

# HOLY COMMUNION

with prayer for healing

4 Lent baptismal image: the man born blind  
 April 3, 2011 + 11:00 a.m.

*Central - in the heart of the city, welcomes all people to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ*

***In baptism, we receive the light that will never go out***

*The gospel for this Sunday is the story of a blind man healed by Christ. It is a profound image of our human condition: we seek after greater clarity and light. It is also a baptismal image of washing and receiving sight, of Christ's desire to enlighten us with the truth of who we are: God's beloved daughters and sons.*

## GATHERING

**PRELUDE**

"Suite Modale" Movements I and II

Ernest Bloch

*The assembly remains seated until the entrance hymn.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*As the presiding minister begins from the font, the sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism:*

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
 the well of eternal life.

**A** Amen.

**P** Trusting in the word of life given in baptism,  
 let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*silence is kept for reflection*

**Kyrie**

Leader	Assembly
Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy.	Christ, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.

*God speaks to us in  
scripture reading,  
preaching,  
and song*

*Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the Lord, designating David as the Lord's chosen successor to Saul.*

**P** Merciful God,  
**A** we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
and are not worthy to be called your children.  
Have mercy on us and turn us from our sinful ways.  
Bring us back to you as those  
who once were dead but now have life,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

**P** God's love is shown to us in that while we still were sinners,  
Christ died for us.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.  
Your sin is washed away.  
In the waters of baptism you were joined with Christ,  
reborn as children of God,  
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
You are free to live as God's people in the world.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

"Our Father, We Have Wandered"

*(hymn) 606*

*the hymn is sung in harmony*

**GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**A** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray...

**A** Amen.

**WORD**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

*Children are invited to come forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.*

**FIRST READING**

*David is chosen and anointed*

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." <sup>2</sup>Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' <sup>3</sup>Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." <sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" <sup>5</sup>He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." <sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." <sup>9</sup>Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." <sup>10</sup>Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these."

*The bell piece, a musical reflection on Psalm 23, uses the tune "Brother James' Air."*

*The letter to the Ephesians teaches that through baptism Christians live in God's light. Therefore, we ought to live by doing those things that reflect the light of Christ.*

*Some people in Jesus' day regarded infirmities as signs of divine punishment, and a few even thought Jesus was wrong to help afflicted people. When Jesus is criticized for healing a man born blind, the question arises as to whether such attitudes are not themselves a form of blindness, thereby showing that the heart is far from God.*

<sup>11</sup>Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here."

<sup>12</sup>He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one."

<sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Word of God. Word of life.

**AD** Thanks be to God.

### MUSIC FOR BELLS

"The Lord's My Shepherd"

Hart Morris

### SECOND READING

*Live as children of light*

Ephesians 5:8-14

*Paul writes:*

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light – <sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup>Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,


and Christ will shine on you."

Word of God. Word of life.

**AD** Thanks be to God.

### GOSPEL VERSE

**AD**



Lord, let your stead-fast love now come to us we  
pray. Save us as you have pro-mised for  
we trust your ho-ly Word. \_\_\_\_\_

### GOSPEL

*The man born blind*

John 9:1-41

The holy gospel according to John.

**AD** Glory to you, O Lord.

As Jesus walked 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>Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him.

<sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." <sup>6</sup>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, <sup>7</sup>saying to him,



"Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>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?" <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man."  
<sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?"  
<sup>11</sup>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." <sup>12</sup>They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.  
<sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.  
<sup>15</sup>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."  
<sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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."

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

<sup>24</sup>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."

<sup>25</sup>He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." <sup>26</sup>They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

<sup>27</sup>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?" <sup>28</sup>Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."

<sup>30</sup>The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." <sup>34</sup>They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup>He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him."

<sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." <sup>38</sup>He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>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." <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?"

<sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The gospel of the Lord.

**AD Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

“The Journey of Lent: From River to Tears”  
*silence for reflection*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

“Amazing Grace”

(hymn) 779

*stanza 1 - all in unison; 2 - all in harmony; 3 - choir; 4 & 5 - all in unison*

*The assisting minister invites  
the assembly to proclaim the  
creed responsively, in the  
pattern we use at  
Holy Baptism.*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**A** In Holy Baptism we have been made God's people, redeemed and forgiven. Living together in trust and hope, let us respond in faith.

