



# Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020

10:30 AM



**Everyone is welcome.** As people of God, St. John's welcomes all 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 nor female." (Galatians 3:28) This is Christ's church, and Christ has bid you come.

## **Ministers: The People of St. John's**

### **Clergy & Staff**

The Rev. Gladys G. Moore, Pastor

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor

Donna Garzinsky, Director of Music

Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator

Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation

The Rev. Dr. Harry Kocotos, Visitation Pastor

Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton

Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

[pastorggmoore@stjohnssummit.org](mailto:pastorggmoore@stjohnssummit.org)

[pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org](mailto:pastorbscalet@stjohnssummit.org)

[dgarzinsky@stjohnssummit.org](mailto:dgarzinsky@stjohnssummit.org)

[crothman@stjohnssummit.org](mailto:crothman@stjohnssummit.org)

[wk154linda@gmail.com](mailto:wk154linda@gmail.com)

We're delighted you're worshipping with us. As part of our ongoing outreach, your voice and your image may be videographed and photographed and used by St. John's for ministry purposes. For any questions or concerns, contact the church office.

### **Prayer Before Worship**

Gracious God, illumine our hearts and minds as the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, so that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may see what is good and right and true. And seeing, help us to do what is pleasing to you, so that your glory becomes visible in our words and deeds. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

*From Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Vol. 1*

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Gathering**

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

*Please stand.*

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God, seeking forgiveness in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

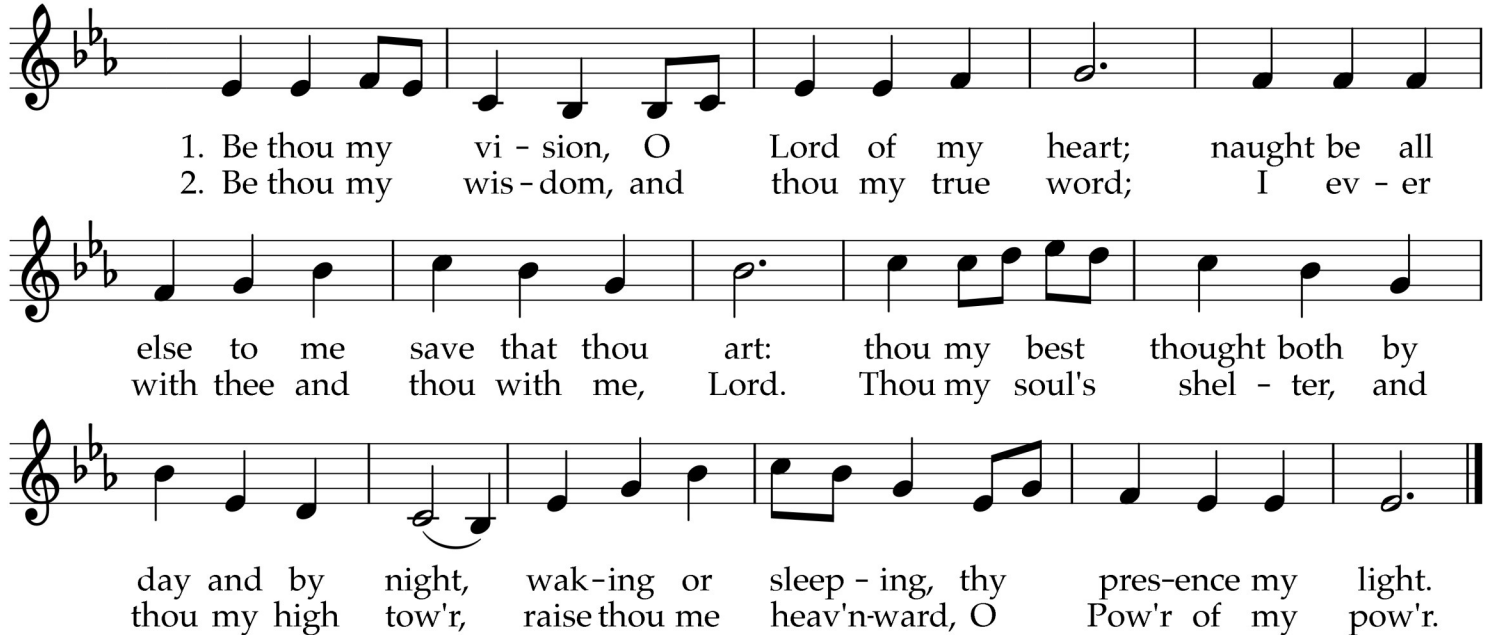
**Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our † Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*Please stand.*

