

I AM ✕ I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE ✕ I AM THE LIGHT OF

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD ✕ I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD ✕ I AM THE GATE ✕ I AM THE RESURRECTION ✕ I AM ✕

THE WORLD ✕ I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD ✕ I AM THE GATE ✕ I AM THE RESURRECTION ✕ I AM THE WAY THE TRUTH

I AM

the light of the world



John 8

March 16, 2022
1:00 p.m./7:00 p.m.

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
1800 W. Maple
Birmingham, Michigan 48009

AND THE LIFE ✕ I AM ✕ I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE ✕ I AM

I AM STATEMENTS

March 16, 2022

Theme: I Am The Light of the World

As We Gather

“I Yam What I Yam” said Popeye the sailor man. It was a way to identify who he was, a sailor man. This Lent our theme will be the great I Am statements of Jesus. Like Popeye, He was identifying who and what He was about. When Jesus says “I Am” He is claiming to be God, and so He is.

Prelude

(1:00) Steve SeGraves, pianist

(7:00) Rick Helderop, organist

Opening Hymn Children of the Heavenly Father

1. Children of the heav'nly Father safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.
2. God His own doth tend and nourish, in His holy courts they flourish;
From all evil things He spares them, in His mighty arms He bears them.
3. Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth, and their sorrows all He knoweth.

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Responsive Reading

P: The symbol we lay before the cross today is the soldier's whip, an instrument of punishment and coercion. Of the elements before the cross, the whip is the only one used by Christ as well. With a whip Jesus purified the temple; with a whip we destroyed the temple of His body.

C: Lord, Jesus Christ, we confess our frequent misuse of power. You granted us dominion over creation, but we have too often used this gift for domination. Help us say "no" to immoral coercion of others. Help us say "yes" to the cross.

P: The whip was used to punish Jesus for failing to fit preconceived notions of holiness. Still today, we sometimes threaten those on the outside to behave according to the expectations of those on the inside.

C: Lord, Jesus Christ, we confess our blindness to your Holiness. We are so busy protecting the God of our own construction that we try to destroy the God you reveal. Help us say "no" to squeezing you into our mold. Help us say "yes" to the cross.

P: We use the whip to remind people – with pain and scars – of their trespasses. Jesus cleansed the temple so that we might meet freely in prayer with a God who forgives.

C: Lord, Jesus Christ, when we are tempted constantly to remind our neighbors of their sin and wound them by rehearsing their past, help us say "no" to keeping a record of wrongs. Help us say "yes" to the cross.

P: Almighty God, you know our sin. You know how we misuse our power. Our lives are filled with guilt. Wash us and make us clean. Help us to lay down our instruments of destruction. Teach us to be a reflection of your love and grace. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Mold us into the image of Jesus, in whose holy name we pray. Amen.

Children's Message - 7 PM

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Gospel Lesson

John 8:12-20

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." The Pharisees challenged him, "Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid." Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me." Then they asked him, "Where is your father?" "You do not know me or my Father," Jesus replied. "If you knew me, you would know my Father also." He spoke these words while teaching in the temple courts near the place where the offerings were put. Yet no one seized him, because his hour had not yet come.

Hymn of the Day

Be Thou My Vision

1. Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2. Be thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

Sermon

John 8:12-20

“I Am The Light of the World”

Rev. Randall J. Schlak

Voluntary

(1:00) There is a Balm in Gilead - arr. Hayes
Steve SeGraves, vocalist

(7:00) Ride On King Jesus - American Spiritual
James Rose Jr., vocalist

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine upon you
and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you
peace.

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn

This Little Light of Mine

Verse 1

This little Light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little Light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little Light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Verse 2

Don't let satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine
Don't let satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine
Don't let satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Verse 3

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Verse 4

Shine all over the world, I'm gonna let it shine
Shine all over the world, I'm gonna let it shine
Shine all over the world, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ending

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Postlude

(1:00) Steve SeGraves, pianist

(7:00) Rick Helderop, organist

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Thanks and appreciation to:
Steve SeGraves and James Rose Jr. for providing special music at the
services.

Acolytes

7:00 - Matthew Dilley and Quinn O'Neill

Ushers

7:00 - Keith Lewis, captain; Dave Peterson, Peter Hawkins, Rick Russ,
Mike Bacon, John Wagnitz, Arnie Glesmann, Andrew Farah

Altar Guild

Barb Grattan, Karen Rose, Sara Amos, Jennifer Dobring,
Robin Swift, Carole Citron, Polly Millichamp

Audio/Video Operators

7:00 - Jim Endress and David Hardoin

Our Lenten Meal Preparers:

(lunch): Nicole Olds and Michelle Gallo
(supper): Small Group Bible Study

Rev. Randall J. Schlak, Senior Pastor
James Greenwalt, Vicar

THE BREAD OF LIFE · THE LIGHT
OF THE WORLD · THE DOOR OF
THE SHEEP · THE GOOD SHEPHERD
· THE RESURRECTION AND THE
LIFE · THE WAY, THE TRUTH,
AND THE LIFE · THE TRUE VINE

LENT

March 23: I Am The Good Shepherd/Gate

March 30: I Am The Resurrection

April 6: I Am The Way The Truth and The Life

1:00pm Chapel and 7:00pm Gym/Sanctuary

Each worship service is preceded by a meal

lunch - 12:00 noon;

dinner - 5:30pm confirmands; 6:00pm congregation

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday, April 14

Good Friday, April 15

1:00pm and 7:00pm each day

Easter Eve, April 16

5:00pm

Easter Sunday, April 17

7:30am with Holy Communion,

9:00am and 10:30am