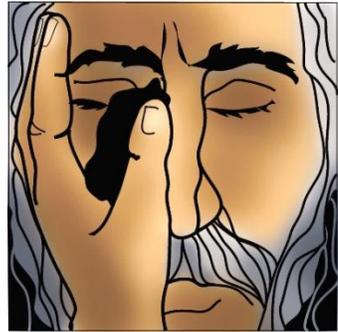


Sunday, March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Lent, Year A



JESUS TURNS BLINDNESS
INTO SIGHT

PRELUDE Bell Choir

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: PSALM 23

- L: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
C: **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**
L: You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
C: **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.**
L: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
C: **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

HYMN *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

ELW 843

- 1 **Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light;
praise the One who frees the pris'ners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the gospel, healing ev'ry dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.**
- 2 **Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word;
praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand;
from this well comes living water quenching thirst in ev'ry land.**
- 3 **Praise the one true love incarnate: Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory; praise the One who makes us one.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

All: **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.**

CHILDREN'S WORD

A READING FROM EPHESIANS 5:8-14

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

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO: JOHN 9:1-41

C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not

blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains." P: THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD. C: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

SERMON Pastor Julie L. Rogness

HYMN Be Thou My Vision

ELW 793

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r, raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 4 Light of my soul, after victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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

SHARING THE PEACE — *The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.*

GRATITUDE IN ACTION—OFFERING—OFFERTORY (Bell Choir)—GLOBE OFFERING...

Children are invited to bring forward an offering to the globe in the front of the church. Globe offerings will go to one of our global mission partners to be decided by our youth.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of good gifts,

C: **receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God,

C: **we confess to you our faults and failings.
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life. This promise is for you!
God embraces you with divine mercy,
✠ forgives you in Christ's name,
and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION—LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION: *Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness*

DISTRIBUTION & HYMN *Take My Life, That I May Be* ELW 685

- 1 **Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
- 2 **Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.**
- 3 **Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.**
- 4 **Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.**
- 5 **Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.**
- 6 **Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.**

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

BENEDICTION P: God, the giver of love, ✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth, bless you in this Lenten journey.
C **Amen.**

HYMN *This Little Light of Mine* ELW 677

- 1 **This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine; let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**
- 2 **Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine; ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine.
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'a let it shine. let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**
- 3 **Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine; let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Ringing of Bell

DISMISSAL L: Go in peace. Serve in love.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Bell Choir

PARTICIPANTS

PASTOR—Julie Rogness INTERN—Kris Kincaid ASSISTANT—Harris Haugen ORGAN—Tammy Hanson
GREETERS—Larry & Kaia Lehman COMMUNION SERVERS—Larry & Kaia Lehman
TECH CREW—Steve Johnson, Dan Rogness, Holly Aldorfer, Heidi Haugen, Barb Groth

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Be Thou My Vision, Take My Life That I May Be

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Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness ELW 843 - OL/SKU # 01102

This Little Light of Mine ELW 677 - OL/SKU #09118

CONNECTIONS

WEBSITE: flickenyon.org FACEBOOK: **First Evangelical Lutheran Kenyon MN**

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: <https://www.youtube.com/@flickenyon>

Pastor E-Mail: firstpastorkenyon@gmail.com Pastor Phone: 952-994-1201

Church E-Mail: firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com Church Office Phone: 789-5261

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Sid Strandemo, Lila Cole, Helen Aase, Jennifer Lorfald, Carol Ronning, Joy Estrem, Carolyn Walker, Glenn Ronning, David Cordes

CALENDAR

SUN/MAR 19	9 AM	WORSHIP w/Communion / In Person & Live-Streamed
	10 AM	Sunday School
	10 AM	FIFTH GRADE 1ST COMMUNION CLASS
	10 AM	Internship Committee
	7 PM	AA
WED/MAR 22	5:30 PM	Soup Supper
	6:15 PM	LENTEN WORSHIP
	6:45 PM	Mentors & Students
THU/MAR 23	1:00 PM	LOVE DAY
	7 AA	AA
SUN/MAR 26	9 AM	WORSHIP w/Communion / In Person & Live-Streamed NEW MEMBER SUNDAY --AND-- BLESSING OF COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEMBERS
	10 AM	Sunday School
	10 AM	FIFTH GRADE 1ST COMMUNION CLASS
	11 TO 12:30	KAIC SOUP COOKOFF FUNDRAISER -- see below
	7 PM	AA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOUP COOKOFF FUNDRAISER – For Kenyon Area Internship Committee — Sunday March 26 at Gol Lutheran Church — Beginning 11 a.m. Live auction at 12:30

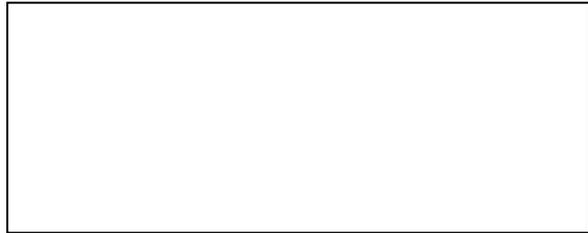
EASTER PLANTS - If you would like a plant in Church for Easter in Honor or Memory of a loved one, please purchase your own and deliver to the church. In order to be listed in the bulletin, please fill out a **PLANT SLIP – FOUND ON ENTRANCE TABLES** - leave slip in the offering plate or bring to church office, or e-mail your information to: firstlutherankenyon@gmail.com -- **DUE BY SUN, APRIL 2 (Palm Sunday)**

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
309 Forest St., Kenyon, MN 55946

Worship Bulletin

March 19, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT



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Called to bear witness
to the LIGHT of CHRIST
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