYER

CONGREGATIONAL PART

RAY MAKEEVER

JOYOUS LIGHT EVENING PRAYER

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: Open Our Eyes to the Word





GREETING

We gather this night in the name of the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.**

OPENING DIALOGUE



HYMN OF LIGHT



THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise and thank you, O God, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom you have enlightened us by revealing the light that never fades.

Night is falling and day's allotted span draws to a close.

The daylight you created for our pleasure has fully satisfied us, and yet, of your free gift, now the evening lights do not fail us.

We praise you and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom be glory, honor and power to you in the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

PSALMODY



PSALM PRAYER

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O God, from the rising of the sun to its setting your name is worthy of all praise. Let our prayer rise before you as incense, and with the lifting up of our hands may we offer our whole loves to you, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

GOSPEL HYMN: Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (ELW 708)

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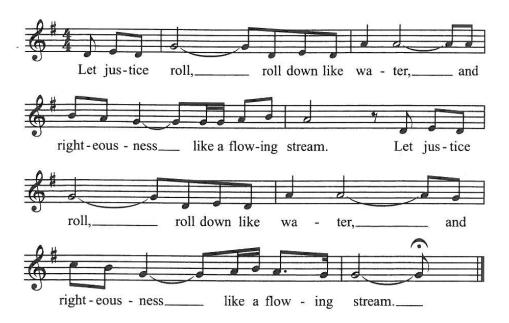
READING: Isaiah 58:6-11

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart.

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

GOSPEL RESPONSE

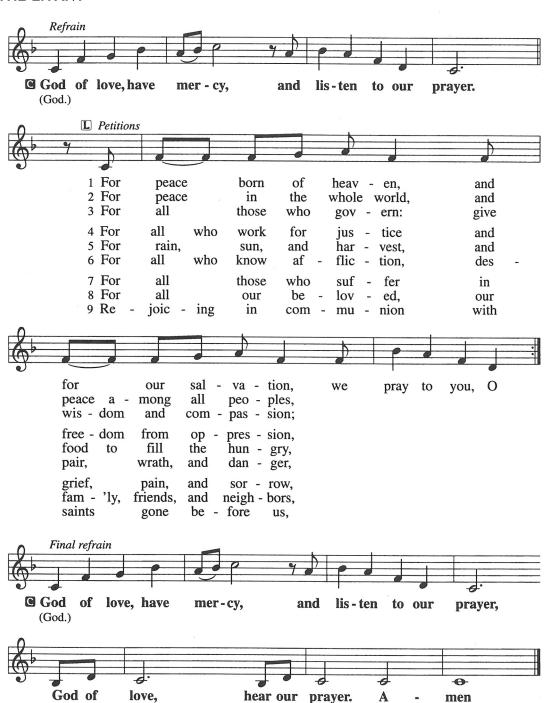


The Blind Side: Systemic Injustice

GOSPEL CANTICLE: The Magnificat



THE LITANY



CONCLUDING PRAYERS

God of love, we thank you that you have kept us under your protecting care in the day that is past. Bring your healing to the wounds of this day, those we have inflicted, those we have felt, those that trouble our world. Cover us this night with the wings of your grace, and raise us to a new day with Christ, our light and our peace.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

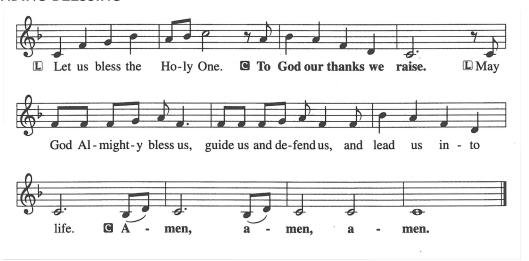
Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING BLESSING



DIMISSAL

POSTLUDE

Leading Worship Tonight:

Worship Leaders: Richard Edmonds Musician: Lucy Kay Osborne

Reflection: Pastor Berg

The Blind Side

This is a movie that is loosely based on the story of Michael Oher who was homeless until a rich white family, the Tuohys, took him in. Oher has no idea who is father is and his mother is a drug addict. These are the facts of the story, the movie moves on from there. Leigh Anne Tuohy is depicted as a "takes charge" kind of person and decides to take Michael in. She also takes charge of his education and his athletic pursuits. In a baffling scene she seems to understand more about football then the coaches and certainly Oher. Oher tells a different story—one that does not contradict the core of the relationship, but reminds people that he was a top athlete long before the Tuohys took him in. Oher was a first round draft pick of the Baltimore Ravens in 2009 and has a had a very good NFL career.

The movie does help us think about several important justice issues: systemic poverty and the toll it takes on a community and racial prejudice. We will be looking at both these issues during this Lenten season asking the question, "How does our place of privilege blind us to the needs of others?"

