

You Are: Salt & Light

Fourth Sunday In Lent
March 30, 2025 – 11:00 AM

AS WE GATHER

Jesus used many “I Am” statements to give us a clearer picture of who He is for us. God also uses different words and images to describe who WE ARE as His people. What are some of those descriptions? “You are: Children of God, My Disciples, the Branches of the Vine, Salt & Light, My Witnesses.”

Salt and Light seem like a strange combination – yet each plays a significant role in providing important benefits for the world – just as our Lord uses you and me to be a blessing for our world. In fact, God has used all believers of all time to be salt and light for our world with the ultimate purpose of all people trusting God’s saving work in our Savior Jesus.

WELCOME

WE SING

“Rise Up (Lazarus)”
“Mighty To Save”

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60:1-3

God brings His light to the world’s darkness, His people reflect His light to the world!

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. ²See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and His glory appears over you. ³Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 5:3-10

Brought out of darkness, we are light in the Lord. God’s Word instructs us on living in His light.

³But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people. ⁴Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. ⁵For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person – such a man is an idolater – has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷Therefore do not be partners with them.

⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰and find out what pleases the Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus calls His followers the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

¹³[Jesus said,] "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men."

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

KIDS' TIME

"Heal The Broken"

Liz Peters

MESSAGE

"Salty & Bright"

Pastor Aaron Asmus

(Today's Readings)

P: If we claim to have fellowship with Him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.

C: But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

(a time of quiet before the Lord)

P: We confess our sinfulness to our heavenly Father.

C: Dear heavenly Father, we've struggled with the darkness of our sin.

We've sometimes tried to embrace it as our friend, only to find out that it's our worst enemy. It confuses us and deceives us. It blinds us and kills us. It leaves us hopeless. Rescue us, Lord! Forgive our sins and bring to us Your light!

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH – APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

WE PRAY

WE RECEIVE OUR LORD'S SUPPER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

WE SING DURING DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

"I will Rise"

"Whom Shall I Fear (God of Angels Armies)"

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Lord Jesus Christ,

C: Thank You for feeding us and strengthening us with Your own Body and Blood. Continue to lead us in Your light, that we may share the light of Your hope with all the world. We pray in Your name. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

WE SING

"Light of The World"

OUR OFFERINGS

All that we have and all that we are belong to the Lord. He fills us with what is good! We pray: "Fill us, Lord, to overflowing, that others may receive blessed through the blessings we ourselves have received from You."

You can give online memoriamlutheran.net or drop in the offering boxes located throughout the worship center.