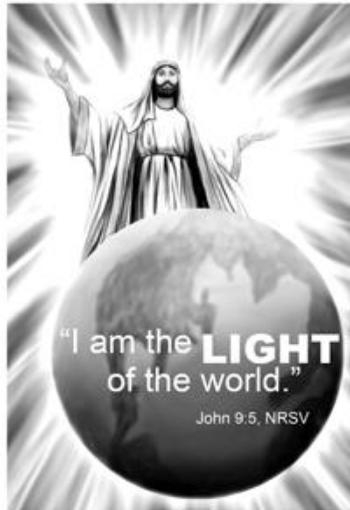


THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 15, 2020

Worship Focus

**Close Encounters with The Christ:
Christ and The Blind Man**



**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
9807 CHURCH ROAD
DALLAS, TX 75238 + 214-348-5567
churchsec@calvarydallas.org**



Order of Service for

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

✠ **Gathering** ✠

OPENING HYMN

560 - I Hear the Savior Calling



1 I hear the Sav - ior call - ing! The gos - pel comes to
2 I hear the Sav - ior call - ing! He leads a soul to
3 I hear the Sav - ior call - ing! He gives this charge to
4 I hear the Sav - ior call - ing! He chang - es hearts for
5 I hear the Sav - ior call - ing! His call has ur - gen -



me. My eyes once closed in blind - ness Are o - pened
me, A soul in bit - ter an - guish, One need - ing
me: To serve the best I'm a - ble, What - e'er the
me. From door to door I wit - ness To share my
cy! Each mo - ment souls are dy - ing; Soon comes e -



now to see That I my - self was help - less To
to be free. The gift I have to of - fer Is
call may be. Thus hand in hand with oth - ers Who
Sav - ior's plea; Yet noth - ing can be add - ed, No
ter - ni - ty. And so, my pre - cious Sav - ior, This



live e - ter - nal - ly, But, dy - ing, Christ did
Christ, my Lord's de - cree That all have been for -
share the gos - pel key We spread the gos - pel
word on bend - ed knee, Be - yond the sim - ple
is my hum - ble plea: Pre - pare me for my



save me, And now he calls for me!
giv - en— My Sav - ior calls for me!
tid - ings— My Sav - ior calls for me!
gos - pel— My Sav - ior calls for me!
mis - sion For you are call - ing me!

Text: John C. Lawrenz, b. 1943. © 1993 John C. Lawrenz. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Tune: ANTHES (76 76 D) Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–after 1857.

INVOCATION

Minister In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation Amen.

M Beloved in the Lord: Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.**

LORD HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)



Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us. A - men.

ABSOLUTION

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

M Let us pray. Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ The Word ✠

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 42:14-21

The grace of God expressed in his desire to give light to the blind is contrasted by the stubbornness of the people who prefer to live in darkness.

ISAIAH 42:14 “For a long time I have kept silent, I have been quiet and held myself back. But now, like a woman in childbirth, I cry out, I gasp and pant. ¹⁵ I will lay waste the mountains and hills and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn rivers into islands and dry up the pools. ¹⁶ I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them.

¹⁷ But those who trust in idols, who say to images, ‘You are our gods,’ will be turned back in utter shame. ¹⁸ “Hear, you deaf; look, you blind, and see! ¹⁹ Who is blind but my servant, and deaf like the messenger I send? Who is blind like the one committed to me, blind like the servant of the LORD? ²⁰ You have seen many things, but have paid no attention; your ears are open, but you hear nothing.”

²¹ It pleased the LORD for the sake of his righteousness to make his law great and glorious.

PSALM

Psalm 143



O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for | mercy;*
in your faithfulness and righteousness come to | my relief.

Do not bring your servant into | judgment,*
for no one living is righteous be | fore you.

My spirit grows faint with | in me;*
my heart within me | is dismayed.

Refrain

Answer me quick | ly, O LORD;*
do not hide your | face from me.

Let the morning bring me word of your un | failing love,*
for I have put my | trust in you.

Teach me to do your will, for you | are my God;*
may your good Spirit lead me on | level ground.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit,
as it was in the be | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Refrain

Paul distinguishes between the lifestyle of those in darkness and those who are children of the light.

