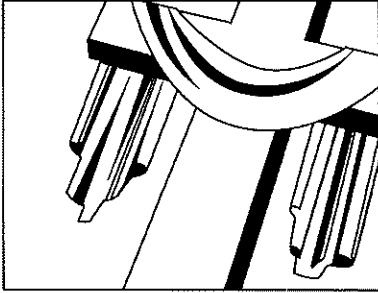


**F O U R T H**

# Sunday in Lent



Zion Lutheran Church  
210 North Wayne Street  
St. Marys, OH 45885

**March 19, 2023**  
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

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Setting 3

Page 138 Red Hymnal

**PRELUDE**

*Be Thou My Vision*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

*"Be Thou My Vision"*

#793

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** In the name of the Father,  
and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

**P:** In this season of Lent, let us draw near to the Lord and examine our hearts and minds for the ways in which we have fallen short of the glory of God.

*(Stand/Kneel)*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: 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.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God,  
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,  
and by his authority,

I therefore declare to you  
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

#### **GREETING**

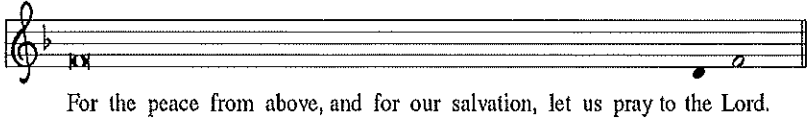
L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the  
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

KYRIE



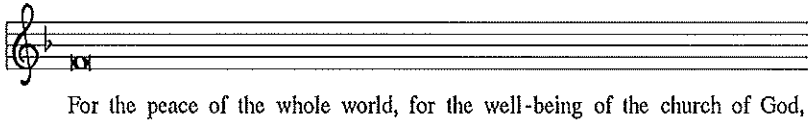
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



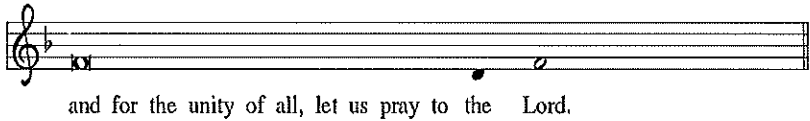
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



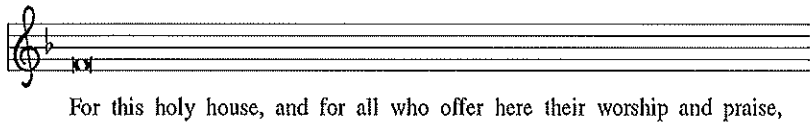
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



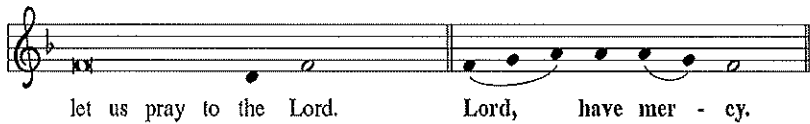
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



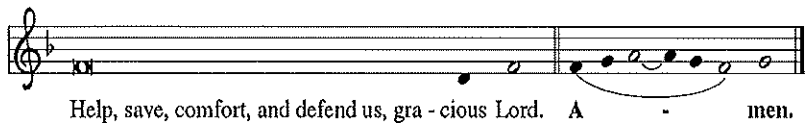
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Insert

FIRST READING

Isaiah 42:14-21

Insert

PSALM 142

Insert

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

Insert

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P: The holy gospel according to Saint John the ninth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

Insert

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Bill

HYMN OF THE DAY

*"We Come to You for Healing, Lord"*

#617

## NICENE CREED

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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

## PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY**      8:00 *Lead Me to Calvary*

Vocalist: *Dianne Uhlenhake & Nicole Carpenter*

10:30 *Offertory on St. Anne*

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG**



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



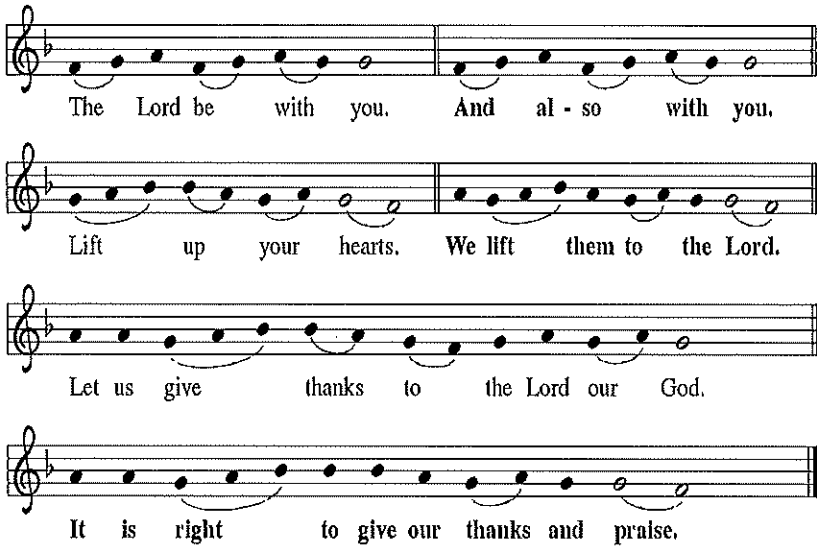
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

**L:** God of love, you have provided for our every need from your abundant bounty. Grant us grateful hearts that we may give generously to those in need and thereby show your love to the world around us.

**C:** Amen.

## DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

## PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

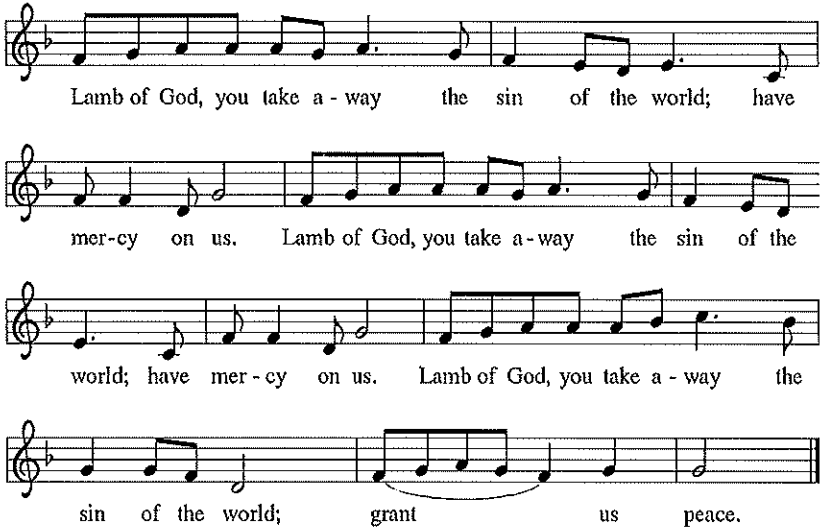
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.



## 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.

## COMMUNION SONG



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

## COMMUNION

- P The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
- C Amen.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

- "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"* #502  
*"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"* #461

### **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**L:** Let us pray.

Gracious God, you have gifted us with the bread and wine of this holy meal; fed us with the body and blood of your Son, our Lord; forgiven us and wiped away the shame of our sins. Make us bold to go out in the world proclaiming your love and mercy so all may be fed with this Bread of Life.

**C: Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

**P:** Pray in the Spirit at all times so that you may discern the will of God. Keep alert as you walk in faith. Speak with the boldness of the apostles who came before you so that all might know the good news. And may the Lord bless you and keep you, now and forever, in the name of the Father, the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 6)

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**      *"Chief of Sinners Though I Be"*

#609

### **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

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**Memory Verse:**

**Isaiah 42:16**

*And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them.*

---



*The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God in memory of Mary Suchland's birthday (March 13th) by Bob and Linda Suchland.*

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***Today, March 19\****

- Acolytes:** 8AM: Hunter Coldiron  
10:30am: Allison Ankerman
- Communion** 8AM: Chris White  
**Assistants:** 10:30AM: Cheryl Macklem
- Crucifers:** 8AM: Genevieve Brown  
10:30AM: Aiden Meinerding
- Ushers:** 8AM: John & Amy Hesse, Bob Henschlager,  
Judy Schultz  
10:30AM: Dan Macklem, Sandy Wierwille,  
Dana Cook, Keith Fledderjohann
- Fellowship** 8AM: Sandy Wierwille  
**Table:** 10:30am: Sandy Wierwille
- Greeters:** 8AM: Vic Von Blon, Sandy Wierwille  
10:30AM: Sandy Wierwille, Joni Immenschuh

