



*We celebrate faith by:*

*ROOTING our lives in a relationship with our God.*

*REJOICING in the gifts of life and love our God graciously offers.*

*REACHING out to our world with God's healing and hope!*

# ***HOUSE OF PRAYER***

***Evangelical Lutheran Church***

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## **MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP**

**March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 6:00 PM**



***Pastor: Rev. Joel Samuelson***

***Minister of Discipleship: Michelle Hintz***

***Vocalist/Pianist Accompanist: Krisha Fuller***

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**Every Wednesday, 6:00 PM: March 1<sup>st</sup> to March 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Tonight's Theme: "The Blind Man"**

**NEXT WEEK: "The Women at The Well"**

## **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** **Amen.**

**L:** Blessed is he whose help is the God, who executes justice for the oppressed,

**ALL:** **Who made heaven and earth, and all that is in them. Who gives food to the hungry.**

**L:** The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

**ALL:** **The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**

**L:** The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.

**ALL:** **Praise the Lord!**

### **OPENING SONG**

***“1000 Hallelujahs”***

*(See overhead)*

## **WE CONFESS OUR SIN**

*(Please be seated as we prepare ourselves for confession through silence and prayerful reflection.)*

**L:** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL:** **AMEN.**

**L:** Jesus showed grace to the blind man and restored his sight. Trusting in God’s compassion and saving love, we confess our sins and ask his forgiveness for Jesus’ sake.

**ALL:** **Almighty God, although we claim to see and know so much, all too often we are lost in the blindness of our sins. We follow tempting pathways instead of walking in your com-mandments. We act according to our own desires instead of obeying the guidance of your holy Word. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Open our eyes so that, by faith, we will see the wonders of your love and grace.**

**L:** God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son to be our Savior. The Lord and Messiah, who opened the eyes of the blind, came to lay down his life as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** **AMEN.**

## **CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE**

**“Think About His Love”**

**“Goodness of God”**

**Grey #50 (Repeat)**

**(See Overhead)**

## **CHILDREN’S SERMON**

### **WORD**

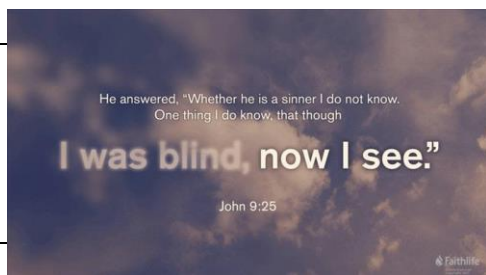
*God speaks to us through Scripture, Preaching, and Song.*

**FIRST READING:**

**2 Corinthians 5:6-9**

**GOSPEL READING**

**John 9:1-7, 24-38**



**Tonight’s Message:**

**“The Blind Man”**

**Minister of Discipleship Michelle Hintz**

### **THANKSGIVING**

*We respond with gratitude for God’s gracious gifts.*

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**Apostles’ Creed**

**(See Overhead)**

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

**OFFERING MOMENT**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**(See Overhead)**

**HOLY COMMUNION IS A CELEBRATION of our new life in Christ. All are welcome to share in this meal of grace at our Lord’s Table! If you believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and accept that He alone forgives your sins, then come...share in this meal of grace our Lord intended for you. (Communion will be distributed this evening by intinction: Please hold the wafer you receive until you have the opportunity to dip it in the chalice of wine.) Gluten free wafers are also available for those who request them.**

*( If you prefer to receive a blessing, we invite you to come forward, keeping your hands folded.)*

**BLESSING**

### **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**CLOSING HYMN**

**“Amazing Grace”**

**(See Overhead)**

## DISMISSAL

**L:** So we are always of good courage.

**ALL:** **We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight.**

**L:** Go in peace to serve God! Be of good courage and hold fast to that which is good!

**ALL:** **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

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***PLAN TO JOIN US EVERY WEDNESDAY!***

**IN NEED OF HEALING – Ron & Donna Wilkinson, Birdie Fode, Alice Neuberger, Ellen Bartz, Judy Zhorela, Gerald Johnson, Sidney Weigel, Darlene Frieze, Doris Lowe, Lori LaCoe, Lou Ann Heinle, Sally Weisgram, Vic Huber, Julie Schepp**

**CANCER CARE – Gary Dietz, Marty Well, Colby, Arlene Walch, Christine Raulston, Arlene (Stephanie Luebke's Mom), Ray Huber, Dick Olson, Hillary Groseclose, Ron Schepp, George Frye, David, Ray Seifert, Carmen Ruud, Wanda**

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Join us for our Amazing Grace Lenten series based on the beloved song that celebrates its 250th anniversary this year. We experience the amazing grace of God in confession and forgiveness this Lent as we look toward the cross of Christ that made our freedom from sin possible.

Join us every Wednesday during Lent for this series!

**March 22nd**-The Woman at the Well

**March 29th**-Paul

### **Holy Week Services**

April 6th, 6:30p-Maundy Thursday service, First Communion for 5th graders

April 7th, 6:30p-Good Friday service

April 9th, 6:30am, 8:00am, 10:00am Easter services