



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Job 34-36

June 2, 2024

10:30 Holy Communion

We've been reading from Job. Two weeks ago we heard of the calamities that befell Job. Last week we read the debate between Job and three of his friends about why bad things happen. Today a new character appears in the story. His name is Elihu. He critiques Job and Job's friends. He introduces a reason for bad things happening that has not yet been discussed. Elihu's words are not ultimate, but they are an important part of any conversation about suffering.

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Large print bulletins are available on the usher's stand.

The Zoom feed for this service is available in the nursery.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn Faith of Our Fathers
(For music see Hymn 812 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Faith of our fathers, living still
in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword.
Oh how our hearts beat high with joy
when-e'er we hear that glorious word.**

Refrain **Faith of our fathers, holy faith,
we will be true to thee till death.**

2. **The martyrs, chained in prisons dark,
were still in heart and conscience free;
and blest would be their children's fate
if they, like them, should die for thee.** *Refrain*

3. **Faith of our fathers! We will love
both friend and foe in all our strife;
proclaim thee too, as love knows how,
by saving word and faithful life.** *Refrain*

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt. Music: Henri F. Hemy, 1818-1888; James G. Walton, 1821-1905, refrain

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sins.
A moment of silence for reflection.

P: God our provider,

C: help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world
in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

**Turn us again to you.
Where else can we turn?
Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

P: Beloved people of God,
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
C: Amen

Hymn of Praise This Is the Feast
(For music see Page 140 in the Red Hymnal)

Refrain **This is feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

- 1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God. Refrain**
- 2. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his. Refrain**
- 3. Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. Refrain**
- 4. For the Lamb
who was slain
has begun his reign, Alleluia. Refrain**

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

O God, throughout the ages you judge your people with mercy, and you inspire us to speak your truth. By your Spirit, anoint us for lives of faith and service, and bring all people into your forgiveness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Job 32

So these three men ceased to answer Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes. ²Then Elihu son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, became angry. He was angry at Job because he justified himself rather than God; ³he was angry also at Job's three friends because they had found no answer, though they had declared Job to be in the wrong. ⁴Now Elihu had waited to speak to Job, because they were older than he. ⁵But when Elihu saw that there was no answer in the mouths of these three men, he became angry.

⁶Elihu son of Barachel the Buzite answered:

"I am young in years,
and you are aged;
therefore I was timid and afraid
to declare my opinion to you.

⁷I said, 'Let days speak,
and many years teach wisdom.'

⁸But truly it is the spirit in a mortal,
the breath of the Almighty, that makes for understanding.

⁹It is not the old that are wise,
nor the aged that understand what is right.

¹⁰Therefore I say, 'Listen to me;
let me also declare my opinion.'

¹¹"See, I waited for your words,
I listened for your wise sayings,
while you searched out what to say.

¹²I gave you my attention,
but there was in fact no one that confuted Job,
no one among you that answered his words.

¹³Yet do not say, 'We have found wisdom;
God may vanquish him, not a human.'

¹⁴He has not directed his words against me,
and I will not answer him with your speeches.

¹⁵"They are dismayed, they answer no more;
they have not a word to say.

¹⁶And am I to wait, because they do not speak,
because they stand there, and answer no more?

¹⁷I also will give my answer;
I also will declare my opinion.

¹⁸For I am full of words;
the spirit within me constrains me.

- ¹⁹My heart is indeed like wine that has no vent;
like new wineskins, it is ready to burst.
- ²⁰I must speak, so that I may find relief;
I must open my lips and answer.
- ²¹I will not show partiality to any person
or use flattery toward anyone.
- ²²For I do not know how to flatter—
or my Maker would soon put an end to me!

Second Reading Job 33:1-11

- “But now, hear my speech, O Job,
and listen to all my words.
- ²See, I open my mouth;
the tongue in my mouth speaks.
- ³My words declare the uprightness of my heart,
and what my lips know they speak sincerely.
- ⁴The spirit of God has made me,
and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.
- ⁵Answer me, if you can;
set your words in order before me; take your stand.
- ⁶See, before God I am as you are;
I too was formed from a piece of clay.
- ⁷No fear of me need terrify you;
my pressure will not be heavy on you.
- ⁸“Surely, you have spoken in my hearing,
and I have heard the sound of your words.
- ⁹You say, ‘I am clean, without transgression;
I am pure, and there is no iniquity in me.
- ¹⁰Look, he finds occasions against me,
he counts me as his enemy;
¹¹he puts my feet in the stocks,
and watches all my paths.’

