

Bible reading John 9:35-41

Hymn 706- Singing The Faith-*Longing For light we wait in Darkness*

### Spiritual Blindness

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup> “Who is he, sir?” the man asked. “Tell me so that I may believe in him.” <sup>37</sup> Jesus said, “You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.” <sup>38</sup> Then the man said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, <sup>[a]</sup> “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.” <sup>40</sup> Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, “What? Are we blind too?” <sup>41</sup> Jesus said, “If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.

**John 9:35-41** New International Version (NIV)

### Reflection

I remember when I was very, very young when this song was released and had no idea what Johnny Nash was saying, all I heard people saying was “Its gonna be bright, bright, sun shiny day!”. That’s the bit I heard and could comfortably sing along and dance to. There was no internet those days for people to goggle for lyrics. People had to listen to what Johnny was singing, sometimes end up singing the wrong words.

I was reminded of this song as I was reading the text from John about spiritual blindness. Jesus is trying to tell the Pharisees that that he was sent to the world to make the blind see. The Pharisees did not get it! I mean the penny did not drop, because they were so stuck in their own ways. Spiritual blindness can only be accepted by those who are willing to listen and understand the Jesus language and are willing to be saved. Jesus is the one who takes away the dark cloud. Johnny Nash sang I can see clearly now the sun is bright, gone are the dark clouds that had made me blind. As we walk this journey of lent

let us rejoice and celebrate that we can see clearly now the sun is bright! Hallelujah! We can only leave in hope at such a time of a dark cloud looming over us. As Christians we are certain Son of Man is our light. Hymn 706 - Singing the Faith says "Christ be our light, shine in our hearts, Shine through the darkness. Let us continue to hold hands as a church in prayer and walk in the light! Hallelujah!

### **Prayer**

Heavenly father, help us at a time as this, we are living at times of uncertainties. We cannot do it on our own but desperately need your guidance. We are glad that you sent your Son to be the Sun that shines brightly in our lives. You are God the Father and Mother. In you we trust and give glory as we celebrate your love on this Mother's Day. Like a mother you shield us and provide for our needs. Thank you for the gift of family and friends. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for us in Jesus' name. Amen

*Prepared by **Rev Mary Sachikonye Methodist Minister for** (Mile Cross, Costessey, Trinity Thorpe Mariott, Hosford and Drayton) for a time as this. We*

*are a church without walls. We should therefore, continue to proclaim the good news. I will be sending **Words of Hope** every week so that we may continue to nourish our spirits and continue to live in HOPE!*