## VASHON LUTHERAN CHURCH



Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023
10:30 AM Worship

# Vashon Lutheran Church <br> Fourth Sunday in Lent <br> March 19, 2023 10:30 AM Worship 

PRELUDE:
Marita Ericksen

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Patte Wagner, Lay Leader

Pastor (P): Blessed be the holy Trinity, $\ddagger$ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C: Amen.
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:
Rev. Wayne Bacus
P: Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.
Silence for reflection
P: Holy God,
C: we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, $\ddagger$ forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C: Amen.
Gathering Hymn (next page):

## O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923
Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche, 1833
Text 2000 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL. 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
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P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you.


1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the


## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: 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.

L: A reading from 1 Samuel, Chapter 16.
L: 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." 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.' 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." 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?" 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.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." 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." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." 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." 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." 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. Thanks be to God.

## PSALM: Psalm 23

Dr. Gary Koch, Cantor



The LORD ${ }^{l}$ is my shepherd; *I shall not ${ }^{l}$ be in want.
The LORD makes me lie down ${ }^{\prime}$ in green pastures *and leads me be- ${ }^{\mid}$side still waters. You restore my ${ }^{\prime}$ soul, O LORD, *and guide me along right pathways ${ }^{\prime}$ for your name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall ${ }^{\mid}$fear no evil; *for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they ${ }^{1}$ comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence ${ }^{1}$ of my enemies;
*you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is ${ }^{\text {r }}$ running over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days ${ }^{\mid}$of my life, *and I will dwell in the house of the ${ }^{\mid}$Lord forever.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14
L: A reading from Ephesians, Chapter 5.
L: Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light-for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, 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. Thanks be to God.
Please stand as able

## LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



GOSPEL: John 9:1-41
Rev. Wayne Bacus
P: The holy gospel according to John, Chapter 9. C: Glory to you, O Lord.
P: As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; 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 this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, 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 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?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" 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." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 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." 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. 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."

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

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." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" 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?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. 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." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" 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. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Rev. Wayne Bacus
Congregation stands as able


Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, Southern FFarmony, 1835; art Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921, alt.

THE APOSTLES' CREED:
C: 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:

A: Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A: Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire us by your love as together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

A: Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest springtime bud. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

A: Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials. Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

A: Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; tend all who are sick and comfort those who grieve. We especially remember those for whom we pray either silently or aloud... Merciful God, receive our prayer.

A: God our host, you fill us at your table with more than we could ever ask. Feed us with hunger for justice. Equip the feeding ministries of this congregation and community. Nourish us so we can nourish our neighbors. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

A: God of history, with thanksgiving we remember our ancestors in faith who cared for your people. We praise you for the ways they formed the faith of others and continue to inspire us. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. C: Amen.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

## C: And also with you.

# Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am 



Text: John L, Bell, b, 1949
Music: TAKE ME AS IAM, John L. Bell
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OFFERING PRAYER:
P: Let us pray. God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

Congregation Stands as able

## GREAT THANKSGIVING:

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:


## WORDS OF INSTITUTION/COMMUNION:

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER:

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
C: 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.

Invitation to Communion: P: This is the table, not of this church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little; come, you who have been here often and you who have not been here in a long time. Come, you who have never been before; come, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because the church invites you; this is Christ, and he invites you to meet him right here.

Congregation may be seated
Communion Hymn (next page):

## The Lord's My Shepherd



Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, Edinburgh, 1650
Music: BROTHER JAMES'AIR, James L. Macbeth Bain; arr. Gordon Jacob, 1895-1984
Arr. © Oxford University Press.
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## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

P: Let us pray. Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. Amen.

## BLESSING:

P: God, the giver of love, $\ddagger$ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. Amen.

