

Al's Interpretation of "Two Fisherman and a Blind Man Walking"



JAMES, BARTiMAEUS, & JOHN

2nd Sunday in Lent – February 25, 2024

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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Entrance Words and Invocation

based on Joel 2:12-13,15-17

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

P: Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people.
Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children.

C: **We are gathered.**

Where is our God?

P: The LORD declares to you, "Yet even now, return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
and rend your hearts and not your garments."

C: **Will He spare us?**

P: Return to the LORD, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

C: **He has sent this blessing upon us. Amen.**

Opening Hymn

Christ, Our Human Likeness Sharing

LSB 847



1 Christ, our hu - man like - ness shar - ing, Heav - en's love on
2 Hear the word that Christ has spo - ken, Help the weak, the
3 Christ, in ev - 'ry con - gre - ga - tion Build Your tem - ple,
4 Come, O liv - ing Christ, re - new us, As of old in



earth por - trayed; Christ the Shep - herd, tend - ing, car - ing,
hun - gry feed; See the pow'rs of dark - ness bro - ken,
stone by stone, With Your word as firm foun - da - tion
wind and flame; With the Spir - it's pow'r en - due us,



In His death our ran - som paid: Christ the Sav - ior,
Sin - ners par - doned, cap - tives freed: Christ the Sav - ior,
For a faith ma - tured and grown: Christ the Sav - ior,
Ser - vants of Your sav - ing name: Christ the Sav - ior,



Christ the Ser - vant, Be Your life in us dis - played.
Christ the Ser - vant, Help us meet our neigh - bor's need.
Christ the Ser - vant, Make in us Your Gos - pel known.
Christ the Ser - vant, Christ whose king - dom we pro - claim.

Confession of Sin and Absolution

based on Ezekiel 33:7,10-11,14,16 and Isaiah 12:1-2

P: The LORD said to His servant Ezekiel,

“I have made a watchman for the house of Israel.

Whenever you hear a word from my mouth,
you shall give them warning from me.”

Hear now today, you people of God,

His word of warning that still comes to us:

“I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die.’”

**C: *Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us,
and we rot away because of them.***

How then can we live?

P: It is true what you have said, but the Lord GOD declares to you:

“As I live, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked,
but that the wicked turn from his way and live.”

Turn back, repent, return to the Lord your God,

for with Him there is forgiveness and mercy and grace evermore.

**C: *We turn back to You, O Lord;
we repent; we have returned to You, Our God. Amen.***

P: And the LORD declares,

“None of the sins that you have committed shall be remembered against you.

You have done what is just and right; you shall surely live.”

For the Lord grants you His righteousness; His new life is yours.

Therefore, as His called and ordained servant in Jesus Christ,

I forgive you all your sin

in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *Amen.*

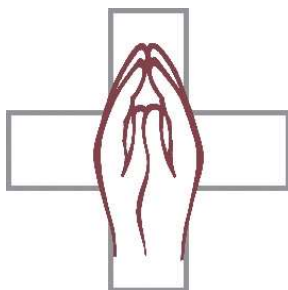
I give thanks to You, O LORD,

because even though You were angry with me,

Your anger turned away, so that You might comfort me.

Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid;

for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.



Song of Praise

Change My Heart, O Lord

Change my heart, oh God. ___ Make it ev - er true. ___

Change my heart, oh God. ___ May I be like You. ___

You are _ the pot - ter. I ___ am the clay.

Mold me _ and make ___ me. This is what I pray. ___

Change my heart, oh God. ___ Make it ev - er true. ___

Change my heart, oh God. ___ May I be like You. ___

CCLI Song # 1565
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Today's Narrative Lectionary Reading

Mark 10:32-52 (VOICE)

³² At length, they made their way toward Jerusalem. Jesus was walking ahead of them. As they neared the city, wonder and amazement filled them. But soon those who were following began to tremble.

Jesus (taking the twelve aside): ³³ Look, we are going up to Jerusalem, and there the Son of Man is going to be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes. They shall seek His death and deliver Him to the outsiders to carry out that sentence. ³⁴ Then people will mock Him, spit upon Him, whip Him, and kill Him. But on the third day, He will rise again.

³⁵ Two of the twelve—the sons of Zebedee *as they were known*—approached Jesus and pulled Him aside.

James and John: Teacher, will You do something for us if we ask it of You?

Jesus: ³⁶ What is it that you want?

James and John: ³⁷ *Master*, grant that we might sit on either side of You, one at Your right hand and one at Your left, when You come into the glory of Your *kingdom*.

Jesus: ³⁸ You don't know what it is you're asking. Can you drink from the cup I have to drink from or be ritually washed in baptism with the baptism that awaits Me?