**A** Do you believe in God the Father?

**AD** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**A** Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**AD** **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**A** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**AD** **I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**A** As we return to the waters of baptism during this season of Lent we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*after each petition:*

God of mercy,

**AD** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Hear our prayers, merciful God, and transform our lives by your grace. Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AD** **Amen.**

## PEACE

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**AD** **And also with you.**

*The assembly is invited to share God's peace with one another.*

God feeds us  
with the presence  
of Jesus Christ



## MEAL

### GATHERING OF GIFTS

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, bread, wine, money, and other gifts are brought forward. The assembly stands as the procession reaches the chancel.

#### Music for bells

"Abide with Me"

Valerie W. Stephenson

#### Offertory Prayer

**A** Let us pray together.

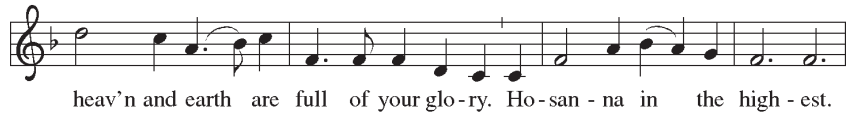
**AD** Holy God, gracious and merciful,  
you bring forth food from the earth  
and nourish the whole creation.

Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way,  
that all may know your care;  
and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### GREAT THANKSGIVING



**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... join their unending hymn:





All are invited to receive these gifts of God.

Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

Communion at this service is served kneeling (as you are able) by individual chalices around the communion rail.

Grape juice and gluten-free bread are available upon request.



God blesses and sends us in mission to the world

The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving concluding:

### Lord's Prayer (1975)

**A** Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

### Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to the Table

#### Communion

#### Music during Communion

"Lamb of God"



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

"Suite Modale" Movement IV

Ernest Bloch

#### Prayer after Communion

**A** Let us pray.  
Merciful God,  
accompany our journey through these forty days.  
Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide  
for those who are poor, pray for those in need,  
fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our  
treasure in the life of your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord

**A** Amen.

## SENDING

### INVITATION TO ANOINTING AND PRAYER FOR HEALING

#### BLESSING

**P** Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**A** Amen.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**

(hymn) 324

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

**DISMISSAL**

*Please face the entrance for the dismissal.*

**A** Seeing the goodness of God,  
go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**All** **Thanks be to God.**

*The carillon sends the assembly into mission.*

*Brief sanctuary tours will be offered this morning following the postlude.*

*Gather at the pulpit.*

**POSTLUDE**

“Nocturne in b minor”

*Frédéric Chopin*

*During the postlude the assembly is invited to the communion rail  
for individual anointing and prayer for healing.*

*In the spirit of the healing rite  
that ends today’s service,  
the postlude is of a  
meditative nature.*

---

*Portions of the liturgy are from Sundays and Seasons.com © 2011 Augsburg Fortress.  
All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress liturgies license #26515.*



If you wish to donate chancel flowers contact Gloria Hahn ten days in advance at 952-545-6109.

**Sunday worship** is broadcast locally on WDGY 740 AM at 11 a.m.; or listen online from anywhere at [wdgyradio.com](http://wdgyradio.com). To sponsor a Sunday morning radio broadcast or refreshments in honor or memory of a loved one or a special occasion, contact Barbara Brown at 612.767-9210.

## SERVING TODAY



Pastor Kristen Jacobson	<i>presiding</i>
Pastor D. Foy Christopherson	<i>preaching</i>
Brian McKinley	<i>assisting minister</i>
Cantor Mark Sedio	<i>organist</i>
Jane Lien	<i>associate cantor</i>
Pastor Rick Nelson	<i>senior pastor</i>
Campanas Central	<i>bell choir</i>
Polly Henderson	<i>flute</i>
Daniel Peterson, Anita Mattson	<i>readers</i>
Mark Brodin	<i>sound operator</i>
Verne Melberg	<i>radio announcer</i>
Earl Carson	<i>lead usher</i>
Christopher Haug	<i>bulletin cover art*</i>
Barb Hoernemann, Judy Berge, Pramila Nelson, Allison Winblad, Kathy Fiscus, Rick Johnston	<i>communion ministers</i>
Sally Carlson Bancroft, Dave Forse, Marian Holicky Pat Forse	<i>hosts &amp; greeters</i> <i>docent</i>
Jenny Carozza, Trudy Ness, Emily Olson, Richard Stegall, John & Renee Troselius, Pirkko Vänskä, Michael Wickman	<i>seasonal worship team</i>

\*"Washing in the Pool of Siloam" is based on a verse from today's gospel.