## GATHERING HYMN 793 Be Thou My Vision

*Verses 1 & 2*



1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all  
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er

else to me save that thou art: thou my best thought both by  
with thee and thou with me, Lord. Thou my soul's shel - ter, and

day and by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
thou my high tow'r, raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931  
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



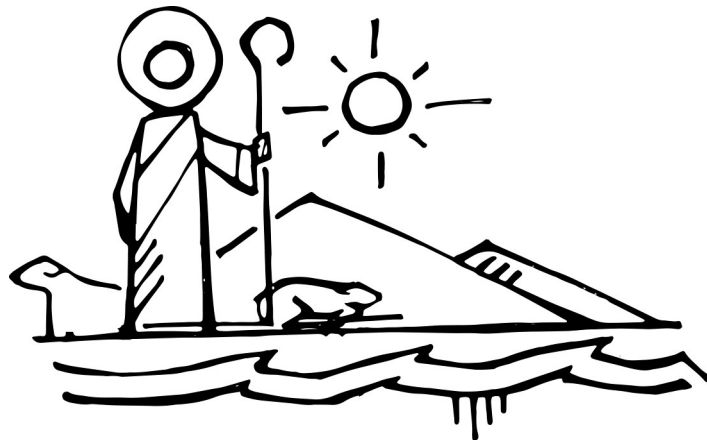
## Word

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

*Please be seated.*

### PSALM 23

- <sup>1</sup>The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
<sup>2</sup>**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.**  
<sup>3</sup>He restoreth my soul:  
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
<sup>4</sup>**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;  
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**  
<sup>5</sup>Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**



**READING** Ephesians 5:8–14

<sup>8</sup>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.”

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* Thanks be to God.

*Please stand.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Lord, we turn to lis - ten to you; send your Word to us a - new. Let your  
stead - fast love sur - round us; lead our hearts to be re - newed.

**GOSPEL** John 9:1–7

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>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.

*The Gospel is proclaimed, concluding:* The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

