

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

CYCLE A

JOHN 9:1-41

[READERS MOVE TO THEIR POSITIONS
DURING THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION.]

PRESIDER: The Lord be with you.

ALL: *And also with you.*

PRESIDER: A reading from the Holy Gospel
according to John.

ALL: *Glory to you, Lord.*

PRESIDER: PLEASE BE SEATED.

NARRATOR: As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind
from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi,
who sinned, this man or his parents, that he
was born blind?"

JESUS: Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is
so that the works of God might be
made visible through him. We have to
do the works of the one who sent me
while it is day. Night is coming when
no one can work. While I am in the
world, I am the light of the world.

NARRATOR: When he had said this, he spat on the ground, and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him—

JESUS: Go, wash in the pool of Siloam.

NARRATOR: Which means Sent. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, “Isn’t this the one who used to sit and beg?” Some said, “It is,” but others said, “No, he just looks like him.” He said,

SPEAKER: *I am.*

NARRATOR: How were your eyes opened?

SPEAKER: *The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went there and washed and was able to see.*

NARRATOR: Where is he?

SPEAKER: *I don’t know.*

NARRATOR: They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see.

SPEAKER: *He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see.*

NARRATOR: Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God because he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again: "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?"

SPEAKER: *He is a prophet.*

NARRATOR: Now the Jews did not believe that he had been born blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight. They asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?" His parents answered and said,

NARRATOR: We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind. We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself.

His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged him as the Christ, he would be expelled from the synagogue. For this reason his parents said, "He is of age, question him."

So a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give God the praise! We know that this man is a sinner."

SPEAKER: *If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see.*

NARRATOR: What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?

SPEAKER: *I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?*

NARRATOR: You are that man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from.

SPEAKER: *This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything.*

NARRATOR: You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?

Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said,

JESUS: Do you believe in the Son of Man?

SPEAKER: *Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?*

JESUS: You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.

SPEAKER: *I do believe, Lord.*

JESUS: I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind.

NARRATOR: Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him,

“Surely we are not also blind, are we?”

JESUS: If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, ‘We see,’ so your sin remains.

[readers return to their seats]