



---

# *Spring Creek* **United Church of Christ**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent  
March 19, 2023**

*We are an Open and Affirming, God-is still-speaking Congregation.  
We embrace our diversity to make a divine difference together.  
Wherever you are on life's journey, there is a place of welcome for you here.*

---

*Welcome to Spring Creek United Church of Christ!*

**Fourth Sunday in Lent - March 19, 2023**

*(Please stand as you are comfortable at the places marked \*)*

*Meditation* "Fairest Lord Jesus"  
-Hegarty (arr)

Musician

Welcome

Pastor David

**\*Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 23)

**Worship Leader & People**

Come, let us proclaim  
**The Lord is our shepherd.**

Who makes us lie down in green pastures  
**And leads us beside still waters,**

Who restores our souls  
**And leads us in right paths.**

Even in the darkest valley,  
**We fear no evil, for the Lord is with us.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us always,  
**For we dwell in the house of the Lord.**

**\*Gathering Prayer**

**Worship Leader & People**

**We gather together, eager to listen and discern your Word, ready to learn from the stories of our faith. Prepared to grow from the lessons learned. Humbly, we offer our hearts and hands to serve you with love. Amen**

Prelude "Hymn of Promise"  
-Sleeth

Spring Creek Vocal Choir

**\*Confession**

**Worship Leader & People**

**O God, we confess  
We sometimes look but do not see.  
We listen but do not hear.  
We are both blind and deaf  
To the miracle of your love and grace.**

**Forgive us, O God.  
Help us to open our eyes and ears.  
Help us to open our hearts and minds.  
Cleanse us with your soil and water of rebirth  
So we may proclaim in joy: we now can see!  
Amen.**

Hymn NCH 252, *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*,  
verses 1, 2 and 3

***Congregation***

\*Prayers of the People

Pastor David

**\*Lord's Prayer**

**Pastor & the People**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on Earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Readings John 9:1-7, 13-17, 35-41

Worship Leader

## A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

**9** As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. **2** His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" **3** Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. **4** We<sup>1a</sup> must work the works of him who sent me<sup>1a</sup> while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. **5** As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." **6** When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, **7** saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

## The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

**13** They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. **14** Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. **15** Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." **16** Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. **17** So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

## Spiritual Blindness

**35** Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"<sup>1a</sup> **36** He answered, "And who is he, sir?<sup>1a</sup> Tell me, so that I may believe in him." **37** Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." **38** He said, "Lord,<sup>1a</sup> I believe." And he worshiped him. **39** Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." **40** Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are

we?" <sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

Sermon "Amazing Sight" Pastor David

Hymn NCH 547, *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*,  
verses 1, 2, and 3. **Congregation**

Today's offering will go to **Pay It Forward**, which goes to support NAMI  
through the month of March this year.

Offertory "Were you There?" **Congregation**  
-African American Spiritual

**\*Offertory Response (tune of Old Hundredth) Congregation**

**To God, all glorious heavenly Light,  
To Christ revealed in earthly night,  
To God the Spirit now we raise  
Our joyful songs of thankful praise.**

Prayer of Dedication Pastor David

Announcements Worship Leader

- Lenten Lunch and Conversation with Pastor David,  
3/29, noon - 1:00 p.m. All are welcome!

Lighting a Candle for Ukraine Pastor David

Postlude "Allegretto"  
-Handel Musician

Benediction Pastor David

*NCH - New Century Hymnal – The Pilgrim Press*

**Pastor: David Sheridan**  
**Musician: Thomas Stein**  
**Worship Leader: Liz Schultz**  
**Song Leader: Jim Crone**

**Production Team: Bob Tissot and  
Josh Hill**  
**Ushers: Paul Mollway and Phil Floor**  
**Greeter: Barb and Dan Mugavero**

**Prayer Requests:**

**Please pray for these members and friends:**

- Prayers for **Liz & Brent Schultz's friend** & long-time neighbor, **Shawn**, who has been diagnosed with ALS, and for his wife and six kids and their families.
- We pray for Sara Ostgarden's mother, **Sylvia Barr**, who had surgery to remove her left leg.
- We pray for **Phil Adkins**, who continues to suffer with cardiovascular problems.
- We pray for **Jean Klemme**, who was scheduled for surgery on March 15.
- We pray for continued improvement of **Pat Ingold**, who has been hospitalized this week and undergoing additional tests.
- We pray for **Leslie Carr** who has been diagnosed with soft tissue cancer and continues treatment.
- We pray for **Brent Schultz** who has been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease.
- We pray for **Todd**, brother-in-law of Pastor David and Leslie, who continues cancer treatment.

**We lift up in joy and give thanks for:**

- The birth of Julianna Kaye Carr, granddaughter of Leslie and Mike Carr.



**Anniversaries:** No anniversaries

**Birthday:** No birthdays

**Pastor David's Office Hours**

Wednesdays 8 am - 4 pm

Or call the office for an appointment.

**Pastor: David Sheridan**

**Church Office hours**

Tues. – Thu. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**[pastordavid@springcreekucc.com](mailto:pastordavid@springcreekucc.com)**

Emergency Contact: **515-883-0806**