Sending Song:
ELW, \#793

## Be Thou My Vision



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

DISMISSAL: P: Go in peace. Serve in love. C: Thanks be to God.
POSTLUDE:
Marita Ericksen
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Worship Assistants Today:
Guest Pastor - Rev. Wayne Bacus
Assisting Minister - Patte Wagner
Lector - Nancy Lee
Communion Assistant - Gail Larson
Usher - Jim Dam
Musician - Marita Ericksen

Worship Assistants next week (3/26/23):
Guest Pastor - Rev. Thomas M. Aitken
Assisting Minister - Harriet Nelson
Lector - TBA
Communion Assistants - TBA
Usher - Jim Dam, Quinn D'Artell
Musician - Marita Ericksen

Cantor - Dr. Gary Koch
Communion Set Up - Gail Larson
Flowers - Gary \& Marlee Koch

Cantor - Quinn D'Artell<br>Communion Set Up - TBA<br>Flowers - Gary \& Marlee Koch

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, Rev. Wayne Bacus, for leading us in worship today!
No Sunday Bible study class on Mar. 19, 9:15-10:00 AM.
IFCH Dinner Program: The fourth Thursday of each month VLC is to provide the ingredients for five hand out meals at Vashon Presbyterian Church at 5:00 PM. Contact Patte Wagner: pattewags@aol.com if you wish to help. IFCH will provide containers for packaging the food into meal-to-go bags.

AARP Free Tax Preparation - Thursdays, February 9 - April 7, 2023. Open between 10:00 AM 3:00 PM. By appointment: vashonaarp@gmail.com.

In September, 2023 we are having our annual rummage sale. Please begin gathering items, but keep them home for now. In spring, June Langland will tell you when items can be brought to the church.

Giving Your Offering - If you would like to continue giving an offering to VLC, our mailing address is: Vashon Lutheran Church, P. O. Box 2930, Vashon, WA 98070.

The Care Closet, Medical Equipment/Supplies - 206-473-8715. Vashon Care Network - 206-604-3253.
Email: contact@vashoncarenetwork.org; website: www.vashoncarenetwork.org
The Vashon Ecumenical Book Group will discuss the novel, To Cook a Bear, by Mikael Niemi, 4:00-5:30 PM, Sun., April 2, in the social hall of Vashon Lutheran Church, 18623 Vashon Hwy SW. Cheryl Weise will facilitate. An international bestseller, To Cook a Bear, set in 1852 in Sweden, is the tale of a runaway boy mentored by a scholarly pastor as they investigate a murder in their village $\&$ discuss life's deepest questions. The villagers believe a predatory bear is the murderer. But in a community riven by exploitation, alcoholism, \& revivalism, the boy \& the pastor are convinced that a far worse killer is on the loose. Niemi, who grew up \& lives in the northernmost part of Sweden, has won national \& international awards for his writing, including best book of the year awards in Sweden \& the UK. Our May 7 book, facilitated by Deborah Anderson, is The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, and A Jew -- Three Women Search for Understanding, by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, \& Priscilla Warner.

Contact Gail Larson (206/567-4779) with your prayer requests.

## OUR FAITH IN ACTION

## SUNDAY

$1^{\text {st }}$
10:30 AM
April 2, 4:00-5:30 PM
6:30-8:30 PM

## MONDAY

10:00 AM
March 20, 6:00 PM

## TUESDAY

$2^{\text {nd }}, ~ 9: 00$ AM - 1:00 PM
$3^{\text {rd }}, \mathbf{1 0 : 0 0}$ AM - noon
Food Bank Sunday
Worship
Ecumenical Book Group at VLC
AA Group

Intercessory Prayer Group
Mission Planning Committee ZOOM Mtg.

## Quilt Sewers Group <br> Vashon Quilting Group

Lutheran Quilters Group<br>Council ZOOM Meeting

March 22, 7:00 PM

## THURSDAY

Feb. 9-Apr. 7, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Mar. 23, 5:00 PM
AARP Free Tax Prep, by appointment
IFCH Dinner prepared by VLC, served at VPC
FRIDAY
7:00-8:30 PM

AA Group for Men



Vashon Lutheran Church
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2930, Vashon WA 98070
Street Address: 18623 Vashon Hwy. SW
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 11 AM-2 PM
Phone: 206-463-2655
email: vlc98070@centurytel.net

# Hymns for Mar. 19, 2023 

ELW, 722

ELW, 779

ELW, 814

ELW, 778

ELW, 793

O Christ, Your Heart Compassionate

Amazing Grace

Take, O Take Me As I Am

The Lord's My Shepherd

Be Thou My Vision