**Readers:** 8AM: Kathy Langsdon  
10:30: Ruth Hoenie

***Next Sunday, March 26\****

**Acolytes:** 8AM: Jessi Eberle  
10:30am: Grady Hughes

**Ushers:** 8AM: Jeanne Wurster, Rhonda Weaver,  
Steve & Dora McAfee  
10:30AM: John & Amy Hesse,  
Stanley & Debbie Brwon

**Fellowship Table:** 8AM: Joyce Ross  
10:30am: Stanley & Debbie Brown

**Greeters:** 8AM: Nora Staunton, Becky Harvey  
10:30AM: Steve & Dora McAfee

**Readers:** 8AM: Linda Yahl  
10:30AM: Dan Macklem

\* Subject to change, correct as of time printed

ATTENDANCE .....	Last Wednesday: 77
..... Sunday 8 a.m.: 43, 10:30 a.m.: 46, Total for the Day: 89	
..... Total for Week: 166	
DIRECTOR OF BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION .....	
..... Mindy Thiebeau, <a href="mailto:zionbpe@gmail.com">zionbpe@gmail.com</a>	
OFFICE MANAGER.....	Kathy Bishir, <a href="mailto:kbishir@hotmail.com">kbishir@hotmail.com</a>
OFFICE ASSISTANT .....	Ann Maki, <a href="mailto:annmmaki@yahoo.com">annmmaki@yahoo.com</a>
LAY LEADER .....	Heidi Yahl, <a href="mailto:heidiyahl@yahoo.com">heidiyahl@yahoo.com</a>
PASTOR.....	William Maki, <a href="mailto:wllmmaki@yahoo.com">wllmmaki@yahoo.com</a>
MINISTERS .....	All Members of Zion
CHURCH WEBSITE.....	<a href="http://www.zionstmarys.org">www.zionstmarys.org</a>
CHURCH OFFICE.....	419-394-3115

## Calendar for March 19—April 2, 2023

S/19	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service <sup>++</sup>
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School/Bring a Friend
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service*
M/20	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop #360
T/21	9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting
W/22	11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Information Deadline
	5:00 p.m.	Lenten Soup Supper
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Midweek Service*
S/25	7:00 p.m.	Tri-Squares
S/26	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service <sup>+</sup>
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
M/27	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop #360
T/28	9:00 a.m.	Dorcas Quilting
W/29	11:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	12:30 p.m.	Bulletin Information Deadline
	5:00 p.m.	Lenten Soup Supper
	6:00 p.m.	Choir Practice
	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Midweek Service
	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Executive Meeting
Th/30	3:30 p.m.	Council Report Deadline
F/31	11:25 a.m.	Middle School Bible Release Time
S/1	10:00 a.m.	Community Egg Hunt
S/2	8:00 a.m.	Palm Sunday Worship*
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School—Easter Egg Hunt
	10:30 a.m.	Palm Sunday Worship*
	5:00 p.m.	Seder Meal

*\*Holy Communion*

*\*Livestreamed on [zionstmarys.org](http://zionstmarys.org) & broadcasted on WCSM 96.7*



**We invite you** to include the following people in your daily prayers: Janet Dicke, Judy Von Blon, Brent Paulus, Sandi Deerhake, Alma Kuffner, Caleb Yahl, Michael Moore, Tom Kaster, Ann Morris, John & Katie, Darlene Henkener, Margaret Moore, Amelia Green, Dwight & Carmen Axe, Elaine Marbaugh, Dale Sprague, Pam Fledderjohann, Bill & Carolyn Slemmons, Mary & Tim Smith, Lesley Cook, Brandye Patterson, Andrew O'Bryan, Emily Henkle, Eric Kupay, Nolina Moran, Kristin Hemmelgarn, Mary Willmann, Kathy Hart, Doug Mucci, Kelsey, Karen Vornholt, Brenda Purdy, Sandee Burd, Lisa Suchland, Vicki Bishir, Eileen Zimmerman and the Family of Debra Clark.

**Please pray** for Sean Lawler, Andrew Johnson, Michael Carroll, Nathan Adams, Jacob Yahl, Jason Gross, Daniel C. Lukac IV, Michael Franklin and Kyle Schmehl who are in the service. Please pray for them, their family, and their safe return home.

