

ORDER OF WORSHIP - March 19, 2023

RINGING THE HOUR

Joseph D'Eugenio

*LENTEN PROCLAMATION

The Rev. Dr. James Campbell, The Rev. Alison McCaffrey

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, 48

*CONFession of SIN

One: Jesus, you are the Light of the World. Shine your light in us today. Chase away the darkness of our sins, the darkness of our fear and doubt and despair.

All: **Fill us with the light of your transforming truth.**

One: Produce in us the fruit of righteousness – the evidence that Your Holy Spirit lives in us and works in us and through us.

All: **Teach us what is pleasing to you. Make us shining examples of your amazing grace, redeeming love, and life-changing power.**

One: Jesus, you are the Light of the World. Shine your light in us today.

*SILENT PRAYER (*we observe a time of extended silence*)

*TRISAGION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Walk now in the light of Christ. Open your eyes to the needs around you. Be agents of healing and wholeness. Forgiven and empowered, go in the name of Jesus.

All: **Amen.**

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Let us exchange words and signs of peace

CALL TO OFFERING

Visitor cards may be placed in the collection baskets.

Prayer cards will be collected during the Pastoral Prayer.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ANTHEM

Open Our Eyes, Lord
"Music with Friends"

R. Cull

*GOSPEL LESSON

John 9:1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” 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, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

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?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” 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.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 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.” 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. 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.” 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 and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 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.” 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. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." 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." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" 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?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.

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." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

***GOSPEL RESPONSE**

One: For the Word of God in Scripture -
For the Word of God among us -
For the Word of God within us -

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. James Campbell
"Blinded by the Light"

HYMN

Open Our Eyes, Lord

JOYS AND CONCERNS (*Prayer Cards will be collected at this time*)

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE 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. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

*HYMN

Amazing Grace, 422
Soloist sings Verse 1
Congregation sings Verses 2-5

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

Flowers are given by James Campbell and Marcos Martins in celebration of 25 years together.

Acolytes
Rebecca Graver, Tim Graver