



March 26, 2017

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
8:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST Rite I
10:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST Rite II

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church
Hebron, Connecticut
The Rev. Everett C. Perine, Rector
Josh Ziemski, Organist

860-228-3244 ~ office@stpetershebron.com

www.stpetershebron.com; Facebook

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I

A PENITENTIAL ORDER

We Prepare Ourselves with Reflection and Confession

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins

People His mercy endureth forever.

The Decalogue and Summary of the Law

BCP page 317

The Confession and Absolution

BCP page 320

Lord, have mercy upon us

BCP page 324

THE WORD OF GOD

We Listen to God's Word

The Collect for the Day and Readings from the Lectionary

The Sermon

The Reverend Everett Perine

We Proclaim Our Belief

The Nicene Creed

BCP page 326

We Offer Prayers of Intercession, and Thanksgiving

The Prayers of the People

BCP page 329

We Are Reconciled to One Another through God's Love and Forgiveness

The Peace

THE HOLY COMMUNION

We Offer Our Gifts to God

We Proclaim Our Faith

The Eucharistic Prayer I

BCP page 333

The Lord's Prayer

BCP page 336

We Come Before God to Share Communion

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

BCP page 337

O Lamb of God

BCP page 337

The Communion

We Are Sent Out Into the World

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP page 339

The Lenten Blessing: Holy eternal Majesty, Holy incarnate Word,

Holy abiding Spirit, Bless you for evermore. *Amen.*

The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Prelude

A PENITENTIAL ORDER

We Prepare Ourselves with Reflection and Confession

Opening Hymn #7 “Christ whose glory fills the skies”

Ratisbon

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

People ***His mercy endures forever.***

The Decalogue and Summary of the Law

BCP page 350

The Confession and Absolution

BCP page 352

Kyrie: S-86 “Kyrie”

Hurd

The words "Kyrie eleison; Christe eleison" (meaning "Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy") come from the Greek liturgy and harken back to the earliest Christian liturgies which were celebrated in the Greek language.

THE WORD OF GOD

We Listen to God’s Word

The Collect for the Day

BCP page 219

Readings from the Lectionary

The Sermon

The Reverend Everett Perine

We Proclaim Our Belief

The Nicene Creed

BCP page 358

We Offer Prayers of Intercession, and Thanksgiving

The Prayers of the People Form IV

BCP page 388

We Are Reconciled to One Another through God’s Love and Forgiveness

The Peace

THE HOLY COMMUNION

We Offer Our Gifts to God

Offertory Hymn #493 “O for a thousand tongues to sing”

Azmon

We Proclaim Our Faith

The Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP page 361

The Sanctus: #S-129 “Holy, holy, holy Lord”

Powell

The Lord’s Prayer

BCP page 364

We Come Before God to Share Communion

The Breaking of the Bread: **“Jesus, remember me”** (*Sung 3 times*)

Taize

Jesus Remember Me
Ostinato Refrain

Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in-to your King-dom.
Je-sus, re-mem-ber me when you come in-to your King-dom.

Text: Luke 23:42; Taize Community, 1981
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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The Invitation to Communion

The Communion
The Communion Anthem

We Are Sent Out Into the World

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP page 339

The Lenten Blessing: Holy eternal Majesty,
Holy incarnate Word,
Holy abiding Spirit,
Bless you for evermore. ***Amen.***

Dismissal **Closing Hymn #538 “God of mercy, God of grace”** *Lucerna Laudoniae* The
Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*During Lent, a Service for Healing will follow the conclusion of the Holy Eucharist.
After the dismissal, anyone who wishes to participate in this service is invited to gather at the altar
rail
for a time of silent prayer and meditation.*

A SERVICE FOR HEALING

A Word about the Ministry of Healing

The ministry of healing is part of the sacramental life of the Episcopal Church and all people, whether baptized or not, are welcome to come and receive this sacrament.

This sacrament emerges from our belief that the love of God through the presence of the Holy Spirit has the power to heal our emotional, physical and spiritual suffering.

Although we may ask for a specific healing, we realize that it is God who decides how this healing is to occur. Healing may come to us in the form of physical recovery, emotional well-being or spiritual wholeness.

