

## John 9:1-41

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man who was blind from birth. Jesus' disciples asked, "Rabbi, who sinned so that he was born blind, this man or his parents?" Jesus answered,

"Neither he nor his parents. This happened so that God's mighty works might be displayed in him. While it's daytime, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." After he said this, he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and smeared the mud on the man's eyes. Jesus said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (this word means sent). So the man went away and washed. When he returned, he could see. The man's neighbors and those who used to see him when he was a beggar said, "Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," and others said, "No, it's someone who looks like him." But the man said, "Yes, it's me!" So, they asked him, "How are you now able to see?" He answered, "The man they call Jesus made mud, smeared it on my eyes, and said, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and then I could see."

They asked, "Where is this man?" He replied, "I don't know." Then they led the man who had been born blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus made the mud and smeared it on the man's eyes on a Sabbath day. So, Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. The man told them, "He put mud on my eyes, I washed, and now I see." Some Pharisees said, "This man isn't from God, because he breaks the Sabbath law." Others said, "How can a sinner do miraculous signs like these?" So, they were divided. Some of the Pharisees questioned the man who had been born blind again: "What do you have to say about him,

since he healed your eyes?" He replied, "He's a prophet." The Jewish leaders didn't believe the man had been blind and received his sight until they called for his parents. The Jewish leaders asked them, "Is this your son? Are you saying he was born blind? How can he now see?" His parents answered, "We know he is our son. We know he was born blind. But we don't know how he now sees, and we don't know who healed

his eyes. Ask him. He's old enough to speak for himself." His parents said this because they feared the Jewish authorities. This is because the Jewish authorities had already decided that whoever confessed Jesus to be the Christ would be expelled from the synagogue. That's why his parents said, "He's old enough. Ask him." Therefore, they called a second time for the man who had been born blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know this man is a sinner." The man answered, "I don't know whether he's a sinner. Here's what I do know: I was blind and now I see." They questioned him: "What did he do to you? How did he heal your eyes?" He replied, "I already told you, and you didn't listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?" They insulted him: "You are his disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses, but we don't know where this man is from." The man answered, "This is incredible! You don't know where he is from, yet he healed my eyes! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners. God listens to anyone who is devout and does God's will. No one has ever heard of a healing of the eyes of someone born blind. If this man wasn't

from God, he couldn't do this." They responded, "You were born completely in sin! How is it that you dare to teach us?" Then they expelled him. Jesus heard they had expelled the man born blind. Finding him, Jesus said, "Do you believe in the Human One?" He answered, "Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him." Jesus said, "You have seen him. In fact, he is the one speaking with you." The man said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshipped Jesus. Jesus said, "I have come into the world to exercise judgment so that those who don't see can see and those who see will become blind." Some Pharisees who were with him heard what he said and asked, "Surely we aren't blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you wouldn't have any sin, but now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.



**Sunday March 15, 2026 9:00 am – Fourth Sunday of Lent**

*\*Please stand if it is comfortable for you*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & GREETING

\*SONG OF BEGINNING      *Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior,*      No. 351  
vs. 1 & 3      Red Hymnal

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world."

**People: In his light, we see clearly and walk in hope.**

Leader: Where we have been blind to God's work among us,

**People: Christ opens our eyes to grace and truth.**

Leader: Where the world sees only darkness,

**People: God reveals light and new life.**

Leader: Come and see what God has done.

**All: We come to worship the One who gives sight to the blind and light to the world.**

SCRIPTURE READING      Ephesians 5:8-14

\*HYMN      *Healer of Our Every Ill,*      No. 2213  
vs. 1, & 3-4      Black Hymnal

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM      Sarah Marie Rublein

WITNESSING GOD'S LOVE TO OUR CHILDREN

*Children Pre-K through fifth grade may go to Children's Church. Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade go to the Nursery and 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade go to classroom E-8*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC      *Connections*

**Lenten Theme**

***Place for a Purpose: Being the Hands & Feet of Jesus  
in Your Neighborhood***

SCRIPTURE READING      John 9:1-41

SERMON      *Opening Our Eyes to the Work of God*

\*HYMN      *Open My Eyes, That I May See,*      No. 454  
vs. 1 & 3      Red Hymnal

A TIME FOR PRAYER

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND OUR BLESSINGS

Invitation

Offertory

\*Doxology      No. 95 Red Hymnal

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your ways. You have given us neighbors to love, but so often we pursue our own selfish ambitions. You gave us the commandments that lead to human flourishing, but so often we are blind to your ways and forsake your love. Forgive our sins and bring us to repentance. Draw our wandering hearts back to you that we might join you in our neighborhoods to be witnesses to your reconciling love and grace. Grant us a new and right spirit as we make our silent confessions (silent confession).

SUNG RESPONSE

*Spirit Song,*  
*vs. 2*

No. 347  
Red Hymnal

\*CLOSING BLESSING

\*SUNG RESPONSE

*Lord, Whose Love*  
*Through Humble Service,*  
*vs. 4*

No. 581  
Red Hymnal

POSTLUDE

*During the Lenten season, we will use the more traditional Doxology in worship that removes the 'Alleluias' as a way of recognizing the more solemn season of Lent. Also, our Prayer of Confession will be later in the service. As we take an inward look at ourselves during Lent, may this order of worship allow us to experience more of worship and open ourselves more fully to God before making our confessions.*

### **Ephesians 5:8-14**

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

#### Participating in Worship:

Rev. Jenny Arneson, Pastor

Lisa Wink, Treasurer, Worship Assistant

Kim Kohler, Reader

Kevin Rice Meyers, Owen Hinthorn, Lisa Wink, Readers

Amanda Hinthorn, Dir. of Community Engagement,

Children's Time

Heavenly Handbells, Music; Steve Crego, Director

Sue Lundeen, Organist