

**Worship on October 27, 2024**

(CCLI: License Number #3156883) (Welcoming Elder: Edwin Webster)

**Sunday Order of worship**

**We Gather**

- Welcome and Announcements
- Call to worship
- Praise song BOP 630 When we are living
- Prayer for worship and Lord's Prayer
- Words of Assurance
- Praise song BOP 648 I'm gonna live so
- Sung prayer for illumination (BOP 445 Open our eyes, Lord)
- First reading: Hebrews 7:23-28
- Second reading: Psalm 34:1-8 (Refrain 3)
- Third reading: Mark 10:46-52
- Sermon: What do you want me to do for you?
- Hymn 570 I have decided to follow Jesus
- Prayer for the people

**We Respond**

- Offering, Doxology (BOP 830) & Dedication
- Song for the Journey BOP 687 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine

**We Serve**

- Benediction
- A Sung Blessing

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**Welcome and Announcement:**

**Responsive Call to Worship**

Praise the Lord in every time and place.

**We will tell of God's goodness each day.**

Boast only in the Lord.

**We will praise God's wonderful deeds.**

Spread the news of God's greatness.

**We will give God glory everywhere we go. So let us worship God together here and now, now and always!**

**Praise song – BOP 630 When we are living**

**Prayer of Adoration**

Lord God, Loving God, we gather as your servants, shaped by the faithfulness of those who went before us and taught us the name of Jesus. In Christ, you call us together to praise your name and serve your world in his name. With the kindness of your Holy Spirit, feed the roots of our faith, and renew our vision for the church in this generation. Fill us with courage and confidence to reach out to others with your mercy and grace, for you are our God, ever faithful to your people.

**Prayer of confession (Unison)** *(Let us pray the Prayer of confession together)*

**Lord of love and mercy, you are the source of every good and perfect gift, but we confess our gifts to you are less than perfect. We honour you when it fits into our schedules. We forget that your love should set our priorities, and pursue our own desires. Forgive our wavering hearts and reawaken our commitment to you.**

**Heavenly Father, hear us, as we offer the Prayer that Jesus taught us:** (The Lord's Prayer:)  
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**Words of Assurance**

Siblings in Christ, we are promised that those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Claim your hope in this Good News: God's perfect love abides in you through Jesus Christ our Lord. Thanks be to God for such great mercy.

**May the Peace of the Lord be with you.** *(Let us bless each other with the peace of the Lord.)*

**Praise song – BOP 648 I'm gonna live so**

**Prayer for children**

**Sung prayer for illumination (BOP 445 Open our eyes, Lord)**

- First reading: Hebrews 7:23-28
- Second reading: Psalm 34:1-8 (Refrain 3)
- Third reading: Mark 10:46-52

**"This is the word of the Lord / Thanks be to God."**

**SERMON: What do you want me to do for you?**

Because Jesus has power to heal diseases, many people came to Jesus to be healed. So, people knew that they could be healed if they come to Jesus.

A blind beggar Bartimaeus knew that too. He heard that Jesus and his disciples were passing by where he was. And he could hear some noise of people talking and walking around.

With his full energy, he shouted. **"Jesus! Son of David! Have mercy on me!"**

Let us try to picture this scene. If you were this blind beggar, what would you do?

You heard that Jesus heals. Jesus has power. And Jesus is passing by where you are right now!

What kind of problems or difficulties do you have to bring to Jesus?

Or do we have faith to come to Jesus like this blind man?

He shouted.

What does this mean? When do you shout?

During last summer, I took two of our younger boys to Wonderland. John and Benjamin. I realized that they have very different needs and wants. When we were eating, Benjamin wanted to go to the washroom. Sometimes, washroom is not near. I asked John to stay where we were and continue to enjoy his food, and took Benjamin to the washroom. When we came back, John

was gone. With the top of my lungs, I shouted John. Holding Benjamin's hand, I ran here and there.

But, I did not go too far. I shouted where John was, not somewhere else. Not at the parking lot.

I could shout because I had a confidence that John could hear my voice. I was sure that John was around. He heard my voice, and ran to me crying. He said he was afraid that he was alone. I held him tightly.

In addition, I had a clear purpose when I shout for John. I wanted John to hear my voice. Otherwise, I wouldn't shout. I don't want other people look at me with strange look. I only shouted for one person, John, who was missing. I shouted with a clear purpose. I wanted one person's attention.

**This blind man shouted.** Why? He had a faith in Jesus that he could heal him. He shouted because he wanted to be heard by one person, Jesus Christ, who has power to heal. Bartimaeus had a clear purpose.

Do we ever shout? If we shout, who's going to listen? Do we have faith to shout? OR do we have guts? Courage? Confidence? Or reason to shout?

**Romans 10:17, "So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ."**

What are we hearing these days? What is our mind focusing on? What kind of faith are we developing in our hearts? Depending on what we are hearing, depending on what we are focusing, we are shaping our minds.

**Sometimes, to get to our destination quickly, we use shortcut.** This picture is a shortcut nearby my old apartment. There is a back door right in the middle of the building. Between grocery shop and the apartment, there is a big lawn field. We are supposed to go to the proper pathway and go around. But, there are people efficiency is their most important virtue. They first walked across the lawn field. With the trace on the lawn field, the other people walked the same path. Many people used it and now it became like a pathway.

