

# Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15 and 16, 2026



Exactly What I Need: Sight



198 Westridge Ave., Burlington, Wisconsin  
262-763-8229 | stjohnsburlington.org  
Rev. Kirk Lahmann | Rev. Kenneth Rodrigue



## Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a “Welcome to Worship” card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

## Prepare for Worship

To prepare for worship, read through the service focus and the Scripture readings. Ponder the words of the Psalm of the Day. Spend time in prayer, using the prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal or on pages 255-258. For those intending to receive the Lord’s Supper, read through the “Christian Questions” on pages 295-296. Consider reading through portions of the Small Catechism on pages 286-293.

## Seasonal Theme for Lent – Exactly What I Need

Lent is the season of the Church Year when I recognize my greatest needs. During Lent, I realize that in Christ all my greatest needs are met. God knows what I need even when I don’t have any idea. The Holy Spirit makes it clear, week after week, that if I lack Christ, I have nothing. But if I have Christ, I have exactly what I need.

## Today’s Focus for Worship – Exactly What I Need: Sight

I recognize that I am spiritually blind when I don’t know Jesus. I cannot see the world as it really is. I am tempted to see what is harmful as good, and what is good as meaningless. I cannot see the danger that lurks behind every temptation. I realize that Jesus gave physical sight to the blind. But he also gives me spiritual vision. He said, “I am the light of the world.” He comes to shine his light into my darkened eyes so that I see him and live.

## Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Preacher: Pastor Kirk Lahmann

Accompanist: Stephen Radsek

Brass Ensemble: Dan Erikson, Carol A. Neumann, Jeff Neumann, Glen Rubach

## Acknowledgments

Today’s service is adapted from *Christian Worship: Hymnal*, © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House, p. 278 – “Corporate Confession and Absolution” and p. 172 – “The Service, Setting Two.” Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by *Christian Worship: Service Builder* © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. The Prayer of the Church is reprinted from *Praying with the Readings...* © Paul C. Stratman. Used with permission. The Closing Collect is reprinted from *Now and Forever: Contemporary Collects...*, © Paul C. Stratman. Used with permission. Artwork by Ed Riojas, © higherthings.org.

# The Service, Setting 2

## Corporate Confession and Absolution



### Opening Hymn

Christ Is the World's Light  
*Please stand to sing the final stanza.*



1 Christ is the world's light, Christ and none oth - er;  
2 Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none oth - er;  
3 Christ is the world's life, Christ and none oth - er;  
4 Give God the glo - ry, God and none oth - er;



Born in our dark - ness, he be - came our broth - er.  
No one can serve him and de - spise an - oth - er.  
Sold once for sil - ver, mur - dered here, our broth - er.  
Give God the glo - ry, Spir - it, Son, and Fa - ther;



If we have seen him, we have seen the  
Who else u - nites us, one with God the  
He who re - deemed us reigns with God the  
Give God the glo - ry, God with us, my



Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!  
Fa - ther? Glo - ry to God on high!  
Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!  
broth - er: Glo - ry to God on high!

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Tune: CHRISTE SANCTORUM (10 11 11 6) *Antiphoner*, Paris, 1681.

## Invocation

*Matthew 18:20; 28:19-20*

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that we may love you and praise your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

*Psalm 124:8; 1 John 1:8-9; Ephesians 2:4-5*

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**the maker of heaven and earth.**

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

**Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart. In what I have done and left undone, I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. I have not loved others as you command. For this I deserve your punishment now and forever. I am sorry for my sins. I repent of them. I beg for your mercy.**

*Silence for reflection*

Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for us.

**Cleanse me from my sins. Release me from my guilt. Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.**

Jesus says to his people, "If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven." Do you believe this?

**Yes, I believe.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

**Amen.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us, has reconciled us to God, and has promised us the power to forgive and love one another. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

**Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.**

Let us pray.