**Our loose offering** each Sunday/Wednesday for the month of March is earmarked to support the NALC "Today, Tomorrow, Forever" fund. Give to our 2020 Vision to Grow, Serve, Renew and fulfill our Church as we continue to mature and expand as a unified denomination, embracing challenges and opportunities along the way.

**Boy Scout Troop #360** for taking care of last week's Soup Supper. Soup Suppers will continue to be held during Lent thru Wednesday, March 29, between 5–6:30 p.m., in the auditorium.

**Pam Fledderjohann** wishes to thank everyone who made a meal, called, visited, texted, sent cards and prayed for her during her recovery from her recent surgery. God bless you all!

**Thank you** to Alexa & Sophia Coldiron, Nina Spencer, Sandy Wierwille, Jeanne Wurster, Ed Yahl, John Wierwille, Dan Macklem, Jeremy Kemmann and Darl Bishir for helping with the Women's Celebration. The afternoon was very enjoyable and your help was very much appreciated!

**Please! Candy is needed ASAP** for the Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 1, and the Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 2 so we can start filling the thousands of eggs. *We cannot use anything with peanuts/peanut butter or not individually wrapped.* Please leave your donation in the Sunday School box by the elevator, or the church office, or give it to Mindy. Thank you in advance!

**This Sunday is Bring a Friend** Sunday for all Sunday School classes! Invite a friend or more to attend with you this week!

**Our Midweek Lenten services** will be held in the main sanctuary, at 7 p.m. The theme this year is "Eyes on Jesus". **Next Wednesday, March 22: "Murderous Eyes"**—The chief priests and scribes saw Jesus as an obstacle to be rid of by violence. Yet during the Passover festival, they would unwittingly bring about the Father's sacrifice of the ultimate Passover Lamb.

**The first part** of the 2023 Flower Chart is on the bulletin board by the alley entrance. We invite you to select the date you wish to provide flowers. On the Tuesday before the date you selected, order your arrangement from your favorite florist, and contact the church office, 419-394-3115, to let us know what information you

would like included in the bulletin. Upcoming dates still available: **March 26, and April 2, 9, & 30.**

**In honor of Auglaize County's 175<sup>th</sup>** anniversary, St. Patrick Catholic Church, 6959 Glynwood Road, Glynwood, will host a concert of traditional Irish music by the band *Mad Maudlin* on **Sunday, March 26**, at 2 pm. The event is open to the public and a free will offering will be accepted. *Mad Maudlin* is an Ohio-based traditional Celtic folk Band with roots in Scottish and Irish music. The members come from a variety of musical backgrounds including classical, folk, and highland piping.

**Bible Release Time** will begin on **Thursday, March 30**, here at Zion. More volunteers are still wanted at this time. If you can help with this ministry, please talk to Pastor Bill.

**Volunteers and cookies** are needed for the Community Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, April 1**, 10-noon. We can always use monetary donations for prizes as well. Please notify Mindy if you can donate or volunteer with us that day. Kids and teens are welcome!

**The Seder Meal** will be held in the Auditorium beginning at 5 p.m. on **Sunday, April 2**. We will once again have the traditional foods of the Seder and their meaning, along with roasted Lamb, Turkey breast, mashed potatoes, green beans, and wine. Please RSVP on your "I Worshipped Today" or call the office to reserve your place for the event. Please let us know how many people you will be bringing to the meal.

**Easter Breakfast** will once again be held at 9 a.m. on **Easter Sunday, April 9**, in the auditorium. If you plan to attend, please sign up on your "I Worshipped Today" with the number attending.



**Women’s Lenten Fundraiser** will be collected **Easter Sunday, April 9.**

**April 16** is our next Creative Crafters project. Let’s learn how to crochet. Watch for more details or flyers. Sign up in the notebook in the Narthex.

**We have installed equipment** for livestreaming of our worship services. The worship services can be found on our Facebook page. Volunteers are needed to help with recording each of the services. Please contact the church office, 419-394-3115, or Pastor Bill about this ministry.

**Our 8 a.m. worship service** is broadcast live on WCSM radio 96.7 FM. Thank you to our primary sponsor of our WCSM radio broadcast—St. Marys Chrysler. Volunteers are needed to help with the sound board. No experience needed! Anyone interested in running the sound board during worship will be trained. We would like to have more people for rotation purposes. Contact the church office, 419-394-3115, or Pastor Bill if you can help.

