

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2017

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS AND THANKSGIVINGS

OPENING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER.....Pastor and Congregation

CALL TO WORSHIP ... "I Saw the Light".....Choir

GOSPEL LESSON ...*John 9:1-23* Molly Abbott

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴ ^W must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." ¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

HYMN ... "Blessed Assurance" ... *vs. 1 and 3*..... 619

CHILDREN'S MESSAGERebecca Blake

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that we are blinded by our sin and pride that hide the brilliance of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. Forgive us, God. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and baptize us once again with your Spirit, so that, as forgiven and renewed people, we may reflect the love of Jesus Christ into our world.

Hear the Good News, in the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus, you are forgiven.

MORNING PRAYER

OFFERTORY HYMN ... "Open My Eyes, That I May See" ... *vs. 1, 2 and 3*395

OFFERTORY PRAYER Usher

OFFERTORY

GOSPEL LESSON ...*John 1:24-41*..... Molly Abbott

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰ The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴ They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

ANTHEM.... "Miracles Were Not Enough"..... Choir

SERMON ... "I Saw the Light"Pastor

CLOSING HYMN ... "Come Christians, Join to Sing" ... *vs. 1 and 2*306

POSTLUDE

CALENDAR

TODAY

9:00 a.m..... BREAKFAST

4:00 p.m. Children's Committee Meeting

5:30 p.m.Choir Practice

WEDNESDAY

6:00 p.m Supper ... BBQ ... please bring desserts!

6:45 p.mBible Study ... Children and Youth Programs

USHERS

TODAY Nancy Ruppert's Team
 NEXT SUNDAY Dwight Saunders' Team

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

TODAY Toni Kellis
 NEXT SUNDAY Tina Cripps

NURSERY

TODAY Brandi Powers
 NEXT SUNDAY Pauline Jackson and Alisa Beard

PRAYER LIST

Church family: Wayne Abbott, Eddie and Sharon Reynolds, Katelyn Reynolds, Linda McNeill, Jack Boone, John & Alisa Beard, Larry Wilson, Rodney Loflin, Karen Dailey, Barbara Lynthacum, Gary McCaskill, Sarah Jo Wall, Betty Green			Ernest , Karen Dailey	Judy and Estella	daughters
At Home: Helen Greene, Violet Epps, Irene Warner, Florence Cagle			Garrett Gooch	Mary Chunn	grandmother
Friends and Relatives of: Molly/Wayne Abbott			Ray, Frances Hudson		daughter
	Henrietta Garner	friend	Paul/Thelma Hussey	Harold Johnson	brother
	Monnie Jenkins	friend		Meryl Johnson	sister-in-law
	Juanita King	friend		Mildred Hunsucker	friend
	Tony Lawson	friend	Mary James	Benny McBride	friend
	Toni Atcheson	sister		Bob Moore	nephew
	Cassie Jenkins	granddaughter		Pam, Ken Morgan	niece, nephew
	Martha Garner	sister	Butch/Nancy Jenkins	John Moore	Nancy's father
	Tammy Laprade	sister	Candy Loflin	Cristie Thomas	friend
	Audrey Grace Bryan...	friend		Beth Holt	friend
Dave/Barb Buckland	Retha Brooks	Sue Ann's mother		Misty Morgan	friend.
Jane Covington	Faye	sister	Max/Jane Luquire	Iris Luquire	sister-in-law
	Pete Thomas	brother-in-law		Jo Brooks	friend
	Lee Kasik	grandson-in-law	Barbara Lynthacum	J.D. Thompson	nephew
Tim and Tammy Dunn	Todd Reece	friend		Melissa Green	daughter
	Scott Reece	friend	Jean Maness	Helen Mabe	aunt
	Lynn Saunders	cousin		Carol Luther	friend
			Sylvia McAlister	Tammy Parker	friend
			Pat/Bob Morgan	Jesse Wallace	friend
			Jeff Robinson	June Spears	friend
			Nancy Ruppert	Marie Spoon	sister
			Barbara Smith	Laura Wilson	friend
				Doris Hinson	friend
			Service Personnel: Devin Hurley, Mark Davis, Dylan McCaskill, Christian Rush, Seth Spivey, Garrett Wallace, Chris Stuart		