James and John: ³⁹ We can.

Jesus: You will indeed drink from the cup I drink from and be baptized with the baptism that awaits Me. ⁴⁰ But to sit at My right or at My left is an honor I cannot grant. That will be given to those for whom it has been prepared.

⁴¹ When the other ten heard about this request, they were angry with James and John; ⁴² but Jesus stopped them.

Jesus: You know that among the nations of the world the great ones lord it over the little people and act like tyrants. ⁴³ But that is not the way it will be among you. Whoever would be great among you must serve and minister. ⁴⁴ Whoever wants to be great among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ Even the Son of Man came not to be served but to be a servant—to offer His life as a ransom for others.

⁴⁶ *By that time*, they had reached Jericho; as they passed through the town, a crowd of people followed along. They came to a blind beggar, Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, who sat beside the *main road*. ⁴⁷ When he was told that Jesus of Nazareth was passing in that throng, he called out in a loud voice.

Bartimaeus: Jesus, Son of David, take pity on me and help me!

Disgusted by the blind man's public display, others in the crowd tried to silence him *until the Master passed*.

Crowd #1: ⁴⁸ Be quiet. Shush.

Bartimaeus (still louder): Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!

⁴⁹ Jesus stopped where He stood. *The crowd stopped with Him*. He told those *near the front of the crowd* to call the blind man forward.

Crowd #2 (to Bartimaeus): Good news! *Jesus has heard you*. Listen—He calls for you. Get up and go to Him.

⁵⁰ Bartimaeus cast aside his *beggar's robe* and stepped forward, *feeling his way* toward Jesus.

Jesus: ⁵¹ What do you want from Me?

Bartimaeus: Teacher, I want to see.

Jesus: ⁵² Your faith has made you whole. Go in peace.

In that moment, Bartimaeus could see again; and from that time on, he followed Jesus.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Greeting and Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner. Open my eyes to see you as the One who died that I might live. Fill me with your Spirit that I might humbly and faithfully fulfill the ministry you have given me. And give me your heart, the heart of a servant, putting the needs of others before my own. All to the glory of our Father.

C: **Amen.**

Anthem

We Had a Share in His Agony

Adult Choir

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

You've heard of the Carpenter from Galilee,
O Lord, a fearless prophet man was He, O Lord.
You've heard of the Carpenter from Galilee,
A fearless prophet man was He.
We had a share in His agony, O Lord.
They found Him in Gethsemane,
O Lord, they crucified Him on a tree, O Lord.
Found Him in Gethsemane,
The crucified Him on a tree.
We had a share in His agony, O Lord.
Oh high on a hill called Calvary, O Lord,
He died on a cross to set us free, O Lord.
High on a hill called Calvary,
He died on a cross to set us free.
We had a share in His agony, O Lord.
We had a share in His agony,
O yes, my Lord!

Verse

P: O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

Hebrews 12:2

C: the author and perfecter of our faith,

P: who for the joy that was set before him

C: endured the cross, despising the shame,

P: and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

C: Now is the time of God's favor; now is the day of salvation.

2 Corinthians 6:2b

P: Turn us again, O God of our salvation,

Psalms 85:4, 4:6, 37:6, 113:7

C: that the light of Your face may shine on us.

P: May Your justice shine like the sun;

C: and may the poor be lifted up.

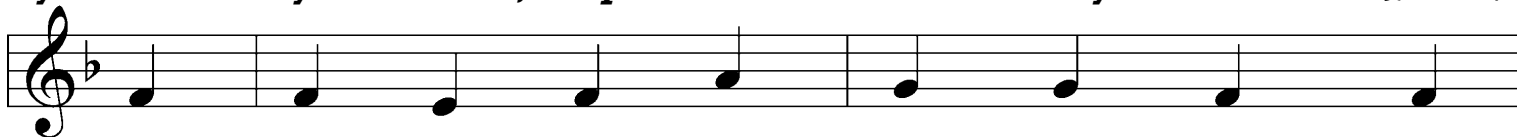
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way

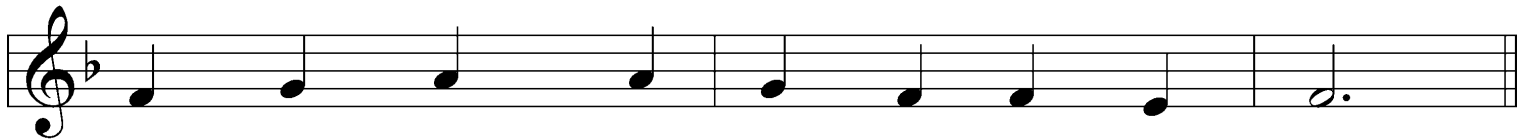
LSB 857 sts. 1-4



1 Lord, help us walk Your ser - vant way Wher -
2 You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, But
3 No gold - en scep - ter but a towel You
4 You bid us bend our hu - man pride Nor



ev - er love may lead And, bend - ing low, for -
pow'r You laid a - side. You lived Your years in
place with - in the hands Of those who seek to
count our - selves a - bove The low - est place, the



get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er's need.
ser - vant - hood; In low - li - ness You died.
fol - low You And live by Your com - mands.
mean - est task That waits the gift of love.

