

MARCH 26, 2017
FOURTH SUNDAY IN
LENT



As children of the light of Christ, let your light shine.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 9:1-41	The man born blind
Monday	Isaiah 42:10-17	God will heal the blind
Tuesday	Ephesians 5:8-14	Live as children of light
Wednesday	Matthew 20:29-34	Two blind men receive sight
Thursday	1 John 2:3-11	Warning against spiritual blindness
Friday	2 Peter 1:3-9	Avoiding spiritual blindness
Saturday	Psalms 23	The Lord is my shepherd
Sunday	John 11:1-45	The raising of Lazarus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

You used to be like people living in the dark, but now you are people of the light because you belong to the Lord. So act like people of the light and make your light shine. **Ephesians 5:8-9a (CEV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Jesus, light of the world, please take away our blindness. Help us to see and believe in you. Amen. (John 9:5-6)

Mealttime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, you give sight to the blind and food to the hungry. We thank you for your kindness and praise you for your goodness. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the light of the Lord shine in your life. May the Holy Spirit fill you with what is good, right, and true. (Ephesians 5:8-9)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

Healer of Our Every Ill



CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell about a time when you were in a very dark place. How did you feel? What did you do?
- Jesus said, "I am the light of the world" (John 9:5). How does Jesus help us see in our daily lives?
- How can we shine as light for Jesus?

DEVOTIONS



Select a candle to serve as your "Christ Candle" and gather an additional candle for each person present. Read John 9:1-7 or read John 9:1-41 as a Readers Theater or by acting it out. Light the Christ Candle and say, "Jesus Christ is the light of the world." Then, have others take turns lighting their candles from the Christ Candle. As each one does this, say together, "You are a child of the light. Let your light shine before others." Close with the Lord's Prayer.

SERVICE



Since the time of Jesus and his healing ministry, the church has a long history of caring for people with disabilities and for others in need. The church has established hospitals, refugee centers, and orphanages around the world. Reach out to a family who cares for a person with special needs and offer support. You could also select a trusted organization that cares for people in need and make a contribution.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Psalms 23 is a foundational text for our life of faith. It equips us to live our life during the week. It is a psalm of trust that gives promises we cling to when we face challenges. Note that in verse 6, the word "follow" also means "pursue." We have a God who actively pursues us with goodness and mercy. Select a favorite translation of Psalm 23 and memorize it, using it daily this week.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org