

St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church-Blue Point

4th Sunday of Lent March 22, 2020

Welcome to St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church!!

Prayer before the Service-O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Opening Hymn420
Order of Service-Matins.....pg 219
Psalm 142 (responsively whole verse by whole verse)

I cry out to the LORD with my voice;

With my voice to the LORD I make my supplication.

I pour out my complaint before Him;

I declare before Him my trouble.

When my spirit was overwhelmed within me,

Then You knew my path.

In the way in which I walk

They have secretly set a snare for me.

Look on my right hand and see,

For there is no one who acknowledges me;

Refuge has failed me;

No one cares for my soul.

I cried out to You, O LORD: I said, “You are my refuge,

My portion in the land of the living.

Attend to my cry, For I am brought very low;

Deliver me from my persecutors,

For they are stronger than I.

Bring my soul out of prison, That I may praise Your name;

The righteous shall surround me,

For You shall deal bountifully with me.”

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen**

Old Testament Lesson-Isaiah 42:14-21

“I have held My peace a long time,
I have been still and restrained Myself.
Now I will cry like a woman in labor,
I will pant and gasp at once.
I will lay waste the mountains and hills,
And dry up all their vegetation;
I will make the rivers coastlands,
And I will dry up the pools.
I will bring the blind by a way they did not know;
I will lead them in paths they have not known.
I will make darkness light before them,
And crooked places straight.
These things I will do for them, And not forsake them.
They shall be turned back, They shall be greatly ashamed,
Who trust in carved images, Who say to the molded images,
“You are our gods.”
“Hear, you deaf; And look, you blind, that you may see.
Who is blind but My servant,
Or deaf as My messenger whom I send?
Who is blind as he who is perfect,
And blind as the LORD’S servant?
Seeing many things, but you do not observe;
Opening the ears, but he does not hear.”
The LORD is well pleased for His righteousness’ sake;
He will exalt the law and make it honorable.

Epistle Lesson-Ephesians 5:8-14

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of

darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says:

“Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead,
And Christ will give you light.”

Gospel Lesson-John 9

Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, “Is not this he who sat and begged?”

Some said, “This is he.” Others said, “He is like him.” He said, “I am he.”

Therefore they said to him, “How were your eyes opened?”

He answered and said, “A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed, and I received sight.”

Then they said to him, “Where is He?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.”

Therefore some of the Pharisees said, “This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them.

They said to the blind man again, “What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. And they asked them, saying, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”

His parents answered them and said, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself.” His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, “Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner.”

He answered and said, “Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.”

Then they said to him again, “What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?”

He answered them, “I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?”

Then they reviled him and said, “You are His disciple, but we are Moses’ disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from.”

The man answered and said to them, “Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. Since the world began it has been unheard of that

anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing.”

They answered and said to him, “You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?” And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, “Do you believe in the Son of God?”

He answered and said, “Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?”

And Jesus said to him, “You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you.”

Then he said, “Lord, I believe!” And he worshiped Him.

And Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind.”

Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, “Are we blind also?”

Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, ‘We see.’ Therefore your sin remains.

Hymn.....571
Sermon

Text: John 9

Theme: Who sinned...?

- I. We think that if we have figured out who to blame for something, we have solved the problem**
- II. But that reveals the blindness of man to the depths of his problem**
- III. Only Christ can bring light to bear on this situation**
- IV. Only Christ can heal and save fallen sinners from the effects and condemnation of the curse**

Canticle-Te Deum

Prayers

Benediction

Closing Hymn.....421

The following are the themes of the services that

comprise Lenten Midweek and Holy Week Services, however, at the present time our ability to gather is on hold, given the pandemic and state mandates. The elders will be meeting next Sunday morning, March 29th to evaluate and make decisions about our scheduled services. These will be posted on the church website and on local radio news cancellation lists as needed. In the meantime, both Lenten special services and Sunday service bulletins and a sermon will be posted on the church website, www.stpaulbluepoint.org If you would like a physical copy of the bulletin, please call the pastor and he will put it in your mailbox. If you have prayer requests please call the pastor and he will put it in the bulletin for services. There will also be **daily sermons** posted with brief bulletins each day on the internet. So the Lenten series will be completed and preached, as will other sermons and lessons during this time.

