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# TODAY'S NEWS

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## **Prelude: The Hurt and Healer by Mercy Me**

Justice is Blind to  
God's mercy.

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Why?  
The question that is never far away  
The healing doesn't come from the explained  
Jesus please don't let this go in vain  
You're all I have  
All that remains

So here I am  
What's left of me  
Where glory meets my suffering

## Lighting of the Candles

## Lighting of the Soul-Candle

Lord, receive my broken heart! Give me ears to hear Christ  
with us always.

Lord, receive my hungry soul! Give me the daily bread of  
eternal Life.

Lord, receive my judgmental mind! Give me eyes to see Your  
Promised Son of David



## Welcome

Two Blind Men approached Jesus saying, **"Have mercy on us, Son of David."**

What kind of welcome is this? **It invites Jesus to make this sanctuary God's House of Prayer.**

## Special Music

I'm alive  
Even though a part of me has died  
You take my heart and breathe it back to life  
I've fallen into Your arms open wide  
When the hurt and the healer collide

Breathe

Sometimes I feel it's all that I can do  
Pain so deep that I can hardly move  
Just keep my eyes completely fixed on You  
Lord take hold and pull me through

**"The wise person  
hears my word  
and acts on it."  
Jesus**

So here I am  
What's left of me  
Where glory meets my suffering

## Prayer Confession

Father, we have ears to hear. We listen to Legalist,  
Moralist, Ethicist, and Opinions. While we listen to them, we cannot hear you.

Father, we have eyes to see. We see Law Breakers, Immoral neighbors, Liars, Thief,  
and Protestors. Watching them, we are blind to your presence among them and us.

Nulla nunc lectus  
porttitor vitae pulvinar  
magna. Sed et lacus  
quis enim mattis  
nonummy sodales.

Lord, of Mercy; hear our prayer!

## Prayer of Intercession

Pray with your neighbor, through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Our neighbor is the nation, community, the suffering, sick, dying...

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

God, thank you for creating heaven and earth.

Father, thank you for giving the world Your Son.

Jesus, thank you for giving us the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit, thank you for delivering us from sin and leading us in Life eternally.

## The Lord's Prayer

## Hearing the Word: Matthew 9

**27** As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!"

**28** When he had gone indoors, the blind men came to him, and he asked them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?"

"Yes, Lord," they replied.

**29** Then he touched their eyes and said, "According to your faith let it be done to you"; **30** and their sight was restored. Jesus warned them sternly, "See that no one knows about this." **31** But they went out and spread the news about him all over that region.

**32** While they were going out, a man who was demon-possessed and could not talk was brought to Jesus. **33** And when the demon was driven out, the man who had been mute spoke. The crowd was amazed and said, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel."

**34** But the Pharisees said, "It is by the prince of demons that he drives out demons."

## Special Music

It's the moment when humanity  
Is overcome by majesty

When grace is ushered in for good  
And all our scars are understood  
When mercy takes its rightful place  
And all these questions fade away  
When out of the weakness we must bow  
And hear You say it's over now  
I'm alive  
Even though a part of me has died  
You take my heart and breathe it back to life  
I'll fall into Your arms open wide  
When the hurt and the healer collide

## The Message: Who Do You Believe for Life?

Two blind men approach Jesus saying, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." The two blind men have ears that hear. They heard Jesus say, I desire mercy, not sacrifice. How many times must we hear Jesus before we desire mercy?

The two blind men heard Jesus. Their desire for mercy opened their eyes to see Jesus' true identity. They called him, Son of David. Messiah. God's promised Son who would be King forever.

Jesus asked the two blind men, do you believe I can do this. Do you believe God's mercy heals the Blindness caused by Sin?

I hear Jesus asking the two blind men:

Do you believe me, or The Teachers of the Law?  
Do you believe me, or the Pharisees?  
Do you believe me, or the Disciples of John the Baptist?  
Do you want to be like them, or the Synagogue Leader?

I am thankful for the Law of Moses. It teaches me that a sinner desires to be right and good. The Teachers of the Law blind me. They teach me to judge my self, neighbor, and God. Having seen and heard Jesus, they judged him a blasphemer.

I am thankful for ethics, morals, and spiritual disciplines. Imagine how selfish and entitled people would be without them. The Pharisees blind me. They convince me the way to keep the Law is to train myself to be right and good. The Pharisees and the Disciples of John the Baptist judged Jesus to be of Satan.

Jesus asked the two blind men, "Do you believe I can do this?" IN other words, Jesus wants to know who they trust. Faith in Jesus demands we deny self. Faith in Jesus demands we deny the Teachers of the Law, Pharisees, and Disciples of John the Baptist.

Faith in Jesus means we deny judgement to desire mercy.

Faith in Jesus means we deny works righteousness to desire God.

Jesus says, "The wise person hears my word and acts on it." Do not be alarmed when Teachers of the Law call you a blasphemer. Do not be shocked when the Pharisees whisper that the work you do is of Satan.

Jesus says, Blessed are those who are persecuted and reviled because of righteousness.

## Tithes and Offerings

Thank you for your financial generosity. Last year we cut the Operating Budget in hopes of living within our Congregations' means. In spite of Covid-19 your tithes and offering proves your unshakeable belief that Trinity has Light and Love to share with the Community.

At the End of October our Balance Sheet reveals:

Income: \$120, 530

Expenses: \$119, 659

Balance: \$861.

Checkbook Balance: \$31, 573

One day soon we will be free to Socially Gather. When we gather we will listen to see how God is calling Trinity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Maintaining our Check Book balance offers us hope of investing in making Disciples of Jesus Christ. Money equips us to live in the world. Sharing the Good News is the free gift of Grace based on an economy of mercy and love. Let us learn how to do both at the same time!

In the name of Christ crucified and risen, I give thanks for you!

One in Christ, Robert

## Postlude

Jesus come and break my fear  
Awake my heart and take my tears  
Find Your glory even here  
When the hurt and the healer collide  
Jesus come and break my fear  
Awake my heart and take my tears  
Find Your glory even here  
When the hurt and the healer collide  
Jesus come and break my fear  
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