

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
Crete, Nebraska. Rev. Maynard L. Toensing Jr.
MARCH 22, 2020

WE WARMLY WELCOME YOU TO OUR ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE ON THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT. ***By His Word of the Gospel, Jesus Calls Us Out of the Darkness into His Marvelous Light.*** The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, yet in mercy He does not forsake them. He restrains His anger and keeps His peace, until He opens their ears and eyes to hear and see Him. *“For his righteousness’ sake,”* He magnifies His Word and makes it glorious in the coming of Christ Jesus (Is. 42:21). Jesus turns *“the darkness before them into light”* (Is. 42:16) because He is *“the light of the world”* (John 9:5). The incarnate Son of God does the works of His Father and displays the divine glory in His own flesh *“while it is day,”* until that night *“when no one can work”* (John 9:4). By the washing of water with His Word, He opens the eyes of the blind and grants rest to the weary. Therefore, though *“at one time you were darkness,”* now *“you are light in the Lord”* (Eph. 5:8). By our Baptism into Christ, we live in the eternal day of His resurrection, wherein He shines upon us. As often as we fall back into the darkness of sin, He calls us by the Gospel to *“awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead”* (Eph. 5:14). **Please use your Bible to join me in the reading of Psalm 27. The readings today are as follows: the Old Testament Reading is Isaiah 42:14-21, the Epistle Reading is Ephesians 5:8-14 and the Holy Gospel Reading is John 9:1-41.** The text today is John 9 and the sermon title is, *“That They Might See”*.

PRAYERS OF THE FAMILY OF GOD

“. . . In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” Philippians 4:6

In our prayers today: Titus Gary Scholz (Holy Baptism)

For God’s continued care: Karen Bachman, Petra Dewey, Jess Eggert, Mike Ehmke (Roger & Ellie Koch’s nephew), Tammy Homolka, John Howlett, Norman Johnson (Linda Lee’s father), Titus Kotas (Heath Dewey’s close friend), Susan

Kruger (Shelley Toensing's sister), Glen Louch, Marge Meinke, Elmer Reetz, Rollo Schultz, Noreen Wild

Those in our congregation who are shut in:

Loren Beck, Marge Meinke and Albert Vosika, August Wendelin

Hannah House: *(mission for young women in St Petersburg, Russia)*

For our adopted Missionaries: ***Reverend Joe and Jennie Asher...The Asher's are missionaries we and others financially support. They serve in Kaiserslautern, Germany. Praise God for the many congregations and individuals who pray for the Ashers, encourage and support them.***

Serving in the military at home and abroad:

Michael Hoesche (nephew of Joe & Cindy Hoesche and Bruce & Karen Tiedeman)--Army, stationed in Washington state

Ben Reehl (nephew of Bruce & Karen Tiedeman)---National Guard, stationed in Lincoln

Colton Reiss (son of David Reiss & grandson of Del & Irene Reiss)

Eli Renner (son of Mike Renner & grandson of Bob Renner), stationed in DesMoines

Brandon Thorpe (nephew of Bruce & Karen Tiedeman)---Air Force, he is stationed in Las Vegas

TODAY'S LIFE QUOTE...“At home: can we be more loving and forgiving to those who mean so much to us? Can we take the time to show our unconditional love? At work: are we really a Christian example to our coworkers? Can we be more mindful of the struggles others are going through? At church: where sometimes, ironically, it's the hardest, can we put on the mind of Christ, giving ourselves to our brothers and sisters in the faith? ... Let the message of God's love in Jesus resonate boldly in your own life ... to God's glory.” ***Dr. J. A. O. Preus – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org***