



*"One thing I do
know, that though
I was blind,
now I see."
John 9:25*



Sunday, March 22, 2020
Live Stream via
facebook.com/salcwausau
Fourth Sunday in Lent
Psalm 23
John 9:1-41

GATHERING

A few notes as we gather "on-line" for this first time:

The Live Stream will be "on" and running as we prep for worship. As you settle into a comfy place, find something nourishing to be with you: light a candle, hold a cup of coffee, snuggle a pet or stuffed animal. If you want to participate in the children's sermon you will need: a note card or a piece of paper (each or as a family), a pair of scissors and a pencil or a pen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who is present, who gives life,
who calls into existence the things that do not exist.
Amen.

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.
We confess that we have turned away from you,
knowingly and unknowingly.
We have wandered from your resurrection life.
We have strayed from your love for all people.
Turn us back to you, O God.
Give us new hearts and right spirits,
that we may find what is pleasing to you
and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

Receive good news: God turns to you in love.
"I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God.
All your sin is forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ,
who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you.
Amen.

Gathering Song

Come and gather beneath the tree of Life. X2
Root of wisdom branch of peace; fruit of healing and release.
Come and gather beneath the tree of life.

Here we raise the saving cross of Jesus.
Singing praise to him who leads us on from death into new life.

Lay your burden beneath the tree of life. X2
Root of wisdom branch of peace; fruit of healing and release.
Lay your burden beneath the tree of life.

Here beneath the branches of your mercy,
We invoke your name remember how your love has set us free.

Grace and pardon beneath the tree of life X2
Root of wisdom branch of peace; of fruit of healing and release
Grace and pardon beneath the tree of life.

Greeting and Kyrie

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.**

In peace let us pray to the Lord, etc.
Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy, mercy on us all.

Come and gather beneath the tree of Life. X2
Root of wisdom branch of peace; fruit of healing and release
Come and gather beneath the tree of life.

Prayer of the Day

Children's Sermon

WORD

Psalm 23

"Shepherd Me, O God"

No. 780

Shepherd me, O God—beyond my wants, beyond my fears from death into life.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23
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Gospel

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

(Not Printed)

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

Sermon

Hymn

“Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery”

No. 334

- 1 Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry,
in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of hist'ry,
still you rise with ev'ry morn,
still you rise with ev'ry morn.
- 2 We remember truth once spoken,
love passed on through act and word;
ev'ry person lost and broken
wears the body of our Lord,
wears the body of our Lord.
- 3 Christ, you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river, you the sea,
we the river, you the sea.

Lent 4

Give us eyes to see you clearly;
make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly
as your gospel shining bright.

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Prayers of the People

As we pray for the different categories spoken, share a prayer or a person to pray for by writing it in the comments below. We will create these prayers together in the live stream and the response will be:

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

John 9:1-41

Offering Moment

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,
we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
Amen.

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.**

SENDING

Hymn

"When Peace like a River

No. 785

- 1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well (it is well)
with my soul, (with my soul,)
it is well, it is well with my soul.

- 2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
and has shed his own blood for my soul. *Refrain*
- 3 He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain*

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888

Blessing

Dismissal

Go in peace, Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

A word about Pastoral Care

Pastor Justin and Pastor Jenn are available for previously scheduled and emergent pastoral care via e-mail, phone, zoom, or facetime. We are in touch with local chaplains and are learning that visits are not allowed at many facilities. Thank you for your patience as we learn a new way to minister during this time.

Worship via Facebook Live Stream

Join us on Facebook live for worship 12:15 on Wednesdays and 9:00 am on Sundays. **You do not need a Facebook account to join in worship.** If you do have a Facebook account and "like" the Saint Andrew Facebook Page, you should receive a notification at the beginning of the live stream. These services will remain available on our Facebook page under the "videos" tab along the left side of the page. Watch whenever you can, and feel free to leave comments, prayers, or responses during the viewing.

