

Fourth Sunday in Lent



**Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sunday, March 19, 2023
8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.**

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

St. James Lutheran Church

109 York Street, Gettysburg, PA
www.StJamesGettysburg.org

Welcome to St. James. Here are some tips for worshiping with us.

Large print bulletins and hearing-assist devices can be found on the welcome table in the main hall. Hymns are found in the back half of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* located in the chair rack in front of you and are referenced in this bulletin as ELW#. Please stand as you are able for parts of the service noted with an asterisk (*). Thank you for silencing your electronic devices. Masking is optional. Masking is recommended while singing.

P Presider

C Congregation

A Assisting Minister

L Lay Reader

The 8:15 worship service will be livestreamed to our YouTube Channel and made available for public viewing. Please note that you may be recorded during worship. If you prefer to not be recorded on YouTube, you may choose to sit under the projector screen or along the back wall by the baptismal font. You can visit our YouTube Channel at [StJamesGettysburg.org/YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/StJamesGettysburg). If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with a member of the staff.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Christ, the Life of All the Living*

setting, Flor Peeters

*CONFESSON

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, [☩] one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C Amen.

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.

*KYRIE

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy. Chris - te e - lei - son.

Christ, have mer - cy. Ky - ri-e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

*FORGIVENESS

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.

*GATHERING HYMN: *Christ, the Life of All the Living*

ELW 339

*PASTORAL GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Let us pray: 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.

C Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

CHOIR ANTHEM

(8:15): *That Priceless Grace*

Ghanian Traditional, arr. John Helgen

That priceless grace which gave me life: Jesus' life is priceless grace; that priceless grace is life for me. That priceless blood which gave me life: Jesus' blood is priceless grace: that priceless grace is life for me. That painful death took sins away: Jesus' death is priceless grace; Jesus' death is life for me. That precious word which brought me light: Jesus' word is priceless grace; that priceless grace is life for me. (Emmanuel F. Y. Grantson)

(10:45): *Prayer of Being*

Mark Hayes

Be in my life, be in my breath; be in my walk, be in my rest. Be in this humble heart of mine; be ever present in my mind. Be in my hands, be in my feet; be in my eyes and in my speech. Be in the smile I give away; be in each healing word I say. Be in my work, be in my play; be in the struggles of each day. Be in my joy, be in my pain; be in my loss, be in my gain. Be in my thoughts, be in my song; be in my spirit all day long. Be in my prayers at dawn's first light; be in my dreams all through the night. Amen. The prayer of my heart forever shall be; I in you and you in me. (Mark Hayes)

READING: 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.”

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind,
slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

*HOLY GOSPEL: John 9: 1-41

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

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 the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON, FOLLOWED BY TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

*HYMN OF THE DAY: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

ELW 779

*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

Petitions conclude: “Merciful God,” Our response: “receive our prayer.”

*SHARING GOD'S PEACE

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

TITHES AND OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING: *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

African American Spiritual

*OFFERTORY



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre-pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

*OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C God of good gifts, 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.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

*PREFACE DIALOG

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PROPER PREFACE

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, most____ ho - ly, God of pow-er, God of____ might.
Earth and heav-en ring with your glo - ry. Sing ho-san-na now on____ high.



Bless-ed is the one who comes in God's great name. Sing ho-san-na now on____ high.

*EUCARISTIC PRAYER

*LORD'S PRAYER

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.

*INVITATION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

COMMUNION SONG: *Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)*

Hillsong Australia

(Verse) You call me out upon the waters, the great unknown where feet may fail. And there I find you in the mystery, in oceans deep, my faith will stand.

(Chorus) And I will call upon your name and keep my eyes above the waves. When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace for I am yours and you are mine.

(Verse) Your grace abounds in deepest waters; your sovereign hand will be my guide. Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me, you've never failed, and you won't start now. (Chorus)

(Bridge) Spirit, lead me where my trust is without borders, let me walk upon the waters wherever you would call me. Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander, and my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my Savior. (Chorus)

*TABLE BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Let us pray: Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

C Amen.

Sending

God blesses us in mission to the world

*BLESSING

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.

*SENDING HYMN: *Be Thou My Vision*

ELW 793

*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve in love.

C Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE: *Paean on "Be Thou My Vision"*

setting, David Lasky

Flowers are given to the Glory of God and

In loving memory of Jack Howe by his family.

In loving memory of my husband, William E. Hutchison, by Glorianne Hutchison.

Lift Up in Prayer

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------|---------|
| Anselmi Family | Lois Hoke | Stephen Ordemann | Beverly | Joe |
| Kim Brock-McKinsey | Craig Hutchison | Peggy Reecher | Bob | Joe |
| Charlotte Clowney | Laura Khan | Linda Russo | Diane | Josh |
| Monica Doerfler | Hilda Koontz | Lisa Sites | Ed | Paislee |
| Caitlin (Rudisill) Eliopoulos | Ralph Kuhn | John Steinberger | Emmey | Taylor |
| Dr. Douglas Eyer | Paige Kriel | Bob Teeter | Heather | Terri |
| Tim Fleming | Joshua & Kristen Mauston | Dottie Thompson | Jane | Sandy |
| David Flesner | Raymond McMaster | Ken Unger | Janice | Scott |
| Hazel George | Jen Mickelson | Sean Vora | Jessy | Suzan |
| Marc Hirsh | Kelli Payne | Barb Williams | Jim | Wayne |

We pray for the family and friends of Eric Little and Glenn Hankey, who recently died. May they find comfort and peace in the promise of your eternal kingdom.

Serving in Worship

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| Presider | 8:15 a.m. Worship Service | 10:45 a.m. Worship Service |
| The Rev. Andrew R. Geib | Assisting Minister: Nina Kloster | Assisting Minister: Sherry Waybright |
| Preacher | Acolyte: Jack Altemose | Acolyte: David Langman |
| Vicar Libby Baker-Mikesell | Bell Ringer: Emerson Kimble | Bell Ringer: Briah Russo |
| Minister of Music | Prayer of the Day: | Prayer of the Day: |
| Jonathan Noel | Lay Reader: Morgan Smith | Lay Reader: Ed Riggs |
| Soloists: Sharon Kaya & Gabbi Scavitto | Communion Assistants: Shirley Sanders, Jane Blocher, Dee Wells, Peggy Green | Communion Assistants: Adam Michael, Jan Keefer, Sharon Kaya, Robert Campbell |
| | Ushers: John Doerfler, Glenn Blocher, Charlie Gomer, Anne Gomer | Ushers: Emily Green, Gabbi Scavitto, John Fisher |
| | Bread Baker: Vicar Libby | Bread Baker: Sue Currens |
| | Sacristy: Debby Luquette, Judy Seilhamer | Sacristy: Ann Ketterman, Carrie Bixler |
| | Martin Luther Choir | Flower Deliverer: Pete Bender St. James Choir |