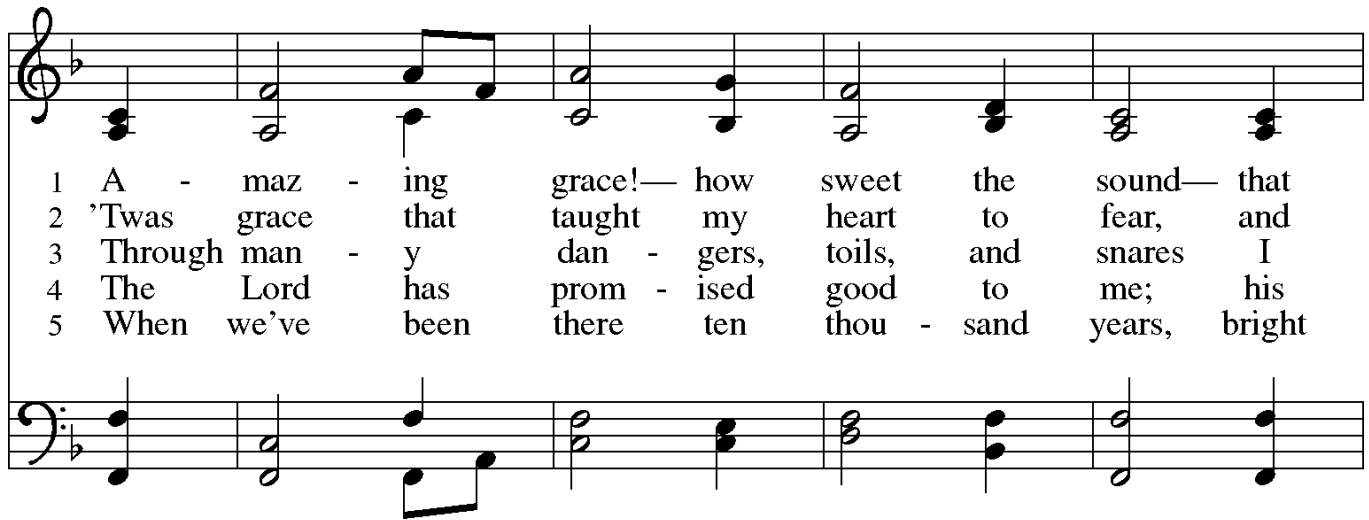
*Please be seated.*

**HOMILY**

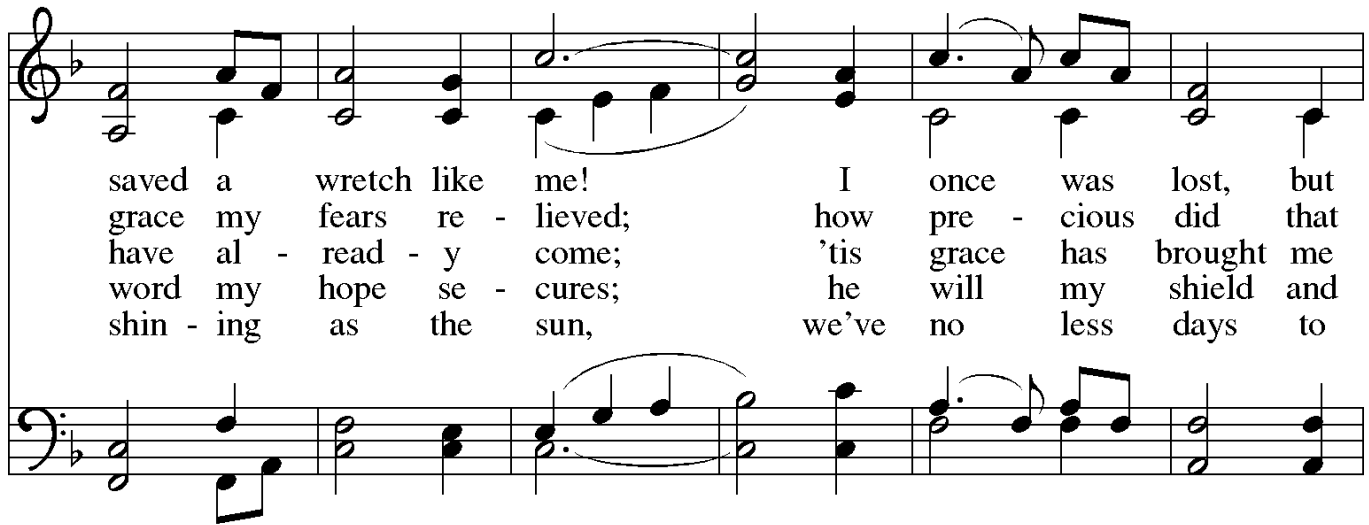
*Silence for reflection*

Please stand.