The power of the healing service lies not with our expectation of results, but rather with our desire to allow the Spirit of God who dwells within us to transform our lives and help us to accept the healing power of God's love.

Celebrant O God, be in our hearts and on our lips as we come before you seeking your healing love.

Silence is kept

Celebrant Friends in Christ, if you wish to seek prayer, for yourself on behalf of someone or for a crisis in the world, I invite you to receive the laying on of hands. Jesus says, "Come to me all who are troubled and I will give you rest." So come, we who are burdened by regrets and anxieties, we who are broken in body or in spirit, we who feel deeply within ourselves the divisions and injustices of our world. Come, for Jesus invites us to bring him our brokenness.

*Those who wish for laying-on of hands and anointing for healing may come forward.
When all have received the sacrament of healing, the celebrant continues.*

Celebrant God of compassion and love,

People **We offer you all of our suffering and pain. Give us strength to bear our weakness, healing even when there is no cure, peace in the midst of turmoil and love to fill the spaces of our lives. Glory to God, from whom all love flows; glory to Jesus, who showed his love through suffering; and glory to the Holy Spirit, who brings light to the darkest places. Amen.**

Celebrant God love you and have mercy on you; through the cross of Christ, pardon you and set you free. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. God forgives you. Forgive others. Forgive yourself. In the name of the Lover of Souls, the Beloved, and the Love that exists between them, may the peace of God be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Go in peace, giving thanks for the healing power of God's love.

Wednesday Evening Lenten Service: If you are looking to find some quiet time or time devoted to a simple Lenten discipline, please consider joining us during Lent for our Wednesday evening service. It begins at 7 p.m. with the Way of the Cross - a prayerful procession around the church, stopping at various "stations at crosses" to reflect on aspects of Jesus walk to the cross, death and burial. This is followed by our normal evening Communion service which includes a service of laying-on of hands and anointing with oil for healing. Periods of silence will be maintained throughout the service for those wishing to make "Being Silent with God" part of their Lenten discipline (please see last page of bulletin).
Feel free to contact Father Perry for more information.

PARISH FAMILY REMEMBRANCES AND THANKSGIVINGS ~ MARCH 26, 2017

*The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by Joyce Dombrowski
in loving memory of Judith Martin.*

We pray for our clergy: Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop; Ian and Laura, the Bishops of Connecticut; and Perry our Priest;

In St Peter's Cycle of Prayer we pray for all our parish family and especially for those who celebrate their birthdays this week: Dan Perry (3/30), Diane Savage (3/30), Julio Gianoni (3/28), Christopher Marks (3/28),

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for Trinity, Hartford; St. Peter's, Hebron; St. James', Higganum; All Saints', Ivoryton; Hospital chaplains; Stephen Ministers; other pastoral care groups; ministries of healing; parish nurses; wellness programs; recovery ministries.

Current Prayer List

Prayers added the week of March 26: Natalie, Jeremy, Gareth Bromell, Liz, John, Kathleen, Bill & June, Wendy, Sienna Roper; Phil Patros; Dianne Sayers; Jennifer, Frank Tomlinson; Derek, Nicky and Jackie, Cheryl F., Matt; Jules Bessette; Ruth Wilson, Diane; Joe, Cee-Cee; Dorothy; Dick Sage, Kathy; Julia, Dave; a Dear Friend; Emil & Annie; Ms. Kamins; Barbara Potterton; Louis Schluntz;

Prayers added the week of March 19: Gloria Duval and family; Edward Murray, Susie, Henry Jones, Sam Docker, Michael Docker, Nicole, Janet Kay, Brian, Taylor Benson and Brian Benson, Kara Perriolat, The Caprara Family; Dianne Sayers, Mark and Linda Sayers Reynolds; Dawn; Christina; Sandra Hastings; The MacDonough Family; Rod & Janice Lambeth; Charles; The Conrad families, Deanne & John Bowen; Danielle, Chantelle and Kayleigh; Louis Domingue, Jim Vicevich, Bob & Bev Winter, Flo Columbe, Carolyn Asmuth, Caitlin Stevens, Richard MacRobbie, Janice Griffiths, Connie Rich, Mike Duval, Dianne Sayers, Donna Doyker and Marissa Garcia; Aly, Steffi; Susan; Elizabeth, Kim, Andrée, Dianna Tedesco; the Bossi and Liska families, Barbara and Family; Maidey and Ken, Everette; Jeanne, Sam; Helen and Family; Karen Emmons;

