

**March 22, 2020**

**Prince of Peace Church  
Community Worship Service  
Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**John 9:5 “I am the light of the world”**



## Gathering Hymn      “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

1.     I want Jesus to walk with me; walk with me;  
      I want Jesus to walk with me; walk with me;  
      All along my pilgrim journey,  
      Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me; walk with me.
2.     In my trials, Lord, walk with me; walk with me;  
      In my trials, Lord, walk with me; walk with me;  
      When my heart is almost breaking,  
      Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me; walk with me.
3.     When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me; walk with me;  
      When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me; walk with me;  
      When my head is bowed in sorrow,  
      Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me; walk with me.

## 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.**

## Ephesians 5:8-14

<sup>8</sup>Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—<sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup>Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.”

Lector: The Word of the Lord

Congregation response: **Thanks be to God**

## The Psalm: 23

*Spoken Responsively*

<sup>1</sup>The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O Lord,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall | fear no evil; for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

## Gospel: John 9:1-5

*The gospel is announced.* The holy gospel according to Saint John the ninth chapter.

**Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed 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."

*The gospel concludes:* The gospel of the Lord.

**Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Children's Sermon

**Sermon** *Pastor Beatrice Michaels-Brown*

## **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.**

**Prayers of Intercession** 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 insight, open the hearts of the church and the world to all who testify to your deeds of power. Raise up voices in your church that are often silenced or overlooked due to age, gender expression, race, or economic status. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, empower us to care for the land and all living things that dwell in it and beneath it. Provide rich soil for crops to grow. Bring rain to lands suffering drought. Protect hills and shorelines from damage caused by erosion. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, bring peace to all people and nations. Anoint leaders who seek goodness, righteousness, and truth on behalf of all. Frustrate the efforts of those who would seek to cause violence or terror. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, you care for our needs even before we ask. Come quickly to all who seek prayer this day (*especially*). Accomplish healing through the work of doctors, nurses, physical therapists, nutritionists, and all who tend to human bodies. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, help this assembly lift up the unique gifts of each person who enters, no matter their physical capacity, cognitive ability, or sensory need. Help us to be creative and brave in making our facilities and our ministries accessible to all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, you call out to those who are asleep and awaken them to new life with you. We give thanks for your saints. Join us together with them as your children in this world and the next. 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 presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## THE BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{†}$  give you peace. **Amen.**

## THE SENDING HYMN “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

1.     Amazing grace! – how sweet the sound – that saved a wretch like me!  
      I once was lost, but now am found; was blind but now I see.
2.     'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
      How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
3.     Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;  
      'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
4.     The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures;  
      He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
5.     When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
      we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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