Scripture Poetry Job 33:12-30 (*Read responsively*)

- E: “But in this you are not right. I will answer you:
God is greater than any mortal.
- C:** ¹³**Why do you contend against him,
saying, ‘He will answer none of my words’?**
- E: ¹⁴For God speaks in one way,
and in two, though people do not perceive it.
- C:** ¹⁵**In a dream, in a vision of the night,
when deep sleep falls on mortals,**

while they slumber on their beds,

E: ¹⁶then he opens their ears,
and terrifies them with warnings,

**C: ¹⁷that he may turn them aside from their deeds,
and keep them from pride,**

E: ¹⁸to spare their souls from the Pit,
their lives from traversing the River.

**C: ¹⁹They are also chastened with pain upon their beds,
and with continual strife in their bones,**

E: ²⁰so that their lives loathe bread,
and their appetites dainty food.

**C: ²¹Their flesh is so wasted away that it cannot be seen;
and their bones, once invisible, now stick out.**

E: ²²Their souls draw near the Pit,
and their lives to those who bring death.

**C: ²³Then, if there should be for one of them an angel,
a mediator, one of a thousand,
one who declares a person upright,**

E: ²⁴and he is gracious to that person, and says,
‘Deliver him from going down into the Pit;
I have found a ransom;

**C: ²⁵let his flesh become fresh with youth;
let him return to the days of his youthful vigor.’**

E: ²⁶Then he prays to God, and is accepted by him,
he comes into his presence with joy,

C: and God repays him for his righteousness.

²⁷**That person sings to others and says,**

E: ‘I sinned, and perverted what was right,
and it was not paid back to me.

**C: ²⁸He has redeemed my soul from going down to the Pit,
and my life shall see the light.’**

E: ²⁹‘God indeed does all these things,
twice, three times, with mortals,

**C: ³⁰to bring back their souls from the Pit,
so that they may see the light of life.**

Gospel Acclamation (John 8:12)

C: Alleluia. Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading John 8:12-19

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

¹²Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." ¹³Then the Pharisees said to him, "You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid." ¹⁴Jesus answered, "Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵You judge by human standards; I judge no one. ¹⁶Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is valid; for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. ¹⁷In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. ¹⁸I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf." ¹⁹Then they said to him, "Where is your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also."

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Lord of All Hopefulness

(For music turn to Hymn 765 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**
2. **Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**
3. **Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,
Your hand swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,**

Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

**4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

Text: Ian Struther, 1901-1953; Music: Irish Traditional

Apostles' Creed

P: We confirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,

*The congregation will respond: **Hear our prayer.***

The pastor concludes the prayer:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: We share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

† MEAL †

Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord
For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,

and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

**Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray: Jesus, Bread of Life,

**C: you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the
feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and**

**strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your
body and life for the world. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus of Nazareth; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with church of yesterday, today and tomorrow;

and the church here in this place and all churches throughout the world, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Communion Distribution

Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. We use wheat bread and wine for communion. If you would prefer a gluten free wafer instead of bread please tell the communion assistant. Also, if you prefer grape juice to wine, it is available pre-filled in the individual glasses.

As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:

Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)

9 Communion Response (Songbook Binder)

25 Messiah (Songbook Binder)

Communion Blessing *After all have communed the pastor will say:*

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray:

Jesus, Bread of Life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own love. In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

‡ SENDING ‡

Blessing

P: The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn Take My Life, That I May Be

For music turn to Hymn 583 in the Red Hymnal

Refrain **Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**1. Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.**

Refrain

**2. Take my silver and my gold
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use**

ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. *Refrain*

3. **Take my voice and let me sing
always, only for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee.** *Refrain*

4. **Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.** *Refrain*

Text: Francis R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adapt. Music: William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954, Music copyright 1999 Augsburg Fortress

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **God's Work. Our Hands.**

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Greg and Mary Zuege
Acolyte	Thomas Bullwinkle
Altar Care	Linda Thompson
Communion Assistants	Gary Boisseau
Counters	John and Linda Thompson
Coffee Hour	Father's Day

Worship assistants for next Sunday, June 23

Greeters and Ushers	John and Linda Thompson
Acolyte	Alyssa Young
Counters	Bill and Katy Stimmel
Coffee Hour	

Scripture readings from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible* copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States. Psalm from *The Psalter* copyright 1994, Liturgical Training Publications. Variable worship texts from *Sundays and Seasons 2024* copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress.

St. John's Lutheran Church
888 County Road 9, Victor, NY 14564
stjohnsvictor.com (585) 924-5192
The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor
Dongwon Shin, Pianist