Prayers added the week of March 12: Briant Marsh; Sienna Roper; Jim & Marilyn Kew, Phil, Toni; Stephanie; Irene; Victoria, Paulette Likoudis, Bill, Walter, Melissa, Maidey, Jane, Jim & Bernie, Anna C.; John & the Romero family; Kelly; Tiffany Nicole, Chris; John & Sue; Lauren, Jeni, Kile, Lianie, Dana; Gina; Eva & Bill; The Gentino Family; Justin, Stephanie; Grace; Peter, the Kell family; Janet Kay; Sam Downey;

We pray for all caregivers who selflessly give of themselves to care for loved-ones;

We pray for all people suffering hunger, fear & displacement due to war and natural disaster;

We pray for all with financial problems; those who have lost their jobs and homes; for the well-being of our families during life's changes; all who have suffered trauma; those who are ill, lonely or grieving; our veterans; all who travel; all those suffering with cancer; anyone who is hospitalized or disabled; those affected by natural disasters; and all abused, neglected and missing children.

We pray for law enforcement officers.

We pray for healing and peace.

We pray for our whole nation: for peace, non-violence, and healing

We pray for our service men and women throughout the world.

We pray for all who have died, remembering especially Judith Martin.

We give thanks for the many blessings of our lives and the joy we experience in our relationship with God.

Stewardship Corner

Our Vision: "Welcoming all. Serving our Community. Connecting with Others"

A life of Stewardship has as its foundation acts of generous giving. As part of our vision statement, "Serving Our Community" describes our intent to extend our generosity outward into the communities in which we live.

"Serving our Community" Locally and throughout the World

Chocolate Bars Become Gifts for Life!

Our church school children have chosen to support those in need around the globe through the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund's "Gifts for Life" program. Specifically, they chose three items to raise funds for - chickens, clean water, and fruit trees that will be distributed among people in need throughout the world. The children will be selling chocolate bars at coffee hour after church throughout Lent (so no giving up chocolate this year). The cost is \$2 per bar, or 3 bars for \$5. Please consider giving the gift of life by supporting their fundraiser.

- **The Food donations in March are designated for the Lebanon Food pantry.**
- **We are also always accepting clothing, magazines (cut off the address label, please), kitchen utensils and items for personal hygiene for the Brooklyn Bridge project which helps men recently released from prison to re-enter society.**
- **The No-freeze Project, also out of Willimantic aims to help homeless persons with temporary shelter as well as the following:**
 - **Non Instant Coffee, Sweetener, Non-Dairy Creamer, Hot Chocolate, Paper products,**
 - **Toilet paper, paper towels, napkins.**
 - **Vinyl or plastic Pillow case covers**
 - **Coffee cups (small size, disposable)**
 - **Plastic utensils (spoons/forks)**
 - **Socks (white preference)**
 - **Men's boxer shorts all sizes**
 - **Women's briefs – all size**
 - **Razor blades**
 - **Shaving Creme**
 - **Toothbrushes**
 - **Deodorant**
 - **Women's hygiene products (pads, tampons)**
 - **Plastic soap saver boxes**
 - **Sweat pants/shirts (med/large/Xtra/XXtra large)**
 - **Laundry detergent (powder)**
 - **Floor and bathroom cleaner**
 - **Office supplies – Call to see what are needs are**
 - **Gift Cards to Stop & Shop, BJ's Walmart, Staples and Home Depot of any value.**

Opportunities to Serve Locally: St. Peter's is looking for individuals who are interested in representing our parish in two local initiatives: Hebron area Hunger Task Force and WAIM (Windham Area Interfaith Ministry). If you are interested in either of these opportunities and would like more information, please contact me or one of our wardens: Rob Mangiafico and Barb Parkyn. **Please note: If you are already serving your community by volunteering your time, we would like to know about it!**

