

4th Sunday in Lent - Online Service

Sunday, March 22nd, 2020

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW)

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WELCOME

HYMN: *Just as I Am* (ELW 592, verses 2 & 4)

2. Just as I am, though tossed about, with many a conflict many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God I come, I come.

4. Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God I come, I come.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS: (ELW p.94)

Blessed be the holy Trinity,
✠ one God,
Whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us make our confession in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ,

your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

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.**

Gospel: John 9:1-11

The holy gospel according to John. **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."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF PETITION

Let us pray to God, who alone makes us dwell in safety, saying "Lord, hear us," and responding, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the vulnerable and the fearful, for the gravely ill and the dying, that they may know your comfort and peace:

Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For doctors, nurses and medical researchers, that through their skill and insights many will be restored to health:

Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For those who are guiding our nation at this time, and shaping national policies, that they may make wise decisions:

Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the health and well-being of our nation, that all who are fearful and anxious may be at peace and free from worry:

Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the isolated and housebound,
that we may be alert to their needs, and care for them in their vulnerability:
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For our homes and families,
our schools and young people, and all in any kind of need or distress:
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For a blessing on our local community,
that our neighbourhoods may be places of trust and friendship where all are known and
cared for:
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God.
Accept these prayers in the name of Christ Jesus.

Amen. *

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread;
and 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.**

BLESSING

Go in the blessing of the life, love and being of Christ. **Amen.**

* Prayers of petition adapted from www.churchofengland.org