God, our Father, by the sacrifice of your Son you reconciled the world to yourself. We thank you for the precious gift of forgiveness. Refresh us with the joy of our salvation, that we may walk in the way of peace with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Renew our minds and wills, that daily we may speak your word of peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### Lenten Response

Answer Me, O LORD | Psalm 69-B

*During the season of Lent, we replace the jubilant “Gloria in Excelsis” with a more reflective Lenten response. The congregation sings the Lenten response three times.*



An - swer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;  
in your great com - pas - sion, turn to me.

### The Word

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.



O Lord Jesus Christ, by your almighty power you opened the eyes of the blind and showed yourself to them. Turn our eyes away from worthless things, and lead us to love you sincerely; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

Isaiah 42:14-21

<sup>14</sup> “For a long time I have kept silent, I have been quiet and held myself back. But now, like a woman in childbirth, I cry out, I gasp and pant. <sup>15</sup> I will lay waste the mountains and hills and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn rivers into islands and dry up the pools. <sup>16</sup> I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them. <sup>17</sup> But those who trust in idols, who say to images, ‘You are our gods,’ will be turned back in utter shame.

<sup>18</sup> “Hear, you deaf; look, you blind, and see! <sup>19</sup> Who is blind but my servant, and deaf like the messenger I send? Who is blind like the one in covenant with me, blind like the servant of the LORD? <sup>20</sup> You have seen many things, but you pay no attention; your ears are open, but you do not listen.” <sup>21</sup> It pleased the LORD for the sake of his righteousness to make his law great and glorious.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

We Are Singing | 27-D

*Refrain*



We are sing - ing, for the LORD is our light, we are  
sing-ing, for the LORD is our light. We are sing - ing, for the



LORD is our light, we are sing-ing, for the LORD is our light.



We are sing-ing, oh, we are sing-ing, for the



LORD is our light. We are sing - ing,



oh, we are sing-ing, for the LORD is our light.

Verses



The LORD is the strength of our lives; of  
One thing have we asked of the LORD, yes,  
When bur - dens are heav - y to bear, our  
We walk in the strength of the LORD; God's



whom shall we be a - fraid? Though foes may be  
this is the thing we seek: to dwell in the  
shel - ter is God a - lone. Our feet are \_\_\_  
love \_\_\_ is ev - er sure. We shout that the



near to de - stroy, the LORD will be our light.  
house of the LORD, to live with God for - ev - er.  
lift - ed high, yes, high up - on a rock.  
world \_ may hear; we sing a joy - ful song.

Text: South African; tr. and original verses by Hal H. Hopson  
Tune: Zulu melody, adapted by Hal H. Hopson  
Text and tune: © 1994 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 709159

## Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

<sup>8</sup> For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) <sup>10</sup> and find out what pleases the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. <sup>12</sup> It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. <sup>13</sup> But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. <sup>14</sup> This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 12:1-2



*Refrain*



Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, king of end - less glo - ry.

*Tone*



Let us fix our eyes on Je - sus, the pioneer and perfect - er of faith.

## Gospel

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

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

<sup>3</sup> “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup> As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

<sup>6</sup> After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. <sup>7</sup> "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means "Sent"). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. <sup>14</sup> Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. <sup>15</sup> Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see."

<sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others asked, "How can a sinner perform such signs?" So they were divided.

<sup>17</sup> Then they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened."

<sup>34</sup> To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

<sup>36</sup> "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

<sup>37</sup> Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you."

<sup>38</sup> Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

**Hymn of the Day**

O Christ, Our True and Only Light | 904

**Sermon**

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

When the Light of the World Shines in the Darkness

1. The Blind Receive Sight
2. Some Are Blinded by the Light
3. The Light Keeps Shining, Even When That Light Is Hard to See

*Stand*

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

*Be seated*

## **Prayer of the Church**

*Ephesians 5:8,14*

O Lord, our light and our salvation, make your Word great and glorious among us.  
**Lord, awaken us with your light, and Christ will shine on us.**

Open our eyes to the truths of your Word, that we may know you, accept your teaching as true, and put our full trust and confidence in you.

**Lord, awaken us with your light, and Christ will shine on us.**

Shine the light of your gospel on people who live in the darkness of sin and unbelief. Use us to bring your Word to them, and by your Spirit, turn their trust from idols to you.