Sermon

"Who Asks For What From Jesus?"

Confession of Faith

based on the Apostles' Creed and Ezekiel 33:12-14

P: In the 3rd Article of the Apostles' Creed, we declare:

C: ***I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***

P: Hear this promise from the Lord:

“Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people.

And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves,
and raise you from your graves, O my people.

And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live.

Then you shall know that I am the LORD;

I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

C: ***Amen, amen. Yes, yes, it shall be so.***

Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

Offertory

I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light

LSB 411, sts. 1-2

(Sung as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)

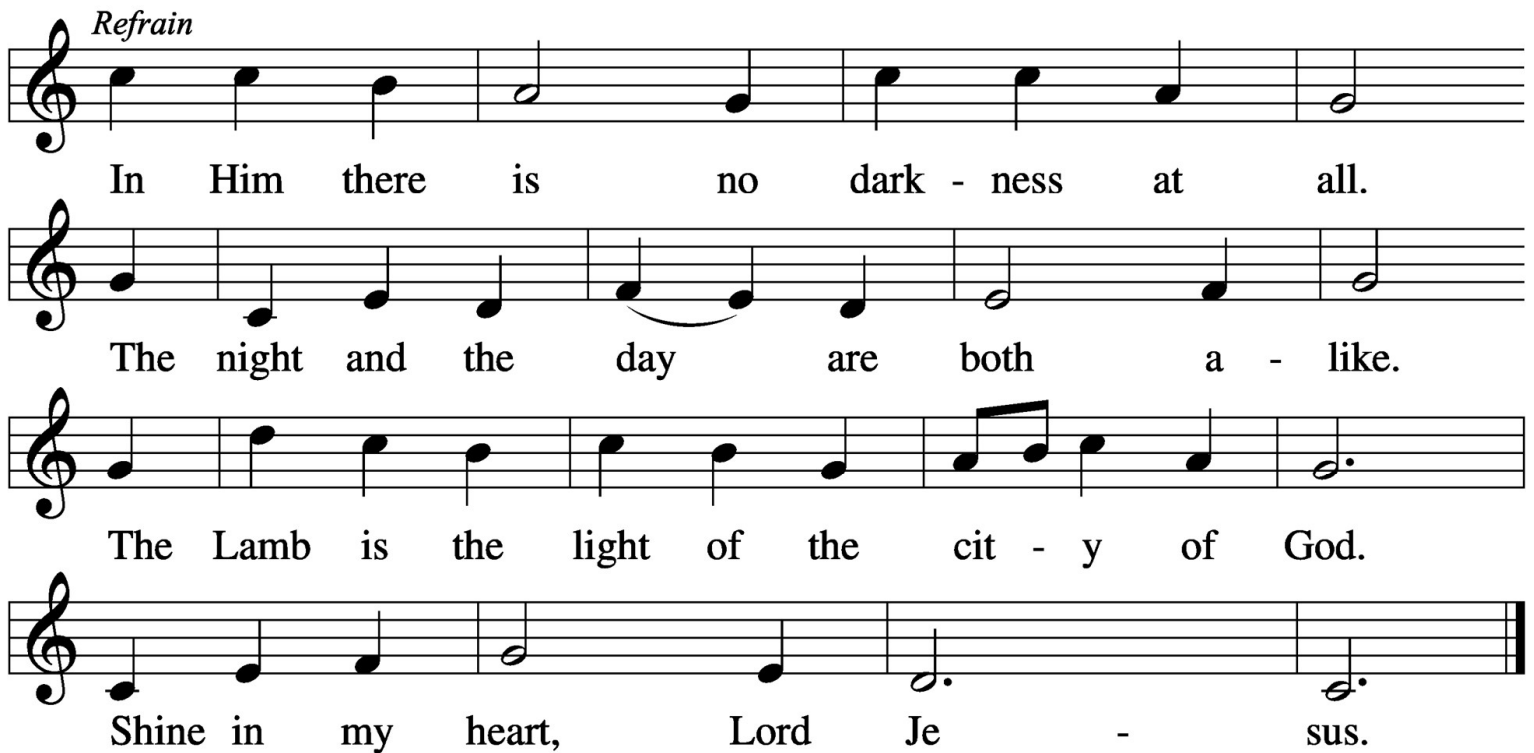
1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,

The star of my life is Je - sus.
And show me the way to the Fa - ther.