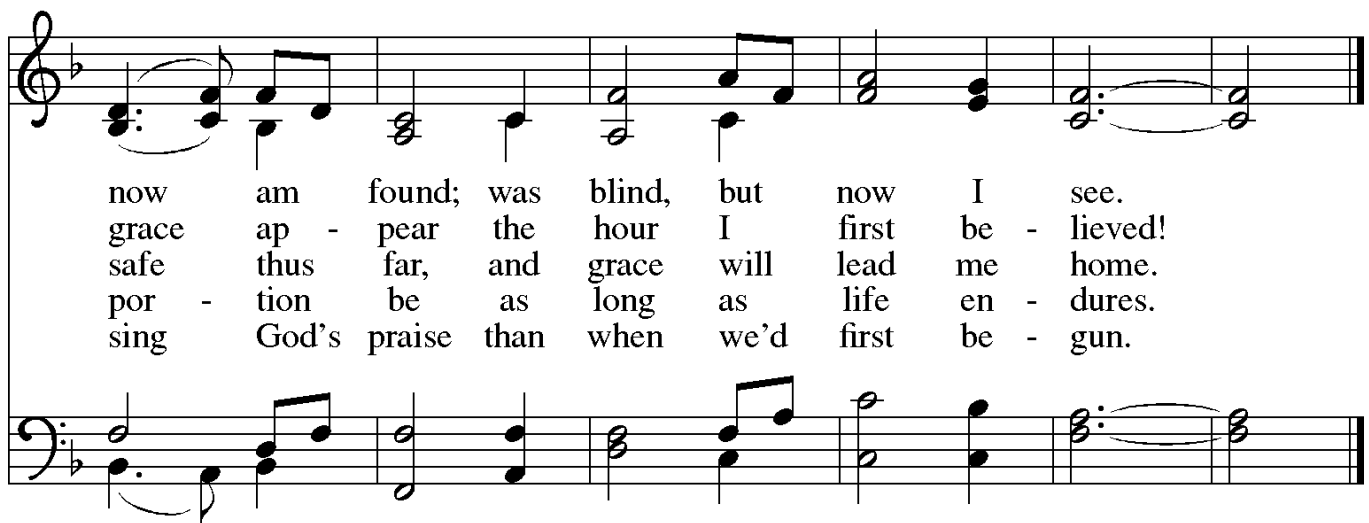
## HYMN OF THE DAY 779 Amazing Grace



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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

**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.**

**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**

Lord in your mercy, . . . **Hear our prayer.**

**Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

And now let us pray as our Savior taught us:

**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.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## **GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, you may visit [www.stjohnssummit.org](http://www.stjohnssummit.org) or scan this code.*





*Please stand.*

## OFFERTORY

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**Who made heaven and earth.**

O give thanks unto the Lord, for the Lord is good.

**God's mercies endure forever.**

Let us pray. **Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we humbly thank you for your goodness to us and to all that you have made. We praise you for your creation, for keeping us and all things in your care, and for all the blessings of this life. Above all we bless you for your immeasurable grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies that with thankful hearts we praise you, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving ourselves to your service and by living in your gifts of holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all worship and praise, now and forever. Amen.**

### Sending

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

## BLESSING

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, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And may Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN 793 Be Thou My Vision

### Verses 3 & 4

3. Rich-es I heed not, nor vain, emp-ty praise, thou mine in -  
4. Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won, may I reach

her - i - tance, now and al - ways: thou and thou on - ly, the  
heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what -

first in my heart, great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
ev - er be - fall, still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931  
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you **Thanks be to God.**

## March 22, 2020

We will continue offering Sunday worship at 10:30 AM via Facebook Live. Whether you have a Facebook account. or not, you can sign on to our [www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit) to access the livestream or the archive of videos. **YOU DON'T NEED AN ACCOUNT.** When you reach the login page, select "NOT NOW" to proceed. Once you reach our page, SCROLL down a bit to see the livestream video. To access the archived videos, select "Videos" on the left sidebar.

**REMEMBER:** You can set up access to your own giving profile AND see the church directory by creating an account with our database system, Servant Keeper. Invitations will be sent out with instructions in the coming days.

**REDUCE, Reuse, Recycle** is the mantra of the environmental movement. St. John's members have been so diligent about recycling plastic that we have collected enough lbs for two benches. Now we are asking you to *please refuse plastic* whenever you can.

