

# **Show Us New Sight**

Scripture: Psalm 23; John 9-1-41

## **Invitation**

John 9 tells a colourful tale of miracles, mud, spit and much more. It's a story about a blind man who really 'sees' rather well and leaders who think they 'see' but are quite 'blind'. At times we see clearly whether we are physically blind or not.

**Opening Prayer:** Become quiet. Perhaps, light a candle. Say the first phrase of the breath prayer as you inhale and the second as you exhale. Repeat as the Spirit leads you.

*Open my eyes, Lord,*

*Help me to see your face.* (from Sing the Story # 65)

## **Meditative Reading**

Read John 9: 1-41 slowly. Then pick a character. Who are you drawn to: the man born blind, his neighbours, his parents, the Pharisees, an on-looker? Hold an imaginary conversation with your chosen character. You may want to talk about the story, or the theme of seeing and not seeing, or you might discuss other topics. Let your imagination go. Take about 20 minutes. Did anything in the conversation surprise you? What did you learn?

## **For Reflection**

When the blind man is grilled by the leaders a second time, he exclaims, "One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see!" These are words that have inspired many Christians, including John Newton, the slave trader turned abolitionist, and composer of the song "Amazing Grace". Repeat and ponder the blind man's exclamation. Use crayons or markers to doodle or draw your reaction to his words. How has amazing grace filled your life? When have your eyes been opened and your wisdom expanded?

## **Closing Prayer**

You are the light of the world. Shine in me and through me today.

*Extinguish the candle and carry God's light with you.*

The Eternal is my shepherd, who cares for me always, who provides me rest in rich, green fields beside streams of refreshing water. The Eternal makes me whole again, steering me off worn, hard paths, to roads where truth and righteousness echo God's name.  
(Psalm 23:1-3, The Voice, with adaptations)

## **Praying with Music**

Listen to, sing or play the music that has been stirring in your heart, or choose one of the following:

Sing the Journey #97 *The Lord is my light*

You can listen to the song here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AA1u0FKWK8I>

Sing the Journey #95 *I want to walk as a child of the light*

You can listen to the song here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmo6A86mis0>

*Open the eyes of my heart* –Michael W. Smith

You can listen to the song here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vnqb7Vn4AEE>

### **Praying for our World**

These days the only news story is about Covid-19. Choose one of these or another story you would like to lift to God in prayer. Represent the people in the story with a quick drawing, a few words, or newspaper clipping. Then begin your prayer with a time of silence, asking for Jesus' light to flow into you. Allow your heart to fill with compassion and light. Now place your hands gently over your paper. Pray that the light of Jesus will flow through you and into the people or situation. Sit in silence and trust. Is there another way you can actively respond to this situation?

This material is adapted from the Mennonite Spiritual Directors of Eastern Canada Lenten Guided Prayer 2020