Fr. Perry

Parish News

Easter Flower signup - Altar Flowers for Easter



There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for the purchase of Easter Flowers to be used to decorate the church on Easter morning as Memorials or Thanksgivings for special blessings, please write your information clearly on the sign-up form so it can be put in the Easter flower booklet with no mistakes. Lilies, tulips, daffodils, hydrangeas and pansies will all be available, as usual. Checks should be made out to St. Peter's Church, and put in the envelope in church or given to Claire in the office (not placed in the offertory box, please). If you have any questions, please contact the office or speak with Marcia or Chuck Eaton.

*** CHANGE OF DATE Saturday March 25th, 4 to 6:00 pm – Polish community dinner. Don't forget to bring in your tasty desserts.**

*** CHANGE OF DATE** The next meeting of the St. Peter's Women's Club will be held on Monday, March 27th at 7:00 at Audrey Gasper's home, 68 Hall Road, Hebron.

***Monday...April 17th 6:30 – Robin Kenefick (art project at Phelps Hall) We will be painting two tiles with alcohol ink. A fee of \$10 for the art supplies and you go home with your own individualized artwork. Contact Robin at rudyduby601k@aol.com or 860-966-3596 call (text or call)**

***Sunday, April 23rd SAVE THE DATE'' A celebration of St. Peter's and of Father Perry as he moves into his retirement after long years of service in the priesthood. Food, fun, and more in the parish hall. More details will be announced soon.**

SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, April 23rd will be a 'Youth Sunday' celebration at the 10 a.m. service, including the annual church school **Easter Pageant**, featuring special music sung by the church school children under the direction of Rodican Rose Bonn. That afternoon we will have a **celebration of St. Peter's and Father Perry's retirement** in Phelps Hall. More details to follow soon.

Vacation Bible School (VBS), an ecumenical fun-filled week for children (ages K-6), will be held at Gilead Congregational Church from July 24-28 from 9 a.m. to 12:30. Our theme this year is "Hero Central: Discovering your Strength in God". The mascot is Flame the Red Panda. Super Hero costumes, songs, arts and crafts, fun decorations, snacks, and another great missions project are on tap for this year.

Around the Diocese

THINK SUMMER!

**Camp Washington has issued its brochures for summer youth camp.
They are on the table at the back of the church.**

Spring Training Event - April 1! The Diocese is sponsoring its annual Spring Training Event on Saturday, April 1 at Lincoln Middle School, 164 Centennial Avenue, Meriden from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Workshop categories include Christian Formation, Communication, Connecting & Collaborating, Essential Parish Operations, Leadership, Passion & Call, Pastoral Care, Social Justice & Advocacy, Stewardship and Worship. Several Vestry members will attend and invite any parishioners to join them. More information with links to Workshop Booklet and Registration may be found at: <https://www.episcopalet.org/spring-training/>

LENT HAS BEGUN!

For more information about the services at St. Peter's during Lent please visit our website at www.stpetershebron.com or check out the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

Sundays in Lent at 8 and 10: Holy Eucharist beginning with the Penitential Rite. A Healing Service will be offered after each Eucharist for those who desire prayers for healing.

Wednesday evenings in Lent: Services start at 7 p.m. in the church with the "Way of the Cross" (an Episcopal version of the "Stations of the Cross") to be followed by our regular Communion service with healing liturgy.

Holy Week services:

April 9 @ 8 & 10: Liturgy of the Palms followed by a Eucharist celebration commemorating the Sunday of the Passion with a reading of the Passion Gospel in parts

April 10 & 11: No services - the Church will be open from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for private devotion

April 12 @ 7:30 p.m. Tenebrae

April 13 @ 6:30 p.m. Agape Meal with Foot/Hand-Washing Liturgy

@ 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Liturgy with Stripping of the Altar

April 13 @ 9 p.m. thru April 14 @ 12 noon: Join us as St. Peter's reads through the Gospels

April 14 @ 12 noon & 7:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy with a reading of St. John's Passion

April 15 @ 7:30 p.m. the Great Vigil of Easter with Confirmation at Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford

Something new this year!