EPHESIANS 5:8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said:

“Wake up, O sleeper,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

VERSE OF THE DAY

M Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14,15)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the announcement of the Gospel the congregation responds:



GOSPEL

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

Jesus gives physical and spiritual light to the man born blind, while the religious leaders remain spiritually blind.

JOHN 9:1 As he went 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?”

³“Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. ⁴As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

⁶Having said this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. ⁷“Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

**C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried,

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

343 - Christ Is the World's Light



1 Christ is the world's light, Christ and none oth - er;
 2 Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none oth - er;
 3 Christ is the world's life, Christ and none oth - er;
 4 Give God the glo - ry, God and none oth - er;



Born in our dark - ness, he be - came our broth - er.
 No one can serve him and de - spise an - oth - er.
 Sold once for sil - ver, mur - dered here, our broth - er.
 Give God the glo - ry, Spir - it, Son, and Fa - ther;



If we have seen him, we have seen the
 Who else u - nites us, one with God the
 He who re - deemed us reigns with God the
 Give God the glo - ry, God with us, my



Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
 Fa - ther? Glo - ry to God on high!
 Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
 broth - er: Glo - ry to God on high!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000, alt. © 1969 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.
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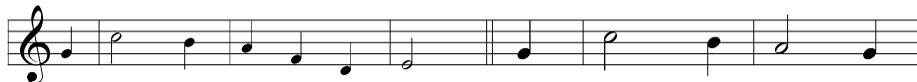
Tune: CHRISTE SANCTORUM (10 11 11 6) *Antiphoner*, Paris, 1681.

✠ Sermon ✠

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

Sermon notes:

✠ Praise and Prayers ✠



Cre - ate in me a



pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -



in me. Do not cast me a - way from your



pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from



me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -



hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

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.**

Defended by Your grace, we ask You, O Lord, to provide us with good and faithful leaders who will honor the cause of justice in our land, preserve the precious gift of liberty, and protect the lives of those least able to defend themselves. Bless the members of our armed forces and protect them as they defend us, and grant Your blessing to all emergency workers who come to our aid in time of need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Knowing Your healing will and gifts, we pray You, O Lord, to remember the sick in their afflictions, to calm those troubled in mind, and to 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 bestow upon us new bodies fit for the eternal life You have prepared for us in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Mindful of Your promise, we ask You, O Lord, to comfort those who grieve and to build up those who mourn with hope for the resurrection. Remembering the faithful who have died in Christ, we pray You to bring us at last to be with them in Your nearer presence, looking forward to that day when we shall join in the marriage supper of the Lamb in His Kingdom without end. 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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

✠ The Sacrament ✠

PREFACE and PROPER PREFACES

M The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

M Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C **It is good and right so to do.**

M It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (*Sanctus*)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,



God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -



ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -



ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD (*Agnus Dei*)

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in G major and 3/4 time. It consists of seven lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men. A - men." The score ends with a double bar line.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O
Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O
Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace. A -
men. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

338 - I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this



me and rest; Lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down Your
 free - ly give The liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; Stoop
 dark world's light. Look un - to me; your morn shall rise And



head up - on my breast." I came to Je - sus as I
 down and drink and live." I came to Je - sus, and I
 all your day be bright." I looked to Je - sus, and I



was, Wea - ry and worn and sad; I found in
 drank Of that life - giv - ing stream; My thirst was
 found In him my star, my sun; And in that



him a rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.
 quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in him.
 light of life I'll walk Till trav - 'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89.

Tune: VOX DILECTI (CM D) John B. Dykes, 1823-76.

✂ Sending ✂

SONG OF SIMEON (*Nunc Dimittis*)



C In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de -
part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your sal -
va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry peo - ple, a
light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry, the
glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C And his mercy endures forever.

PRAYER AND BLESSING

M O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

M The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

367 - Christ Be My Leader



1 Christ be my lead - er by night as by day,
2 Christ be my teach - er in age as in youth,
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife;



Safe through the dark - ness, for he is the way.
Drift - ing or doubt - ing, for he is the truth.
Death can - not hold me, for he is the life. Nor



Glad - ly I fol - low, my fu - ture his care;
Grant me to trust him, though shift - ing as sand.
dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor sin and its stain Can



Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
Doubt can - not daunt me— in Je - sus I stand!
touch my sal - va - tion— with Je - sus I reign!

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926. © 1964. Renewed 1992 by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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Tune: SLANE (Irregular) Irish folk tune.

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.