

CHARLESWOOD MENNONITE CHURCH

April 6, 2025

Sunday Seminar 9:30 am ~ Worship Service 10:45 am

Worship Leader: Byron Neufeld
Children's Time / Pianist: Emily Rempel
Glimpse of MCM Gathering: Henry Kliewer
Ushers: Luke and Vaughn Rempel Snider

Speaker: Jonathan Neufeld
Scripture Reader: Bruce Berven,
Charleswood United Church
Song Leader: Henry Kliewer

Elsie Rempel is reading at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church this morning as part of the Charleswood churches Lenten Reader Exchange.

Lent 5: Zacchaeus
Christ Confronts our Blinders

GATHERING

Prelude
Welcome & Opening Words
Song: VT 1 *Summoned by the God Who Made Us*
Call to Worship

One: As we worship, Christ confronts our blinders.

Many: We want to know you and follow you, O Christ.

One: Like the blind man, will you cry to God?
Like Zacchaeus, will you climb a tree?

Many: We will journey, scanning the horizon for signs of the kingdom. So much is hidden, and at times we do not grasp what God is saying.

One: Jesus, show us mercy.

Many: Seek and save us.

All: Jesus, show us mercy.

Song: VT 584 *Jesus, Be the Center*

HEARING THE WORD

Children's Story
Scripture: Luke 18:31-19:10 (printed on insert)
Sermon: "The original Mr. Clean"

RESPONDING

Confession and Words of Assurance
All: Loving and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you.
One: We have not loved you with all our thoughts, words, and actions.
Many: We have sinned through what we have chosen to do and what we have chosen to neglect.

One: We have not fully accepted your love for us.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves

Many: We walk through our days with blinders on, unable to see or understand clearly.

All: We repent before each other and before you, our loving God. Please open our hearts to your love. Help us walk with open eyes and hearts so we may better share your peace in your world, rejoicing in your name. Amen.

One: Now hear these Words of Assurance: God tells us that we are created in God's image. God created us for relationship with God and with each other. In this, we know that God will never break our relationship. God's steadfast love endures forever.

Song: VT 738 *Open My Eyes That I May See*
Glimpse of MCM Gathering
Offering Ourselves

SHARING AND PRAYER

Sharing (livestream muted)
Prayer

SENDING

Announcements
Song: VT 809 *Sing a New World into Being*
Benediction

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Luke 18:31-19:10

A Third Time Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again.' But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

Jesus Heals a Blind Beggar Near Jericho

As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, 'Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.'

Then he shouted, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' He said, 'Lord, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

Jesus and Zacchaeus

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.' So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.' Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.'