

## God's Eyes Are Not Our Eyes

One heresy in the early church was called Donatism. The Donatists held that the sacraments were only efficacious if presided over by priests who were sinless.

It didn't take the church long to realize that if it held to this policy there would be no sacraments for anyone. So if the gospel can be proclaimed through the preaching of a sinner, then we must allow for the possibility that God's healing may be accomplished through extraordinary means.

God chooses a boy too young to be taken seriously to anoint as one chosen to lead Israel. When the prophet Samuel is sent by God to find the new king who will replace Saul, Samuel goes through a long line of all Jesse's tall, strapping, competent-looking sons of appropriate age. When none of them are chosen, finally Jesse sends for young David.

All of the obvious-to-us choices were declined in favor of a boy. What we may see as authoritative, respectable, and trustworthy may not always align with God. Today's first reading reminds us that "the LORD does not see as mortals see" (1 Sam. 16:7).

This theme of sight runs throughout today's texts, both in terms of how God does not see as we see and also in Jesus' healing of a man born blind. Jesus chooses to heal a blind man on the sabbath with dirt and saliva, much to the dismay of the good religious people who were certain they knew better than to display such questionable judgment and behavior.

Lent is a time to reevaluate. Let it also be a time to examine the ways in which we do not see what God is doing around us because we too think we know better.

Bottom line: God often uses the unexpected to accomplish redemption.

This Week: March 22nd

## **Announcements**

Today's Radio Broadcast is given in loving memory of **John Dammer** by his wife Kay and family.

Our sympathies to the family and friends of **Margaret Anne Rock**, sister to Bob Rock, funeral service was held Saturday, March 21st at St. Dominic Catholic Church in Canton, SD

**Due to an abundance of caution there will not be bus service on Sundays and the nursery will be closed until after Easter.**

Be sure to designate your **Thrivent Choice Dollars!** March 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for selecting where your dollars go! Thank you for remembering East Side Lutheran Church in your designation of your Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Middle and high school youth going ice skating on March 29<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled.

ESL youth attending the National Youth Gathering will be selling tickets for theme baskets.....Postponed to a future date, TBD:"

Please be faithful in your giving. You can mail in your **offering** or donate online through our webpage. Blessings to all of you as we go through this together.

### **Bus drivers needed!**

If you have thought about driving the bus but feel you need some training, that will be provided. Eric Postma will give you a training course on how & where the bus goes. Be brave and try something new to help bring members to church on Sunday mornings. Must have a good driving record.

Food of the month for April for the mobile food pantry is cereal. Please bring prior to April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Keeping you in the loop from our Church Council!!!!**

**No worship or meetings** through the end of March, per CDC recommendations

We **will do radio worship** and try to **live stream on FACEBOOK**

**No Wednesday Lenten Worships.** We will do **FACEBOOK Live devotions**

**Office hours:** 9 am to Noon

No public worship services this Sunday.  
Please listen on KSOO radio 1000 AM at 11:00 am  
Office Hours: M-F, 9:00 am to Noon

If you are a visitor to our service we are happy to have you here.  
If you have no church home we invite you to make East Side your congregation.  
We hope to be a blessing to you; we are certain you will be a blessing to us!  
Please fill out the *tan card* available in the pews.

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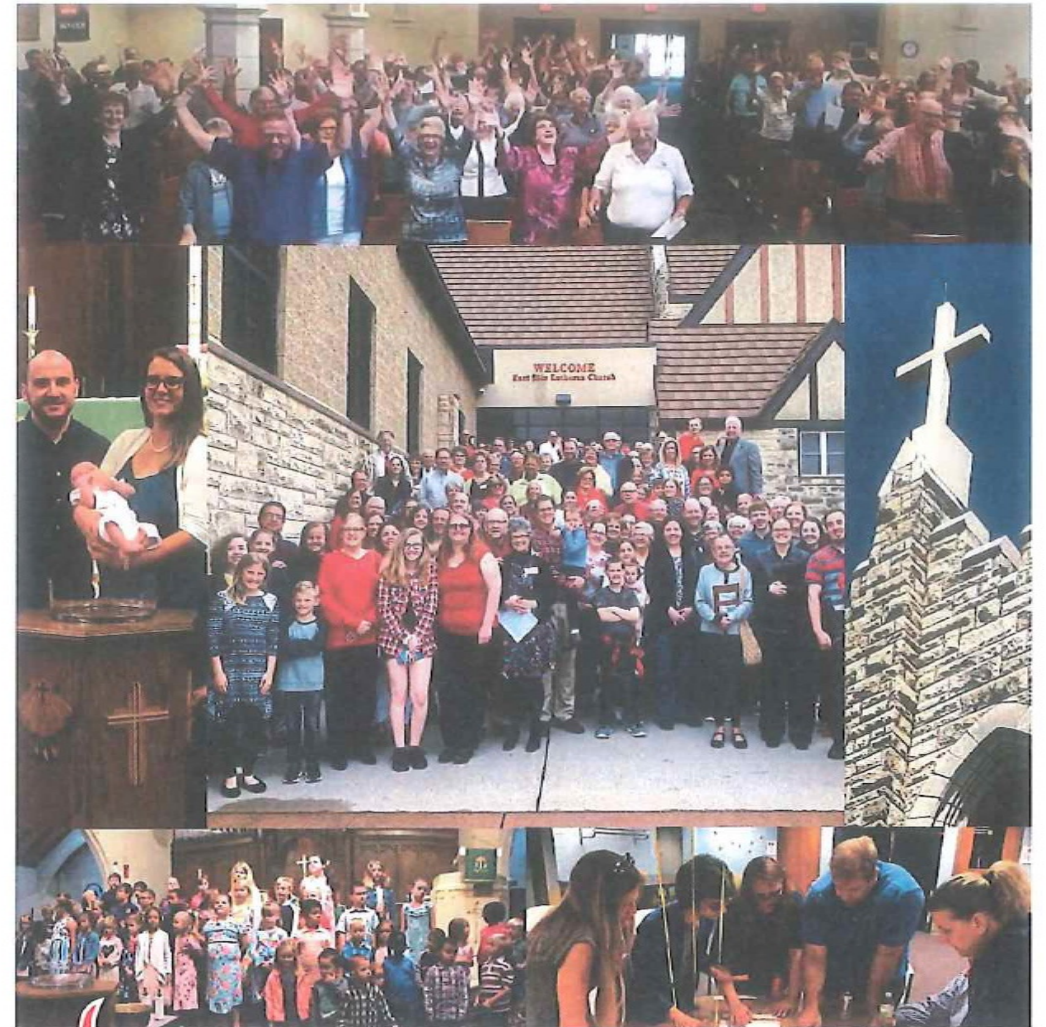
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# East Side Lutheran Church

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Layne Nelson  
Lead Pastor

Kermit Rye  
Visitation Pastor

Please worship with us on  
KSOO Radio online or KSOO 1000AM at 11:00 am Sunday mornings.