



Sunday, March 22, 2020

4th Sunday in Lent

- INTRODUCTION -

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

GATHERING SONG

Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness, opened my eyes, let me see.

Beauty that made this heart adore you, hope of a life spent with you.

So, here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that you're my God.

And, you're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above.

Humbly, you came to the earth you created, all for love's sake became poor.

So, here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that you're my God.

And, you're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

And I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross.

I'll never know how much it cost to see my sin upon that cross.

So, here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that you're my God.

And, you're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

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INVOCATION & CONFESSION

RESPONSE

Sanctuary

Lord, prepare me to be a Sanctuary

Pure and holy, tried and true

With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

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READING

John 9:1-38

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The 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?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He 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.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then 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.” ¹⁶Some 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. ¹⁷So 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.”

¹⁸The 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 ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but 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.” ²²His 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. ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

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

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.

SERMON

Pastor Dave Young

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Be Bold, Be Strong

*Be Bold! Be Strong! For the Lord, thy God is with thee.
Be Bold! Be Strong! For the Lord, thy God is with thee.
I am not afraid! I am not dismayed!
Because I'm walking in faith and victory, walking in faith and victory,
for the Lord, thy God is with me.*

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & 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 and ever. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG

Mighty to Save

Everyone needs compassion, love that's never failing. Let mercy fall on me.

Everyone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior, the hope of nations.

Savior, he can move the mountains. My God is mighty to save, he is mighty to save!

Forever, author of salvation, he rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave

So take me as you find me, all my fears and failures. Fill my life again.

I give my life to follow, everything I believe in now I surrender.

Savior, he can move the mountains. My God is mighty to save, he is mighty to save!

Forever, author of salvation, he rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave

Shine your light and let the whole world see we're singing for the glory of the risen king, Jesus!

Shine your light and let the whole world see we're singing for the glory of the risen king.

Savior, he can move the mountains. My God is mighty to save, he is mighty to save!

Forever, author of salvation, he rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave

BENEDICTION

Guide Us On Our Way, Lord

*Guide us on our way Lord, on our Homeward Way
Walk beside our footsteps, share our load today
Grant us peace and understanding, help us to be strong
Guide us on our way Lord, on our Homeward Way*

Tune: "Homeward Way" written by John Frederickson & David Young