**CANCELLED: Lenten Midweek Worship** services on **Wednesdays**, AND Soup Suppers and Fellowship at **6:00 PM**.

**POSTPONED: Pastoral Transition Information Sessions.** These will be rescheduled later in the spring.

**POSTPONED March 22 ASP Meeting.** Next meeting TBD.

**POSTPONED: Tea Party for Cross Roads, March 28, 4:00 PM** has been rescheduled for October 17.

**CANCELLED: Adult Forum & Guest Preacher, March 29.**

## An Update during COVID 19

St. John's friends and family, we are currently living an anxious and uncertain time. The Coronavirus pandemic has upended schools, work, family, and church life in unprecedented ways. Your Church staff is talking daily to address new situations and to plan how to continue to meet the needs of the congregation and the community we are called to serve. Below are a few updates about current plans of how to continue to connect as a congregation even during this time of physical distancing. It goes without saying that plans continue to change, sometimes daily or even hourly.

The most important thing to remember is we are still Church and God is still God. This may be somewhat of a wilderness time for us, but God hasn't brought us this far along the way to abandon us now. We trust and we pray.

The Church now has a Zoom account for remote meetings. You can log on via a computer, tablet, or smartphone. Additionally, you may call in from any phone. This will allow us to see and speak to another one other. Some committees are already making plans to use Zoom and we will be exploring other means of using Zoom in the near future.

There is a lot going on, lots of changes, lots of information, lots of stress. The pastors are proposing hosting virtual check-in and prayer meetings for people to stay connected and share their mutual burdens. If you would be interested in a Zoom check-in meeting, please email [Pastor Blake](mailto:Pastor Blake) and share what days and times would work best for you.

We will continue offering Sunday worship at 10:30 AM via Facebook Live. Whether you have Facebook or not, you can sign on to our [Facebook page](#) to access the live stream or the archive of videos. We may be offering other content on Facebook soon as well.

During this time it is important for the whole congregation to care for one another. If you have a health, mental, or emotional concern, please do not hesitate to reach out to [Pastor Moore](#) or [Pastor Scalet](#). We may not be able to meet in person but we can talk on the phone, set up a Zoom meeting, or just share a quick text. We are here for you. Likewise, all members should make contacting fellow members a priority.