Refrain



In Him there is no dark - ness at all.

The night and the day are both a - like.

The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Benedicamus Domino ("Let us bless, the Lord") & Benediction (Blessing)

P: With joy you have drawn water from the wells of salvation, so say:

based on Isaiah 12:3-6

**C: Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name be exalted.**

**Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.**

Shout, and sing for joy, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

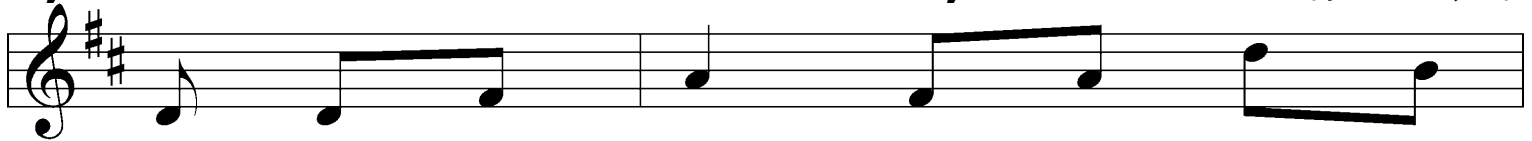
P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

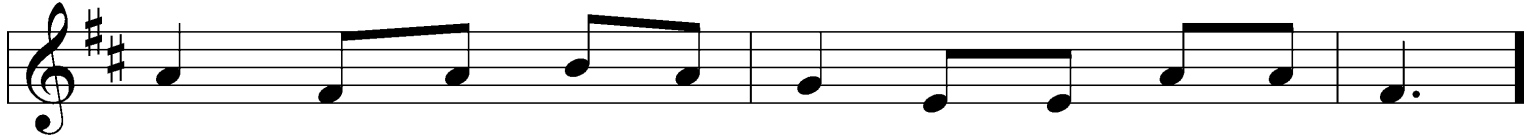
Hymn of Bartimaeus!

God Loves Me Dearly

LSB 392 sts. 1, ref, 2-3

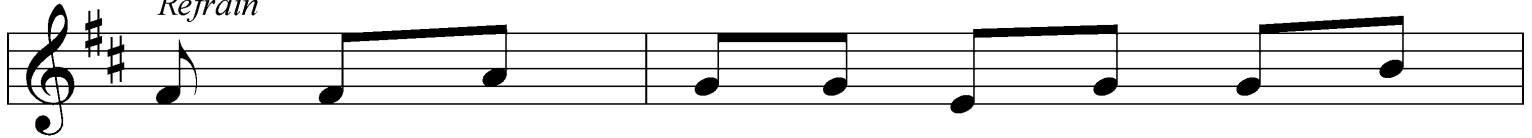


1 God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -
2 I was in slav - 'ry, Sin, death, and
3 He sent forth Je - sus, My dear Re -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.
dark - ness; God's love was work - ing To make me free.
deem - er, He sent forth Je - sus And set me free.

Refrain



There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me



dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

Text: August Rische, 1819-1906; tr. composite

Announcements



ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

TOM SCHULTZ IN CELEBRATION OF HIS BIRTHDAY

AND IN MEMORY OF HIS SISTER MERI-BETH



Acknowledgments

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires.

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UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM) – 9AM

FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM

EDUCATION HOUR 10:30-11:30AM

LENT MIDWEEK SERVICE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE (IN SANCTUARY) - 6:30PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM W/COMMUNION) – 9AM

FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM

EDUCATION HOUR 10:30-11:30AM

LENT MIDWEEK SERVICE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE (IN SANCTUARY) - 6:30PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM) – 9AM

FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM

EDUCATION HOUR 10:30-11:30AM

LENT MIDWEEK SERVICE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE (IN SANCTUARY) - 6:30PM

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHEDULE. USHERS, READERS, AND VARIOUS OTHER VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP AND COMMUNION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR ONE OF THOSE ROLES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE AT OFFICE@BETHELGURNEE.ORG.



EASTER LILIES

**Order Deadline:
Friday, March 8**



As a donation to Bethel Lutheran Church I would like _____ Easter lily plant(s) at \$13.00 each to be placed in our worship areas for Easter services on **March 31**.

Name and telephone number [please print]

Total amount enclosed: \$_____

Checks can be written to “Bethel Lutheran Church” and place check (or cash) with the form in an envelope, marked “Easter lilies” and place in the offering plate or turn in at the church office. *****Please include your donation when you submit your form.**

Remember to take your lily plant(s) Easter Sunday after the service or later in the week if you would like to keep it.