We have added something special to our Holy Week offerings. Following the Maundy Thursday Liturgy we are providing an opportunity for families and individual parishioners of St. Peter's to help us read through the Gospels which recount the life of Jesus from the various perspectives of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The Vigil begins at 9 pm on Thursday evening and continues through 12 noon on Friday. *More details and sign up are available on our website or on the bulletin board in Phelps Hall.*

Some thoughts to guide us through Lent!

Our Gospel reading today recalls the transfiguration of Jesus on the mountaintop. When the moment is over, Jesus comes off the mountaintop and heads toward Jerusalem where he will enter in glory (Palm Sunday) before being arrested, tried and crucified (The Passion). He does not make the journey alone for he invites his disciple to join him, saying in effect, "Come walk with me." Accordingly, Jesus invites us to join him this Lent, following him on the path that leads to Jerusalem and the cross. That begs the question, "What does it mean to 'Walk with Jesus'?"

Here are some thoughts about practical ways we can walk with Jesus:

- **Spend time in prayer** (carve out a few moments each today be in prayer)
- **Join in worship** (Join us on Sundays for Eucharist followed by a Healing Service for interested parishioners. Join us on Wednesday evenings for Walking the Way of the Cross followed by a Healing Service and Communion.)
- **Simplify our lives** (Have simple meals and reduce "frivolous" spending)
- **Reassess our use of our resources** (Take inventory on what you spend your money on - and what you neglect)
- **Use our time and material resources to help others** (Consider volunteering for one of our fundraisers or local support agencies; increase your pledging to St. Peter's; donate food and personal items to our monthly ingathering; reconnect with people who have been an important part of your life and thank them; take time to listen to others and, when appropriate, offer them your support)
- **Maybe you have some ideas you would like to share! Consider submitting them to Sue Ostrout for inclusion in the Vision or pass them on to the office, to one of the wardens or to Father Perry!**

MARCH/APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
March 26 4th Sunday Lent Holy Eucharist 8 & 10 10 a.m. Church School Girl Scouts (KS)	March 27 Wardens' Meeting 9:15 am	March 28 Choir practice 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm	March 29 Way of the Cross with Communion & Healing Service 7 pm	March 30	March 31 Fr. Perry Day off	April 1 Annual ECCT Spring Training in Meriden
April 2 5^h Sunday Lent Holy Eucharist 8 & 10 10 a.m. Church School	April 3 Wardens' Meeting 9:15 am	April 4 Choir practice 6:30 pm	April 5 Way of the Cross with Communion & Healing Service 7 pm Buildings and Grounds 7 pm	April 6	April 7 Fr. Perry Day off	April 8
April 9 PALM (PASSION) SUNDAY Holy Eucharist 8 & 10	April 10 Wardens' Meeting 9:15 am Church open 7 to 9 pm for devotion	April 11 Choir practice 6:30 pm Church open 7 to 9 pm for devotion	April 12 Tenebrae 7:30 pm	April 13 Agape Meal & Foot-washing 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy 7:30 pm Prayer Vigil	April 14 Prayer Vigil continues Good Friday Liturgy 12 noon & 7:30 pm	April 15 The Great Vigil of Easter @ Christ Church Cathedral in Hartford Confirmatio n at Cathedral
April 16 EASTER SUNDAY Sunrise Service 6:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist 8 & 10	April 17 Wardens' Meeting 9:15 am Vestry Mtg. 7 pm	April 18 Choir practice 6:30 pm	April 19	April 20 Nursing Home visits	April 21	April 22 Stuffed Chicken Breast Dimer
April 23 EASTER 2 Youth Sunday Holy Eucharist 8 & 10	April 24 Wardens' Meeting 9:15 am	April 25 Choir practice 6:30 pm	April 26	April 27	April 28	April 29

G. Scouts (KS)		Boy Scouts 7 pm				
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The Readings for the Fourth Sunday in Lent

The Collect

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Old Testament:1 Samuel 16:1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Epistle: Ephesians 5:8-14

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

The Gospel: John 9:1-41

As Jesus walked along, 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 answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” 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, 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 neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 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.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. 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.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. 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." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."