



Zion
Mennonite
Church

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Office hours Tuesdays to Fridays 9:00 am to 12:00 noon
Primary and Youth **Sunday School 9:30 AM**
We gather to Worship each Sunday 10:45 AM

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Song Leader – Ken D.

Worship Leader – Emily R.

show us Lent 4

Jesus looks at inner attitudes, not external appearance. The church leaders were blind to their sins and so easily passed judgment on others. All of their empty words could not save them. The blind man only had to say, “I believe.” Those options are given to us today also. We have to say, “I believe,” so Jesus can show us where we are blind.

Prelude

Gathering Song HWB #5 *There is a place of quiet rest*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd!

People: We have everything we need.

Leader: The Lord leads us beside peaceful waters and right paths, comforting us through the valleys of despair, and preparing for us a rich feast.

People: We have more than we need.

Leader: The Lord anoints us for healing, strengthening, gifting, and blessing.

People: Our cups overflow with goodness and mercy.

ALL: We will live in the house of the Lord forever.

Prayer

Praise Songs HWB #100 *Praise him, praise him*

HWB #76 *Praise, I will praise you, Lord*

Giving our Tithes & Offerings

Song HWB #545 *Be thou my vision*

Sharing and Prayer

Scripture Readings 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23;
Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Message *Show us how you define blindness* Lois Bukar
Song HWB #343 *My hope is built on nothing less*
Benediction on back of bulletin
Sending Song HWB #421 *Bless'd be the tie that binds*
Postlude

Pray for:

- our shut-ins and those with ongoing health concerns and their caregivers
- those grieving the loss of loved ones
- our Leadership Team
- Swift Current: St. Stephen's Anglican Church
- Mennonite Church Sask: Aberdeen Mennonite Church, pastor Curtis Wiens
- reduction of fears and panic surrounding the spread of the coronavirus

MCC Connects: MCC is excited to introduce a **Centennial webinar** for donors and supporters. This is a great opportunity to ‘meet’ (virtually) with reps from three of our key Centennial project locations: Lebanon, DR Congo and Chad. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to join other supporters from across the country! This will take place Wednesday, April 15 at 11am CST. Stay tuned for more information or call the office to learn more at 306.665.2555.

Increasing threats to pastors and farmers in Colombia

The Colombian Mennonite Church ask us to pray for peace in Colombia. Although there has been a peace plan signed with the FARC forces (Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia), they report an increase in threats and violence against peasant leaders and pastors in some areas. Pray that God's peace that transforms lives will reign in this region.

MWC pastor visits prairie provinces and urges prayer over terrorist activity in Burkina Faso

In the last few weeks Pastor Siaka Troare from Burkina Faso, chair of the Deacons Commission for Mennonite World Conference (MWC), has been speaking in several places in Manitoba and Alberta. He urges us to pray for peace as terrorist groups randomly kill people gathered in churches, mosques and markets. After a visit from the MWC leadership to pray for groups in Burkina Faso, the head of the military said that this cannot be changed by military force but only by prayer that God will transform the hearts and minds of these groups. Pray that God's power of transformative love will flood this land.

(back of bulletin)

God's Revealing Light

Confession

God, we confess that we are quick to judge others and not acknowledge our own sins and weaknesses. (*Pause for silence.*)

We confess that we do not always follow your example because immorality, impurity, and greed are part of our lives, and obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes come from our lips. God, we need your light to shine on us to expose the things we say and do that are not pleasing to you. (*Pause.*)

Forgive us our sins.

Assurance of Pardon

Though your hearts were once filled with darkness, now you are full of the light of the Lord. This light within you produces only what is good and right and true. Let the Holy Spirit fill and control you. Walk in the light for you are no longer blind.

Benediction

Leave from here knowing that you are a forgiven sinner with the light and power of God living in and through you so that those who are spiritually blind can say, "I believe!"

**Also highly contagious are
kindness, patience, love, enthusiasm, and a
positive attitude.
Don't wait to catch it from others.
Be the carrier.**

Sermon Outline: John 9:1-41

Introduction: Early Reformers tried to revive the church from within, to no avail.

A. Habits of 'what we know'

- v.2 Disciples
- v. 8 Community
- v. 16 Pharisees
- v. 18, 24, 29 Jews

B. Habit of Resistance

- v. 4 limit
- v. 34 attack
- v. 39 result

C. Habit of Humility

- v. 12 acknowledge – I don't know
- v. 36 ask – who is he?
- v. 38 respond – I believe

Conclusion: May we not be in the category of those who say 'we see' while our sin remains (v. 41) Let us ask God to help us see God's call more clearly, so that God can use the gifts He has given us.