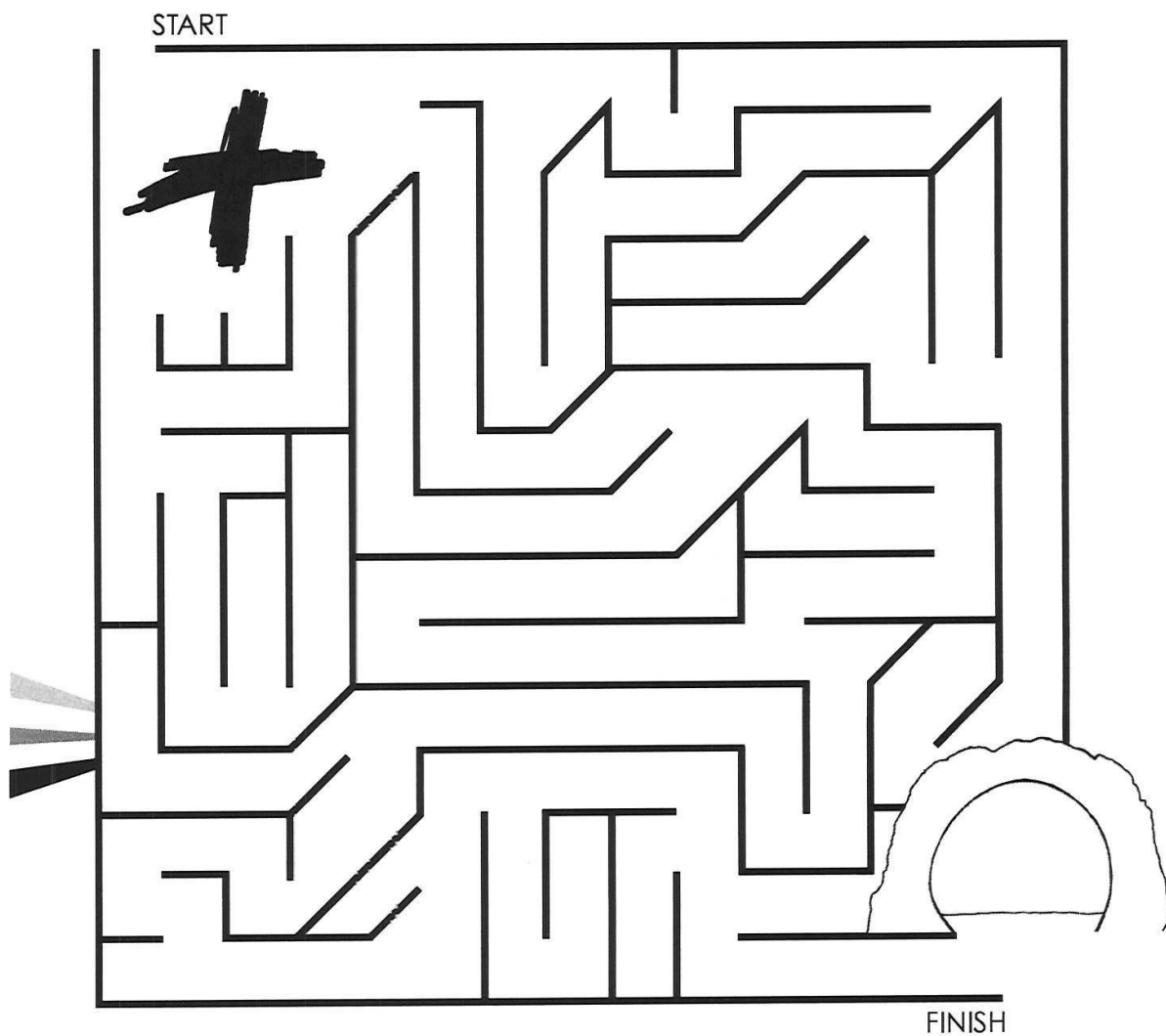
# READER

Lent 4

- Today is the **fourth Sunday** in **Lent**.
- Lent is a time of **sadness** and **thinking**.
- During Lent, we **prepare** for the **joy** of Easter.

## A Lenten Journey

Find the path below that will take you through Lent and all the way to Easter.



Follow the directions below to discover what Jesus said. If you need help, try looking at John 9:5b.

## Memory Verse



Cross out these letters:

- All U's
- Every other T
- All N's
- Every other I
- All S's



Jesus said \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Feeling God's Love

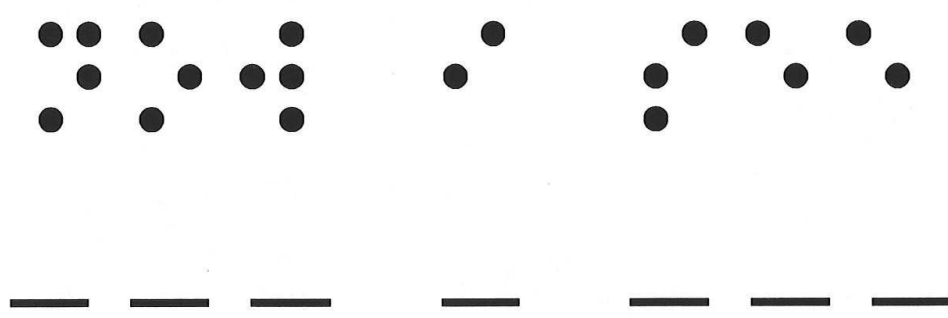
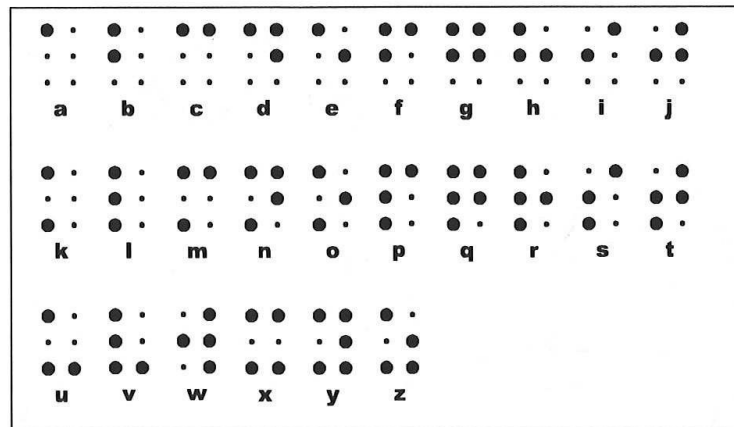
Jesus came to teach and to heal.

