

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
March 15th, 2020

Welcome to Shepherd of the Lakes!

The members of Shepherd of the Lakes are very pleased to have you worship with us today. We invite you to join with us in worshipping the Triune God: the Father who created us, the Son who redeemed us, and the Holy Spirit who sets us apart to be God's people through his powerful word. Our church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, a group of Lutheran churches committed to the Bible's teaching about life and salvation.

God speaks to us from the Scriptures:

The First Reading: Isaiah 42:14-21

To his helplessly blind children who cannot find a way out, the Lord promises certain deliverance and rescue. God himself will lead them to safety and will turn their darkness into light. But to those who reject the true God and look to idols, God promises judgment!

The Psalm of the Day: Psalm 143, on page 118 in your hymnal

The Epistle Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Notice what Paul says. He does not say that once we were in the dark and now we are in the light. No, once we were darkness and now we are light. Our conversion meant a total transformation of what we are, and therefore, it will lead to a total transformation of what we do.

Verse of the Day: 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)

The Gospel Reading: John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

The blind man could not see Jesus physically or spiritually. Christ opened the door to the latter by solving the former. It was no coincidence that this happened on the Sabbath. Christ had come not only to give sight to the helplessly blind—he also came to bring judgment on the Pharisees who but who refused to believe even what they saw with their own eyes

Applying God's Word to our Lives this Week:

Sermon: Romans 5:12-19

Sermon Theme: Jesus is the Light of the World

In the face of suffering; in the face of doubts.

Holy Communion: In Holy Communion we are receiving Jesus' true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins, new life, and salvation. But that's not all. We also receive strength, encouragement, and comfort knowing that in this sacrament **we are at one with our God** through Jesus' death on the cross for our sins, **we are one in faith with those communing beside us**, and **we are joined with all the saints**, who share our common faith. For this reason we practice **close communion**, inviting only WELS or ELS members to partake of the sacrament so as not to call into question the communion that we share. **If you are a visitor, please speak to Pastor Seelow before communing.**

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS TO US

Worship service attendance for Sunday, March 8th was 23. Our hearts acknowledged God's love for us in all he has blessed us with and showed our trust in his continued blessing by offering him \$1270.00 for the work of his church. (Wednesday: Attendance:17 Offering: \$1290.00) A special offering of \$1000 was received from St. Paul's Mayville.

"Whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God!"

GOD'S PEOPLE GROWING AND SERVING

Usher/Altar Guild Schedule

March 15* — 1
March 22 — 2
March 29 — 3 * Communion Sunday

Cleaning crew this Month: Dave and Dianne Bodey

NEWS AND NOTES

Today's Theme The light of the world brings sight to the blind and judgment to the blinded.

Council Meeting The council will meet this morning following Bible Class.

Midweek Bible Class will meet this Wednesday at 10am but not on Thursday.

Midweek Lenten Services continue this Wednesday:

Meal from 5:30-6:15; Service at 6:30.

Next Sunday Worship – 9am Bible Class/ Sunday School 10:15am

OUR PATH OF WORSHIP

"The Common Service"
PREPARATION p.10

Opening Hymn: #343

Confession of Sins: **p. 15**

Prayer and Praise: **p. 16-17**

THE WORD

Isaiah 42:14-21

Psalms 143, page 118

Ephesians 5:8-14

Verse of the day, p. 18
(Response omitted for Lent)

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

Response, p. 18

Nicene Creed p. 18-19

Hymn of the Day: #460

The Sermon

Create in Me p. 20

The Offering

Prayers, p. 20

THE SACRAMENT

p.21-23

Distribution Hymn: #740

THANKSGIVING p. 24

Blessing, p. 25

Closing Hymn: #373

Shepherd of the Lakes

Ev. Lutheran Church

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2020

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