

Brief Service of the Word

March 22, 2020

Prelude

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b

P	In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C	Amen.

Psalm

Psalm 142 (antiphon: v. 5)

I cry to you, O Lord;
I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."
With my voice I cry out to the Lord;
with my voice I plead for mercy to the Lord.
I pour out my complaint before him;
I tell my trouble before him.
When my spirit faints within me, you know my way!
In the path where I walk they have hidden a trap for me.
Look to the right and see: there is none who takes notice of me;
no refuge remains to me; no one cares for my soul.
I cry to you, O Lord;
I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."
Attend to my cry, for I am brought very low!
Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me!
Bring me out of prison, that I may give thanks to your name!
The righteous will surround me, for you will deal bountifully with me.
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
I cry to you, O Lord;
I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."

Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern 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 speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."

A	This is the Word of the Lord.
C	Thanks be to God.

Reading

John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

P	A reading from _____, chapter _____. ¹ As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ² And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents,
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but that the works of God might be displayed 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.” ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. . .

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. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”

A	This is the Word of the Lord.
C	Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Living Light in a New World” - John 9

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life **T** everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

“I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus” LSB 729, verses 1, 4, 6

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Blessed Lord, You give sight to the blind, You open the ears of the deaf, and You make the lame to walk. Hear the prayers of Your people on behalf of all people as they have need.

Brief silence

In the darkness of sin and its death, we cry to You, O Lord. Open our ears by Your Word, our minds by Your Spirit, and our hearts by Your grace, that we may know and be thankful for all the blessings You have given to us in Christ, our Lord, especially the gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Strengthen us in faith, that we may serve You with all our body, mind, soul and strength. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We ask You, O Lord, to provide us with good and faithful leaders who will protect the lives of our citizens. Give them special wisdom, and help them to work in harmony in the midst of this pandemic. Bless the members of our armed forces, and protect them as they defend us. Grant Your blessing to all emergency and medical workers who continue to come to our aid in times of great need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Enjoying the riches of Your grace, we ask You, O Lord, to give us generous hearts, that we may share what You have provided with those in need and work for the common good of all. Give us patience in our seclusion, and comfort the lonely. Grant relief to the unemployed, the underemployed, the homeless and all their families. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Knowing Your healing will and gifts, we pray You, O Lord, to spare us from all calamity by pestilence, scarcity and fear. Remember the sick in their afflictions, calm those troubled in mind and keep steadfast the dying. [*Hear us especially for _____.*] Show us Your gracious will, O Lord, and sustain those who are afflicted in body or mind until that day when You will give us new bodies fit for the eternal life You have prepared for us in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things, O Lord, we pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, asking You to grant our prayers not for our sake but for the sake of Him alone. Teach our hearts to be content with Your will and to trust that You will answer us with what is best for us and at the right time for our need. So do we pray, giving testimony of our confidence in Your gracious favor in Christ by answering with one voice. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

P	Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:
C	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.

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

P	The grace of the Lord T Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C	Amen.

Hymn

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” *LSB 805*

Postlude

Acknowledgments

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