**Lord, awaken us with your light, and Christ will shine on us.**

We give thanks for the many people who work for the good of others, highway workers, engineers and planners, sanitation and waste disposal workers. Give them hearts willing to serve and keep them safe as they carry out their duties.

**Lord, awaken us with your light, and Christ will shine on us.**

Have mercy on those who struggle with feelings of guilt, despair, and the heaviness of life's troubles. Give them hope in your goodness, and patience to wait for your good purpose.  
**Lord, awaken us with your light, and Christ will shine on us.**

Gracious Father, you gave your only Son to be the light for the blind, the way for those who stray, and the resurrection of the dead. Enlighten the darkness of human hearts and minds, bring sinners to repentance, that we may live in you and for you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Offering**

*2 Corinthians 9:7*

*Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshipers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.*

## The Sacrament

*Stand*



### **Preface**

*2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136:1*

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Matthew 26:26*

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son’s body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Lord’s Prayer** *Pater Noster*

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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.**

**Words of Institution** *Verba*

*Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God** *Agnus Dei*

*John 1:29*

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first part of the phrase, and the second staff continues it. The lyrics are written below the notes.

sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us your peace.

*Be seated*

### **Holy Communion Distribution**

*St. John's Lutheran Church practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of St. John's, or members of a church in fellowship with St. John's, come forward for Communion. Our pastoral staff would be happy to set up a time to discuss this, and any teaching of Scripture, with you.*

### **Distribution Hymns (Sunday)**

Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing | 404  
 Were You There | 426  
 Upon the Cross Extended | 434

*Stand*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Light of the world, open our eyes to your glory, and in good times and bad, display the works of God in our lives; you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Blessing** *Aaronic Benediction*

*Numbers 6:24-26*

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.  
**Amen.**

*Be seated*

**Closing Hymn**

Amazing Grace | 576

# Exactly What I Need

*Ash Wednesday and Sundays in Lent 2026*

*Lent is the season of the Church Year when I recognize my greatest needs. During Lent, I realize that in Christ all my greatest needs are met. God knows what I need even when I don't have any idea. The Holy Spirit makes it clear, week after week, that if I lack Christ, I have nothing. But if I have Christ, I have exactly what I need.*

Ash Wednesday – February 18

Exactly What I Need: Forgiveness

First Sunday in Lent – February 22 & 23

Exactly What I Need: A Champion

Second Sunday in Lent – March 1 & 2

Exactly What I Need: Faith

Third Sunday in Lent – March 8 & 9

Exactly What I Need: Water

Fourth Sunday in Lent – March 15 & 16

Exactly What I Need: Sight

Fifth Sunday in Lent – March 22 & 23

Exactly What I Need: Life

Palm Sunday – March 29 & 30

Exactly What I Need: A King

# It Is Finished

## *The Holy Week Prophecies of Zechariah Wednesdays in Lent 2026*

*The prophet Zechariah records several profound and specific prophecies regarding Jesus' Holy Week activity, including his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, his betrayal, and his suffering and death, culminating in his cry from the cross, "It is finished!" This midweek Lenten series explores those prophecies and connects them to their Holy Week fulfillment. Join us for worship these Wednesdays in Lent at 3:30pm or 6:30pm as we see our Kingly Priest (Zech 6) sold (Zech 11), pierced (Zech 12), and struck for us, his scattered sheep (Zech 13).*

February 25 – Pastor Kirk Lahmann  
*St. John's Lutheran, Burlington*

Look at the One Who Was Pierced  
*Zechariah 12:10-13*

March 4 – Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue  
*St. John's Lutheran, Burlington*

Scattered Sheep  
*Zechariah 13:7-9*

March 11 – Pastor Mike Kuschel  
*First Lutheran, Elkhorn*

The Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing but the Truth  
*Zechariah 8:14-17*

March 18 – Pastor Ken Frey  
*Retired; First Lutheran, Lake Geneva*

What's He Worth to You?  
*Zechariah 11:7-13*

March 25 – Pastor Derek Bartelt  
*First Lutheran, Lake Geneva*

The Kingly Priest  
*Zechariah 6:9-13*