



Lord,  
I believe

JOHN 9:38



# Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Reverend Dr. Daniel M. Yeiser, *Interim Pastor*

Mr. Roger L. Kurtz, *Director of Music*

<https://www.jerusaluth.org>

“As followers of Jesus, we serve our neighbors locally and globally.”

**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 19, 2023**

**10:30 a.m.**

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** *Méditation (Symphony No. 1)* – Charles-Marie Widor

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All who are able, please stand and face the baptismal font at the front of the church. Throughout this worship folder, the text in **bold** type is said by the congregation.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, 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 confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection and prayer*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. 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.**

**HYMN #324:** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* RATHBUN

### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

**KYRIE**

p. 156 (*ELW Setting 5*)

### **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.**

### **FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13**

*The congregation is seated. At the conclusion of the reading, the following is said:*

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN #782:** *My Shepherd, You Supply My Need* RESIGNATION

(This hymn is a paraphrase of Psalm 23.)

### **SECOND READING: 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.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The congregation stands to sing the acclamation printed below.*



☞ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra-cious and mer - ci - ful,  
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## HOLY GOSPEL: John 9:1-41 *(printed on the back cover)*

*The congregation stands; then the following is said:*

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the conclusion of the Gospel, the following is said:*

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

## SERMON

*The congregation is seated.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY #673: *God, Whose Almighty Word* ITALIAN HYMN

## APOSTLES CREED

p. 105 (*ELW Setting 1*)

## PRAYERS

*Each petition concludes:* Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers. The congregation responds:* **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## ANTHEM: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* – Early American Melody,

arr. Kenneth W. Staton

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

*Assisting Minister:* Let us pray, Merciful God,

**receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The presiding minister continues with the proper Preface. At the conclusion of the Preface, the congregation sings the Sanctus.*

**SANCTUS**

p. 162 (*ELW Setting 5*)

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

p. 111 (*ELW Setting 1*)

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come,**

**thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

**FRACTION/INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**AGNUS DEI**

p. 164 (*ELW Setting 5*)

## COMMUNION

*The congregation is seated. Lutherans teach that Christ is truly present with, in, and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Those who wish to receive only a blessing should indicate this by crossing their arms over their chest. As the ministers distribute the elements, they say these words: The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Each person may respond: Amen.*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Assisting Minister:* Let us pray: O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor, ✝ and give you peace. **Amen.**

**HYMN #793:** *Be Thou My Vision* SLANE

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:** *Fughetta in C Minor* – Joseph Rheinberger

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given today to the glory of God.

Volunteers needed:

CPR/AED training for our church will be held Saturday, April 1 @ 8 am at the Rothsville Fire Company. If interested call Janet Craley (717-951-5537)

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS:  
MUSIC NOTES:**

Written by John Newton (1725-1807) in 1773, the text of the anthem (“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”) can be found on page 779 of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. Motherless at age 6 and sent to sea on his 11th birthday, Newton soon became a teenage rebel, and his life took many twists and turns. He became involved with the African slave trade and came close to starvation while living in extreme poverty in Sierra Leone. In March 1748, at the age of 23, Newton was on board a cargo ship that was fighting for its life against heavy seas and rough weather. Worn out from pumping and almost frozen, he called out for God's mercy at the height of the storm and was amazed to be saved from almost certain death. Eventually Newton renounced his involvement with slave trading and became an Anglican clergyman at the age of 39. He persuaded the young William Wilberforce to stay in politics and joined him in the fight to abolish the slave trade in Great Britain.

Reminder Dates

Adult Forum/Fellowship at 9:00 am with Worship Service at 10:30 am on Sunday, March 19  
Council Meeting at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 21  
Lenten Midweek Service will take place this week at Jerusalem on Wednesday, March 22  
Meal starting at 6 p.m. Service at 7 p.m. All Members are invited. See sign up sheet on bulletin board.  
Choir Practice at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 23

Turkey/Syria Earthquake Money Donation

Place cash and or checks into red envelopes and mark the envelope “Earthquake.” Red envelopes are located in the rear of the church. If writing a check, make check out to Jerusalem Lutheran Church and in memo write Lutheran World Relief . Thank you for your generosity.

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Christine and Andy Anderson, Lynn Beard, Barry Becker, Nate and Crystal, Weston Hertzler, Hunter Leisey, Lillian Logeman, Byron Miller, Judy Perry, Norma Rhoads, Lisa Riley, Vickie and Jim Salmi, Daryl Slaymaker, Aaron Stripling Family, Greg Summers, Bonnie Trout, Pastor Dennis Trout, and Doris Witwer. Be with military personnel, first responders, healthcare workers, the people of Ukraine, and the people of Turkey and Syria.

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

Interim Pastor	The Reverend Dr. Daniel M. Yeiser
Organist	Roger Kurtz
Asst. Minister/Lector	Brenda Fetter
Altar Guild	Jean Slaymaker
Acolyte	Mike Fetter
Ushers	Claude Grube and Andy Anderson
Zoom Monitor	Mike Fetter

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 [not printed]

Psalm 23

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14 [not printed]

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

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." <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>The 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?" <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup>He 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." <sup>12</sup>They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>Then 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." <sup>16</sup>Some 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. <sup>17</sup>So 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."

<sup>18</sup>The 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 <sup>19</sup>and asked

them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup>but 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." <sup>22</sup>His 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. <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

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

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup>He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." <sup>38</sup>He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus 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." <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Next Sunday's Readings: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45.

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Tracks 1 and 2  
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