

I hope this finds you and your family doing well and keeping safe in all you do. The early church met in homes in what were called 'house churches'. Because of the coronavirus our Lord of Life church family is now meeting in 'house churches.' Below is a short liturgy for you to use on Sunday, March 22 at 10:30 which is the time we would normally gather for worship. I hope you will join other members who will be worshipping at that time.

Please stay safe and let me know if there is anything the church can do for you.

God bless

Pastor

**Sunday, March 22**

**Lent 4**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

L: *All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist. F: **Amen.**

L: If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?

Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

F: **Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**

L: Receive good news: God turns to you in love. "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

L: 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.**

### **Gospel: John 9:1-41- This is the story of the man born blind**

1. What do you think it would be like to be blind from birth?
2. Why did the religious leaders doubt that this was really the man who was born blind?
3. Why did his parents seem to deny that this was their son?
4. Though the religious leaders and the parents were not physically blind, they were most definitely spiritually blind. Are there times when we too are spiritually blind?
5. What did/does Jesus do to heal our spiritually blindness?

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of insight, open the hearts of the church and the world to all who testify to your deeds of power. Raise up voices in your church that are often silenced or overlooked due to age, gender expression, race, or economic status. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, empower us to care for the land and all living things that dwell in it and beneath it. Provide rich soil for crops to grow. Bring rain to lands suffering drought. Protect hills and shorelines from damage caused by erosion. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, bring peace to all people and nations. Anoint leaders who seek goodness, righteousness, and truth on behalf of all. Frustrate the efforts of those who would seek to cause violence or terror. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of insight, you care for our needs even before we ask. Come quickly to all who seek prayer this day (*especially*). Accomplish healing through the work of doctors, nurses, physical therapists, nutritionists, and all who tend to human bodies. Hear us, O God.

Be with all of your people as we seek healing from this coronavirus, especially be with the medical staffs of all healing facilities, the researchers, and others as they work to bring healing to all.

Be especially with those who think that this is not a big issue and grant them special wisdom and insight.

**Your mercy is great.**

\*Here other intercessions may be offered.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**The Benediction-** The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine down upon you and give you peace.