Compassion Connection Link

Saint Andrew is looking for ways to reach out to those who may be vulnerable in our community by creating ways to support them in this time of uncertainty: running errands, sharing a meal, connecting via phone to extend friendship, assisting in child care, etc. Your eyes and ears are critical in identifying these needs. We have created an online database, **Compassion Connection**, where individuals can add their specific need and contact information, and other members are able to view needs and reach out appropriately. **If you, or someone you know, needs assistance:** Click the link below and add the name and best contact information (phone or e-mail) and a brief description of what is needed. This information will be kept as an internal communication, only accessible to SALC members.

If you can help out:

Click the link below and look at the list. If there is something you can help with you can make the connection. This is a live document that will be updated regularly. We are hoping it will be a way for members to make connections throughout this time of suspended church activity. Thank you to those who have already reached out. We are blessed to have such a generous and thoughtful congregation, gathered in spirit when we can't be together. Compassion Link: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1tOk0oYsyLfmpb1rrWRH1mNSEblon2C5shnKjSsS0XN4/edit#gid=0>

Thank you for your offerings and continued support!

Now more than ever we are grateful for a gift of any amount you might share to further support the ministry of Saint Andrew. What you share makes a difference as we seek to be "open to all" in this time when many feel isolated. To share an offering, mail an envelope to church at 150202 County Road NN, Wausau WI 54401 or give online at www.salc-wausau.org/giving. Signing up for TOE (Transfer Offering Electronically) is another option for giving. It's as simple as giving the church office a call with your bank information. You can also give through the "Give Plus" app by Vanco. For the many ways you give, thank you.

Serving in Worship

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MARCH 22, 2020
FOURTH SUNDAY
IN LENT



God does not judge as we judge.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 9:1-41	The man born blind
Monday	1 Samuel 16:1-13	David is anointed king
Tuesday	Ephesians 5:8-14	Living as people of light
Wednesday	James 4:11-12	Warning against judging others
Thursday	Isaiah 55:6-11	God's ways are not our ways
Friday	Matthew 7:1-5	Judging others
Saturday	Psalms 23	The Lord is my shepherd
Sunday	John 11:1-45	The raising of Lazarus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." **1 Samuel 16:7 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to see as you see, not be judgmental, and to show mercy as you show us mercy, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealttime Prayer:

God of abundance, thank you for providing us with this food, a sign of your overflowing love. In Jesus' name, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord bless you and keep you, may God look on you with favor and give you peace.



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MARCH 22, 2020

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Lord of All Hopefulness



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Tell or think about a time someone did something that really changed your understanding of that person.
- Why is it that we sometimes judge ourselves or others too harshly?
- God's judgment is about love and mercy. How does knowing this help you think about yourself and others?

DEVOTIONS



Read: John 9:1-41 out loud.

One person is narrator and other people speak the different voices in the story of the man born blind. In John 9 Jesus sees in the blind man a person who needs sight, not someone whose sin is greater than anyone else's (vv. 1-7). In 1 Samuel the prophet is to anoint a new king, but Samuel is not able to perceive or see what God sees. A scrawny, youngest son (David) who is originally not even considered, is chosen by God to be king. Thank God that our Lord sees and judges by a standard far from our own. May the light that God brings into the world help us to see ourselves and others with humility, hope, and compassion. Think of something that bothers you about your own life situation or that of someone you know. How might God see it differently and with more understanding and compassion?

Pray: **Almighty and merciful God, thank you for your ways that conquer human blindness with hope and new life. Amen.**

SERVICE



One characteristic of a Christian is to be available when needed. Being available to serve others nurtures the Christian faith and life through the power of the Holy Spirit. This takes us to areas of ministry far outside the walls of a local congregation to living our faith in daily life. In what ways do you reflect this characteristic in your daily life? Is there an organization or someone near you who would benefit from you being available to volunteer?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



During the fourth week in Lent, light four of the six purple candles on your Lenten Candle Cross. The acronym **ACTS** (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication) is being introduced as a way to pray. This week represents "S", for Supplication, meaning to humbly ask God to provide something for yourself or on behalf of someone else.

Pray: **Dear God, just as you healed the blind man, I ask for your healing in the lives of those who are in need of your loving presence including . . . , in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org