Jesus sent a blind man to wash in a pool of water. The blind man could see!

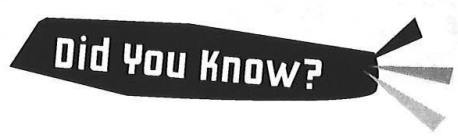
Jesus brought the blind man light. Jesus brings us light, too!

Today, many people who cannot see use Braille to read. They use their fingers to read instead of using their eyes.

Decode the Braille below to figure out what the blind man said. Then use a pencil to push through the back of the dots. Close your eyes and see if you can feel the pattern of each letter.



The giant squid has the largest eyeball of any animal. It can be up to 10 inches (25 cm) in diameter!



## See the Light

During Lent, spring arrives! Birds and other animals come out of their winter nests. The days start to get longer, too. That means that the sun rises earlier and sets later.

Look around your worship space. Do you see light coming in through the windows? There is more light in the spring. This light reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world!

Color in the window below to help remind you that Jesus is our light.







# PRE-READER

Lent 4

- Today is the **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** in **Lent**.
- During Lent, we **prepare** for **Easter**.
- **Prepare** means to **get ready**.

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During Lent we prepare for 6 weeks.

**Color in the six steps on the road. Where are we on this road today? Circle that number.**

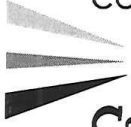




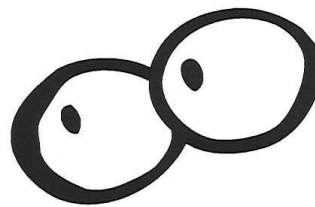
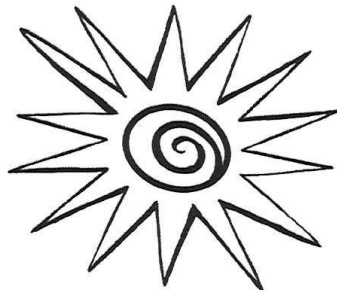
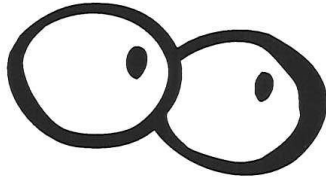
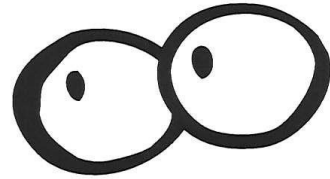
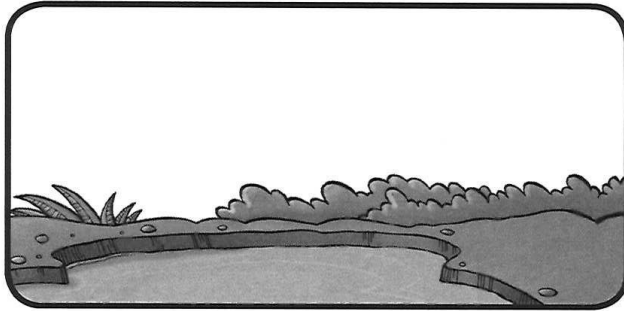
**The blind man remembered Jesus' words,  
"I'll give you light."**



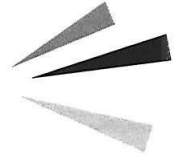
Jesus used water to heal the blind man. The blind man could see the water. He could see his own reflection. He could see the sun shining all around him!



**Color all the things that the man could see.**



Lent is in the spring. In the spring, the sun comes out earlier and stays out longer. Look around your worship space. Find all the windows.



**Do you see light shining through them? As you color in this window, remember that Jesus is our light and that Jesus is always with us.**

