

Christ the King Lutheran Church

March 22, 2020

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision

arr. John Turner

CALL TO WORSHIP

O Lord, You have searched me and known me.

I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully known.

You know where I've been and You know where I'll be.

I cannot escape You. If I walk among the stars or sleep in the deepest caverns of the Earth, You are there. Your hand is upon me, even now.

Your eyes beheld me when I was yet unformed. It was You who crafted me in my mother's womb.

I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Your thoughts and plans, they overwhelm me.

Yet even at the end of eternity, I am still with You.

Drive out all wickedness, maliciousness, evil, and hatred.

Drive it out from me, and lead me in the ancient way - the narrow and the difficult way that leads to life.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Invitation to Confession – Peggy Indahl's story

Being a baby boomer, I grew up with lots of kids in our neighborhood... we rode bikes together, slept outside under makeshift clothesline tents, played endless games of baseball & kickball, and generally all got along. All the families were similar in that we were all White & middle class. Life was good. I had very little exposure to people of color, but I think if I had, I would have assumed that life was good for them as well.

Fast forward to my high school days... I learned about the Civil Rights movement and the efforts of Martin Luther King, Jr. and his followers, to end legalized segregation and discrimination. All of that seemed so remote to me and although I felt empathetic to their cause, I was otherwise unaffected. I know now, that that is one of the privileges of being white – you can sit on the sidelines. Or can you?

Moving on to 2012-2017, and the shooting deaths of Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Philando Castile, and 9 parishioners from an AME church in Charleston, SC, ... just to name a few - called "heartbreaks that are a product of America's history of racist ideas", by Ibram Kendi, author of Stamped from The Beginning. My white privilege once again allowed me to push these horrific events to the back of my mind. At the same time, I felt really unsettled. A lot of the buzz words surrounding the shootings began to haunt me – words like racism, white supremacy, implicit bias & white fragility.

To help me sort through these words and feelings, I invited the members of CTK into a study of the book, Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in The Story of Race, by Debby Irving. In this study, I discovered the meaning of these words in the context of my life, and it wasn't pretty. I experienced too many stunning awakenings to go into here, but overall, I learned that my white skin had paved the way for a life full of opportunities and rewards that I thought were available to all people. That is not the case. The playing field in America is not level. There are drastically different rules for different people. How could I, a seemingly "good person", have been so clueless?

Unison Prayer of Confession

We confess that there are times in our lives when we want to build a clothesline tent and hide away from the complexities of injustice - including racism and white supremacy. It is easy to turn away from our neighbors and to become a bystander. At times we allow our fear of doing something wrong, our guilt, or our overwhelm at the enormity of injustice keep us from acting and we become bystanders. Sometimes, we even hide ourselves from the realities of injustice happening to ourselves and our neighbors in an effort not to feel bad. Forgive us, O God. We know we are not powerless and yet, we act as if we are.

Assurance of Grace

I am continuing to learn the extent of my privilege. And, I know that God is not done with me yet. God promises to transform me into a servant of God's love, if only I remain open.

And, so, when I wake in the morning, I give God thanks for the gift of a new day, I pray for vision to see the world through God's loving eyes, and I ask God to use me to narrow the gap of the division that separates me from my neighbor.

GATHERING HYMN

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

ELW 452

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

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.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL READING: John 9:1-41

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Amazing Grace

ELW 779 vs. 1-4

APOSTLE'S CREED

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 GOD'S PEOPLE

OFFERING *Give by mobile: Text "GIVE" to 320-313-1815, by mail or on our website – www.ctkb.org/generosity/*

LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

ELW 656

BLESSING

Worship Leaders

Preaching
Presiding
Children's Message
Organist/Music Director

Pastor Rory Philstrom
Pastor Maria Anderson-Lippert
Brittany McDonald
Bjorn Gustafson

In your prayers this week, please remember:

- **The family of Clayton Dalby at his death on March 12. Please keep his family in your prayers.**
- **Continuing Prayers: Laurie Youmans** (sister-in-law of Pam Jaye & Karen Youmans), **Lois Torvik, Steve Casperson, Jim Knutson, Ginny Bergerson, Christine Sommers-Austin** (Carolyn Tillotson's sister), **Jaden Hanson** (relative of Lorie Aljoe), **Pastor Dave Valen, Char Weidenbach, Miriam Hecht, Jim Keefe** (Jamie Hester's dad), **Stacey Studiner** (Ellis & Sharon Holman's daughter), **Wayne Shimer & Dan Nevers** (Family of Darlene Proehl), **John Peterson** (brother of Jim Stoll), **Helen Peterson, MaryAnn Jaye** (Pam Jaye's mother-in-law), **Janet White** (Mike Haddox sister-in-law) **Laura Grondin** (Shirley Smith's daughter), **Marloe Anderson**, and **Sultan Al-Saud** (grandson of Don Haugo)
- **New Prayers: Shirley Smith, and Sig Backlin**
- **Carol Trewartha** and all who are homebound
- **Rev. Philip and Lou-Marie Knutson, South Africa; Rev. Dorcas Wang, China and Peace Center for the Blind in Jerusalem**
- **Global Health Ministries**

March Gift of Love

Feed My Starving Children

Since 1987, Feed My Starving Children has delivered nutritious meals to malnourished children in 70 countries – places where hunger related illnesses are the leading cause of death for children. Providing FMSC MannaPack meals to those without a sustainable source of food creates a solid foundation to help them regain their footing.

Together, we make a difference though *Thrivent Choice*

A heartfelt thanks to all of you who directed *Choice Dollars* to Christ the King. As a reminder, eligible Thrivent Financial members who have any remaining *2019 Choice Dollars* have until **March 31, 2020** to direct them. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more or call **1-800-847-4836** and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt. And ... thank you, thank you, thank you!

Spring Plant Sale

Spring is coming! Our Spring Plant Sale has begun – and even though we may not be meeting for a while – spring will come!! We are using Gerten's again this year due to their excellent quality. Last year our proceeds helped send 9 CTK kids to Sugar Creek Bible Camp. **Orders and money are due April 20** with plants available for pick up the **mid May**. You can pick up a form outside of the office, or have it mailed. It is also on our website under upcoming events. You can mail in your order or call Rachel Bernier at 612-208-5874 or email her johnsonrachela@gmail.com. Thank you!

Easter Flowers:

We will not be having flowers for the altar, but we will be using your donations to purchase memorial flowers for our outdoor gardens. If you have not turned in a form and still want to participate (we will still be posting the "honor of or in memory of"), **please call the office 952-881-8600 or email Jane V. at jvevea@ctkb.org by March 29.**

VEAP's March Food & Fund Drive

You can still drop off your donations at VEAP. We also encourage members to donate money. With just \$1, VEAP can provide food for families to make 6 meals! Their goal is 75,000 pounds of food and \$175,000. **Don't forget dog & cat food is also needed!** Thank you!

**Bible Reading for next week:
John 11:1-45**

Digital Schedule!

Sundays

9:30am - Sunday Worship Posted on YouTube, Facebook, and www.ctkb.org/services/
11am - Digital Coffee Hour on Zoom

Daily

10am - Digital Devotional on Facebook Live
Written Devotionals via email or at www.ctkb.org/devotional/

Tuesdays

2pm - Community Announcements via Constant Contact

Wednesdays in Lent

12noon - Bible Study on Zoom
6pm - Evening Worship Posted on YouTube, Facebook, and www.ctkb.org/services/