<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>11 Week Budget</b>	<b>10 Week Income</b>	<b>Received March 12</b>
\$6,133--Current	\$67,463	\$57,000	\$5,983
\$290--NALC Offering	\$3,190	\$1,917	\$458

**Council Organization 2023**

- President: ..... Neal Brady*
- Vice President: ..... Cheryl Macklem*
- Secretary: ..... Jeanne Wurster*
- Assistant Secretary: ..... Genevieve Brown*

Treasurer: .....Stanley Brown  
Assistant Treasurer: .....Andrew O'Bryan

**COUNCIL AT LARGE:** Pete Ackroyd, Stan Brown, Thelma Kellermeyer, Cheryl Macklem, Andrew O'Bryan, Doug Stetler

**BOARD OF DEACONS:** John Hesse, Dwayne Hoenie, Dan Macklem, Judy Schultz, Jody Slemmons Dianne Uhlenhake, Rhonda Weaver, **Jeanne Wurster\***, Ryan Yahl

**BOARD ELDERS:** **Darl Bishir\***, Kathy Lampert, Brandy Yahl

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** **Dana Cook\***, Ed Flora, Eric Langsdon, Kurt Rodeheffer

**BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION:** Alexa Coldiron, Karrie Hughes, Ann Maki, **Sandy Wierwille\***

**BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION DIRECTOR:** Mindy Thiebeau

**YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE:** Genevieve Brown

**MEMBERS TO THE TRUST FUND:** Darl Bishir, Doris Cook, Rick Green, Bill Kellermeyer, Marion Slater **\*Chairperson**

### Holy Week & Easter Schedule

**Palm Sunday Worship**..... April 2  
..... 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
**Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt**..... April 2,  
..... 9:15 a.m.  
**Seder Meal** ..... April 2, 5:00 p.m.  
**Maundy Thursday Worship/First Communion**  
..... April 6, 7:00 p.m.  
**Good Friday Worship**..... April 7, 7:00 p.m.

### Easter Sunday April 9

**Easter Sunrise Worship** ..... 7:00 a.m.  
**Easter Breakfast** ..... 8:00 a.m.  
**Sunday School** ..... 9:15 a.m.  
**Easter Worship**..... 10:30 a.m.

# *Listening for the Promise*

Weekly Devotional

**Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 19, 2023**

*“Jesus said, ‘For judgement I came into this world, that those who do not see may see and those who see may become blind.’”*

*- John 9:39 -*

To understand this passage, we must consider its background. Jesus had just healed a man born blind. However, because the Pharisees were threatened by Jesus, they could not acknowledge the goodness of Jesus or the goodness of the miracle that He had just performed. So, when the formerly blind man confessed Jesus as the one who had healed him, the Pharisees kicked him out of the synagogue. In this case, the blind man received his sight, but the Pharisees, who thought that they saw things clearly, were actually blind. Jesus spoke these words against the Pharisees.

This background helps us to understand this passage. Jesus is using physical sight to teach a lesson about spiritual sight. It is the Holy Spirit who opens our eyes to see Jesus, and apart from the Holy Spirit, we are spiritually blind. So, Jesus is saying two things. First, He came to save those who do not know Him by giving them spiritual sight. Second, He came to harden the hearts and blind the eyes of those who use their “pretended” sight to wickedly oppose His kingdom and lead people astray.

Jesus is not saying that He will give non-Christians sight while blinding faithful Christians as part of some random shakeup. Although He certainly gives sight to non-Christians in converting them, he only blinds the blind leaders who use their “pretended” sight to lead others astray. He confirms them in their blindness in the same way that God hardened Pharaoh’s heart. Once again, Jesus does not blind faithful Christians. So what happens when

Jesus opens our eyes? First, since sin is spiritual blindness, we can't open our own eyes. Jesus does this for us. Second, when Jesus opens our eyes, we see our sinfulness and our need for a savior. Third, we see Jesus as the one who can save us from sin. Finally, we repent of our sin and ask God to forgive us and help us amend our lives. But this process of seeing our sin and repenting of it is not a onetime event. It happens continually throughout our Christian lives and in a concentrated way during the season of Lent. During Lent, Jesus opens our eyes to see our sin so that we might turn to Him for forgiveness and renewal. Jesus gives sight to the blind and sharpens the vision of those who see.