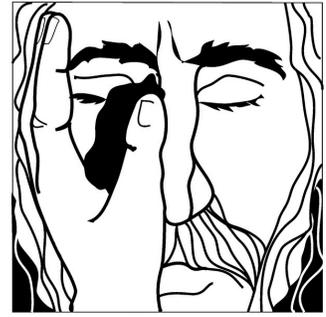




March 22, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Lent



Jesus spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then the man went and washed and came back able to see.

WELCOME

OPENING LITANY

We gather together—

the seekers, the dreamers, the shooting-star wishers,
in hopes of seeing God.

We gather together—

the curious, the hungry, the loving, the lonely,
in hopes of finding peace.

We gather together—

the excluded, the needy, the doubters, the healed,
in hopes of seeing Jesus.

So come to the well, come to the table.

Come, let us worship God. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us wor - ship and bow down, let us kneel be - fore the Lord, our God, our
 4 D/A Asus A D2 Gmaj9/B D2/A
 Mak - er. Come, let us wor - ship and bow down, let us
 7 Em7 G D/A Asus A D/F# G D Asus A D/F#
 kneel be - fore the Lord, our God, our Mak - er. For He is our God, and
 11 G/B Em7 F#/A# G2/B A F#sus F# G A
 we are the peo - ple of His pas - sure, and the sheep of His hand, just the sheep of His hand.

CALL TO CONFESSION

As God created humans from the dust of the ground, Jesus heals, using that same dust from the ground. We may cringe at this act of spitting, of making mud, of touching eyes, of washing in a pool, but that is the everydayness of God's presence among us in Christ.

May our hearts open to God's work among us now, as even in the messiness of our lives and struggles, God creates the assurance of forgiveness. Let us pray:

**Holy God, your presence among us can make us uncomfortable.
 Your light reveals what we try to hide.
 We misunderstand your power in our world;
 we doubt your healing; we question your promises.
 We cling to what we think we know
 and fail to rely on your daily mercies.
 Forgive us according to your steadfast love.
 Lead us like a shepherd to pastures of peace,
 through every valley,
 to tables of abundant blessing and community.
 Open our eyes to see and our hearts to seek
 Create in us a vision for your grace.
 With hope we pray, Amen.**

GATHERING SONG ELW 793 “Be Thou My Vision”

PRAYER FOR THE WORD

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.

OUR SCRIPTURE IN SONG: “Psalm 23: The Lord’s My Shepherd” See insert

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
 slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The gospel according to John, the ninth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 9:1-41 As he 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, Jesus spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then the man 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 he.” 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." 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, 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 who were with 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 our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 779 "Amazing Grace"

APOSTLES' CREED p. 105

PRAYERS

OFFERING AND OFFERING SONG ELW 324 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

OFFERING PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread;

**and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION: ELW page 154 "Lamb of God"

SONGS FOR COMMUNION

Gold 219 "Jesus is a Friend of Sinners"

Gold 229 "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

ELW 811 "On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

In this sacrament, you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with trust and faith, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:

God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us,

and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ☩ bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG ELW 805 "Lead On, O King Eternal"

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

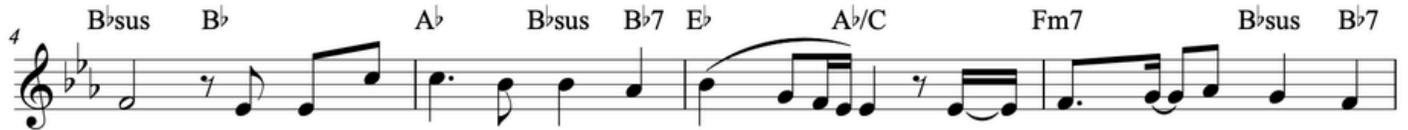
Words and Music by
Stuart Townend

VERSE

♩ = 64



1. The Lord's my Shep - herd, I'll not want. He makes me lie in pas - tures
2. He guides my ways in right - eous - ness, and He a - noints my head with
3. And though I walk the dark - est path, I will not fear the e - vil



green. He leads me by the still, still wa - ters, His good - ness re - stores my
oil; And my cup, it o - ver - flows with joy, I feast on His pure de -
one; For You are with me, and Your rod and staff are the com - fort I need to



soul. And I will trust in You a - lone, and I will trust in You a -
lights.
know.



lone; For Your end - less mer - cy fol - lows me, Your good - ness will lead me home. —

Worship Volunteers Today

Pastor Sherri Larson

Musician: Dana Vruwink

Lector: Jeanette Jacobson and Angie Dahlberg

Acolyte: Colton Fostervold

Ushers: Ruth & Craig Aurand

Altar Committee: Kathy Vruwink, Cathy McClain

Council members on duty: Angie Dahlberg, Jim Oyen

Coming Up at Tripolis

Today: 9:30am Sunday School; 11am worship

Monday: Newsletter Article Information Due

Tuesday: 9am Quilting

Wednesday: 7pm Lenten Worship at Tripolis

Next Sunday: 9:30am Sunday School; 11am worship



Wednesday, March 25: 7pm at Tripolis

Maundy Thursday, April 2: 7pm at Ebenezer

Good Friday, April 3: 7pm at Tripolis

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Flowers in the sanctuary are in honor of Barb and Cal Freeman's 50th wedding anniversary on March 20.

Jaxon and Alex with Jeanette at First Communion instruction last week. Three students from Ebenezer also attended the class and will soon receive first communion in worship.



Special Offerings

Offerings received at Tripolis during Lent and Holy Week are directed to Willmar Area Food Shelf & Ridgewater College Lutheran Campus Ministry.



The Kandiyohi Fire Department & First Responders will be hosting a pancake feed on Sunday, March 29 from 8am-1pm. Free-will donations are appreciated and will benefit the Kandiyohi Firemen's Association.

TRIPOLIS LUTHERAN CHURCH
SPRING BRUNCH
 & QUILT RAFFLE
SATURDAY, APRIL 11
8:30-10:30 AM

MEAL INCLUDES: SCRAMBLED EGGS, FRENCH TOAST, SAUSAGE, FRUIT, AND BEVERAGE.

- freewill donation for meal
- quilt raffle tickets \$2

proceeds support local & global missions



If you would like give a monetary gift and/or flower in memory or in honor of someone during this Easter season, please let Renae know of the gift so that it can be recognized in the Easter Sunday bulletin by filling out the form below. Deadline for this is noon on Sunday, March 29.

Please bring flowers to the church before 9:00am on Saturday, April 4. You may pick up the plant after Easter

Sunday worship service or you may leave the plant for all to enjoy.

If you are giving a monetary gift, please indicate where you would like it designated on the form below.

YOUR NAME: _____

FLOWER TYPE: _____

MONETARY GIFT AMOUNT: _____ DESIGNATED FOR: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____



Please fill out this form and place it in the offering plate or the secretary mailbox by Sunday, March 29. You can also give the information directly to Renae or via e-mail at tripolis.ebenezer.churches@gmail.com