Lenten Midweek Services —The theme will be **Walking with Paul to the Cross and Beyond**. The lessons will be the Epistle lessons from the previous Sunday;

Lenten Midweek 4, March 25th-Ephesians 5:8-14, Theme-The Lord provides light for the saints on the way to the Cross

Lenten Midweek 5, April 1st-Roman 8:1-11, Theme-The Lord provides pilgrims on their way to the Cross with the Spirit

Palm Sunday, April 4th-Philippians 2:5-11, Theme-The mind of Christ enables us to follow Christ to the Cross humility and faith

Maundy Thursday-1 Corinthians 11:23ff, The Lord richly feeds His children, as they make their way to the Cross

Good Friday-Isaiah 53; John 19, Theme-We have arrived at the Cross and ponder what this means for us!

Easter Sunrise-1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Theme-The Lord is Risen!
ALIS Auction will has been postponed until May 8th.

Ladies Aid has placed **flower order** forms in your mailbox. They have to be returned to the Ladies Aid mailbox, with a check made out to the Ladies Aid, by March 22.

Immanuel LYF are selling pork loins and ribs (\$25 each) now until March 31st. Pick up will be Saturday afternoon before

Easter, April 11th, in back parking lot behind Immanuel. Contact Amy Shepard 618-267-9882 or Mindie McManaway 217-343-4081 for info. or to order.

Saturday, March 21, 2020, members of Immanuel will be hosting a fundraiser on the Triangle in Altamont. Porkburgers, chips & drinks will be available and the Ladies Aid of Immanuel will feature homemade pies and other baked goods available for purchase. Serving will be from 10:30 – 1:00 pm.

Central Illinois District 75th Annual LWML

Convention will be held on April 30th – May 2nd at Bethel Lutheran Church, 325 E. Queenwood Rd., Morton, IL 61550. This will be a celebration of our District's 75th Anniversary. Our theme is "Proclaiming Jesus...75 years of Serving the Lord with Gladness". Our theme verse is Psalm 71:17 O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. For our anniversary celebration, there will be some extra activities planned. Starting on Thursday evening there will be an opening worship starting at 7:00pm. All are invited to attend. Friday will begin with registration starting at 8:00 am followed with Bible Study beginning at 9:00 am followed by lunch then servant events from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. There will be an 75th Anniversary Banquet on Friday evening starting at 6:00pm. That will be at Countryside Banquet Facility, Washington, IL. Guest Speaker for Friday and Saturday will be Jan Struck. The Convention will conclude on Saturday May 2nd at Bethel Lutheran Church. More detailed information regarding breakout session, servant events and registration forms are on the Bulletin Board. Please consider coming for just a day or the whole convention to Celebrate LWML CID 75 years of Serving the Lord with Gladness. If there are any questions you can contact Annie Guerrettaz, Jo Ellyn Tappendorf or Elaine Stuckemeyer.

The Ladies of St. John's, Effingham Lydia Guild is hosting the Joint Spring JOY Shop for all ladies, pastors, and guests of the Altamont & Effingham/Shelby Zones. The JOY Shop will be held Thursday, April 23rd at St. John's Effingham. There will be a free will donation. The meal begins at 6:00pm. The

program will begin at approximately 6:45 in the church sanctuary. Theme: “A Time for Everything” based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. Presentation: Haiti mission trip presentation. Ingathering: Non-perishable food items for the St. John’s Effingham Food Pantry. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin if you plan to attend.

Arrangements for the funeral of Gene Moeller-The family of Gene Moeller will be having a funeral/memorial service sometime in the future, when conditions allow.

Prayers-For the family of Gene Moeller who died this past week; For Madeline Anne Kemme born to Matt and Faith Kemme this past Friday; For Paul Peters, the father of Teresa Riley, who has suffered multiple heart attacks; for those afflicted with the viruses this year, and those working in health care. For the school closings.

This Week at St Paul

Sunday:	Matthew 1-2
Monday:	Matthew 3-4
Tuesday:	Matthew 5-7
Wednesday:	Matthew 8-10
Thursday:	Matthew 11-13
Friday:	Matthew 14-16
Saturday:	Matthew 17-19

Those participating-

Pastor-Rev. David Speers

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www.stpaulbluepoint.org

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