*The waters of creation, of destruction, of biblical stories, of these Lenten gospel texts, are the same waters of the baptismal font. This lovely thanksgiving for water captures the saving power of water and the word poured out in holy baptism.*



## WORSHIPLIFE

### *Thanksgiving for water*

O heavenly flood, holy by the Word of God,  
 O water that was trodden by the feet of Christ,  
 You weigh down the mountains, yet you are not shut up.  
 You are dashed against the rocks, yet you are not destroyed.  
 You are spread abroad upon the earth, yet you do not fall.  
 You are held up by the firmament on high,  
 yet you wash the whole universe,  
 cleansing all things, yet no one cleanses you.  
 You who, when the Hebrew people took their flight,  
 was held back and hardened like ice; you melting upon the  
 high peaks brought ruin upon the Egyptians.  
 You with your fierce raging ever torment the world  
 as it were your enemy.

You are one and the same:  
 the salvation of the faithful, the avenger of the wicked.  
 Moses struck the rock and the rock poured you forth:  
 The majesty of God commanded you to come forth  
 and you could not hide among the boulders.  
 You are borne upon the clouds and make fruitful the fields  
 with joyful showers.  
 You bring grace and life as you are poured out upon bodies  
 hot with summer heat.  
 You move quietly upon your tiny courses  
 bringing life and fruitful sap, lest the dry lifeless earth deny  
 proper nourishment to our bodies.  
 The beginning of all things and their end praise you,  
 yet God has provided that by you we might know no end.

Yet you, O Lord, almighty God,  
 whose power we do not forget as we proclaim the merits of  
 water, and declare its marvelous works,  
 look with favor upon sinners,  
 unloose your captive goodness upon them.  
 Restore the innocence that Adam lost in paradise.  
 Give a healthful drink to all who are upset  
 by the bitterness of the apple.  
 Purge the disorders of mortals,  
 and with a divine antidote, cure their age-long distemper.  
 Wash away the filth and squalor of the world.  
 Make a way through the wall of fire that protects the garden of  
 paradise, and open a flower-strewn path to those that return.  
 May they be given the likeness of God,  
 which once was lost by the malice of the serpent.  
 May the sin that follows upon their disobedience  
 be carried away in this pure stream.  
 May they rise up unto rest:  
 may they be brought forward unto pardon;  
 that being renewed in the mystic waters  
 they may know themselves to be redeemed and reborn.

*Adapted from: Blessing of the water from the Liber Ordinum,  
 in Documents on the Baptismal Liturgy; SPCK, London © 1970*

## WELCOME!



**Everyone is welcome.** As a community of the people of God, the members of Central Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male or female” (Galatians 3:28). Christ has made us one.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. We invite guests to complete the “Welcome to Central” card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please speak to a staff member or call the church at 612-870-4416.

**Children are welcome** at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at sanctuary entrances. If you would prefer to use Central’s nursery (available for children ages four and younger), you will find it up the steps from the information desk at the south entrance (across from the fellowship hall). An usher or greeter will be glad to assist you.

**Welcome to the Lord’s Table.** All are welcome at the Lord’s Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

**We envision** becoming a thriving, vibrant model of urban Lutheran ministry for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This lofty vision requires us to ask each day if our goals for worship, learning, and service are clearly reaching a diverse neighborhood and city in language and action that reflect the world as well as our heritage.



Large print service folders, assisted listening devices, and access seating are available to aid your participation in worship. Please inquire with an usher.





**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

*Grace abounds.*

---

**CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*in the heart of the city, welcomes all people  
to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ*  
333 South Twelfth Street · Minneapolis, MN 55404  
Office – 612.870-4416 · Infoline – 612.767-9101 · [www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org)