Likewise, we are developing the way we think and live. If we think about negative things around life all the time, then relating to negativity becomes the most natural way for our brain. If we write down gratitude journal daily, then we are developing and embracing the attitude of thanksgiving. Finding something to be gratitude becomes easier and easier as we train ourselves with thanksgiving.

Bartimaeus firmly held what he heard. It grew into the faith in Christ.

There were obstacles. People yelled at him, "Be quiet!" **V49, "Many sternly ordered him to be quiet."**

Why did people ask Bartimaeus be quiet? They worried about Jesus becoming uncomfortable. Maybe, they are busy passing by this area. Maybe, they have an appointment coming up. Maybe, Jesus does not want to stop by? The Bible does not mention the reason why people wanted Bartimaeus quiet down. But, it seems like people tried to care for Jesus.

Sometimes, church tries to serve God but hinders people to come close to God. Sometimes, our thoughts get in the way of Jesus' ministry. **"V49, Jesus stood still."** Jesus stood still. Jesus stopped for two reasons. One, to call Bartimaeus. Two, to remove the obstacles for Bartimaeus.

In v49-50, Jesus calls Bartimaeus. **NLT, "When Jesus heard him, he stopped and said, "Tell him to come here." So they called the blind man. "Cheer up," they said. "Come on, he's calling you!" Bartimaeus threw aside his coat, jumped up, and came to Jesus."**

Image this picture. Jesus stood still waiting. People around Bartimaeus cheered for him. Bartimaeus stood tall and threw aside his cloak.

In this picture of the scene, we feel the excitement of Bartimaeus. He is very confident.

Throwing off his cloak means he does not have a backup plan. There is no plan B for him.

**Exodus 22:25-27, 25 If you lend money to my people, to the poor among you, you shall not deal with them as a creditor; you shall not exact interest from them. 26 If you take your neighbor's cloak in pawn, you shall restore it before the sun goes down; 27 for it may be your neighbor's only clothing to use as cover; in what else shall that person sleep? And if your neighbor cries out to me, I will listen, for I am compassionate.**

In Israel, at night time, weather cools down. They needed the cloak to protect them. Moreover, blind person does not have any financial independence. Therefore, beggars were given cloaks. This proved that they had permission to beg. Beggars were defined as such by the cloak they wore. Many times, cloak was their one and only possession and their only source of income. Throwing off his cloak means no turning back.

Jesus asked him, **"What do you want me to do for you?"**

The answer was ready. He knows what he wants. It does not come one day. He has the burning passion for his life. He wants to see.

What if Jesus is asking you today the same question, "What do you want me to do for you?" Do you have the definite answer like this blind beggar?

Pray for the burning passion in your heart. Ask the Lord wisdom and courage, so you can come to God and recognize the right chance. Establish and restore your personal relationship with God. Jesus is asking us, what do you want me to do for you? Let us come to God with our heart's desire. This is the message of the Lord for us today.

**Praise song – BOP 570 I have decided to follow Jesus**

**Prayer for the people**

Oh God you are my God, and I will ever praise you. Oh God you are my God, and I will ever praise you. Gracious and loving God the Father, thank you for your faithfulness and thank you for your mercy. Thank you for sending your Son Jesus Christ. When you sent your Son for us, you did not have any plan B. You had the perfect plan to save us and give us life.

Bartimaeus had a reason to shout. He wanted to see. This time, God, we want to look into our hearts. What is the one request we have in our hearts? What is the one thing we need right now?

God of wisdom and courage, help us face our honest self. Give us courage to take some time for you. Give us love and passion for you. For many things, we spend our time. For many many things, we pour out our hearts. Help us give our hearts to you. We want to discern your hope and desire for our life. Help us.

We remember those who need our prayers. Heal the sick. Embrace their body and mind. Help us restore peace and love within the relationships. Protect our hearts and guide our steps. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

**Invitation to the offering:**

God is the owner of all universe. All things and resources are his. He entrusted what we have in blessing. We are blessed to bless others. With our offering, we are expressing our thanks and love for God and God's people. God may use us and our gifts for his kingdom.

As we praise and worship God with our gifts, let us glorify him with all our hearts.

BOP #830, Doxology.

**Offering prayer:**

Good and gracious God, we bring our offering in gratitude for all that makes our lives good, even in uncertain times. Bless these gifts with your Spirit and use them through the ministry and mission of our Church to touch lives in need of your goodness. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

**Song for the Journey – BOP 687 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine**

Now, it is the time for us to be sent to the world where God called us to be. When the blind beggar stood up to come to Jesus, he threw away his cloak. Are we holding onto something, so that we have comfort in our hearts, but hinders us to come to God? Listen to God's voice today. What do you want me to do for you? Through the week, open your ears, eyes and all the senses, so you may experience God's presence in your life.

**Benediction:** May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, And the Love of God, our Father, And the intimate fellowship of the Holy Spirit, Be with us all, now and always. Amen.

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.