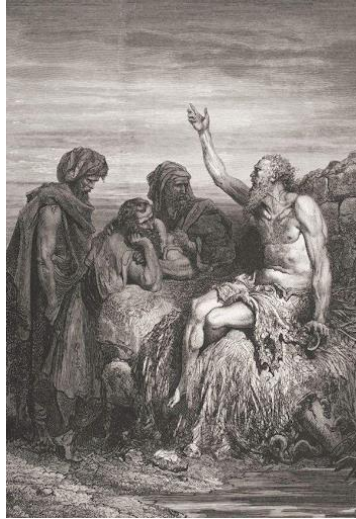




# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Job 1 & 2*

*June 2, 2024*

*10:30 Holy Communion*

Today we begin a summer-long worship series on poetry in the Old Testament. The first is the book of Job. The biggest struggle in Job is the question of why do bad things happen, especially to good people? The question is easy. The feelings around it are strong. But the answers are manifold. In today's readings we'll meet Job and learn of his righteousness. We'll also see how Job's successful life is torn apart as the authenticity of his faith is tested.

### *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 O Day of Rest and Gladness  
(For music see Hymn 521 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **O day of rest and gladness,  
O day of joy and light,  
O balm for care and sadness,  
most beautiful, most bright;  
on you the high and lowly,  
through ages join in tune,  
sing, “Holy, holy, holy,”  
to God the great triune.**
  
2. **On you, at earth’s creation,  
the light first had its birth;  
on you, for our salvation,  
Christ rose from depths of earth;  
on you, our Lord victorious  
the Spirit sent from heav’n;  
and thus on you, most glorious,  
a three-fold light was giv’n.**
  
3. **Today on weary nations  
the heav’nly manna falls;  
to holy convocations  
the silver trumpet calls,  
where gospel light is glowing  
with pure and radiant beams  
the living water flowing  
with soul refreshing streams.**
  
4. **New graces ever gaining  
from this our day of rest,  
we reach the rest remaining  
to spirits of the blest.  
We sing to you our praises,  
O Father, Spirit, Son;  
the church *its* voice upraises  
to you, blest Three in One.**

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...

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

*Introduction to Job*

*First Reading* Job 1:1-12

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. <sup>2</sup>There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. <sup>3</sup>He had seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred donkeys, and very many servants; so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the east.

<sup>4</sup>His sons used to go and hold feasts in one another's houses in turn; and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. <sup>5</sup>And when the feast days had run their course, Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all; for Job said, "It may be that my children have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts." This is what Job always did.

<sup>6</sup>One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. <sup>7</sup>The LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the LORD, "From going

to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.”<sup>8</sup>The LORD said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil.”<sup>9</sup>Then Satan answered the LORD, “Does Job fear God for nothing?”<sup>10</sup>Have you not put a fence around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.<sup>11</sup>But stretch out your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face.”<sup>12</sup>The LORD said to Satan, “Very well, all that he has is in your power; only do not stretch out your hand against him!” So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

*After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading Job 1:13-22

B: <sup>13</sup>One day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in the eldest brother’s house, <sup>14</sup>a messenger came to Job and said, “The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were feeding beside them, <sup>15</sup>and the Sabeans fell on them and carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you.” <sup>16</sup>While he was still speaking, another came and said, “The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; I alone have escaped to tell you.” <sup>17</sup>While he was still speaking, another came and said, “The Chaldeans formed three columns, made a raid on the camels and carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you.” <sup>18</sup>While he was still speaking, another came and said, “Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother’s house, <sup>19</sup>and suddenly a great wind came across the desert, struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; I alone have escaped to tell you.” <sup>20</sup>Then Job arose, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell on the ground and worshiped. <sup>21</sup>He said, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return there; the LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.” <sup>22</sup>In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong-doing.

*After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Psalm 26 (Read responsively)

D: Lord, defend me!

I have walked with honesty,

I trusted the Lord without wavering.

**C: Test me, try me, Lord,  
probe my heart and soul.**

D: Your love is ever before me,  
I walk boldly with your strength.

**C: I do not sit with liars,  
I do not mix with hypocrites.**

D: I hate evil company,  
I shall not live with crime.

**C: I wash my hands in innocence  
and walk around your altar,**

D: singing a song of thanks,  
telling your wonderful deeds.

**C: Lord, I love your house,  
the place your glory rests.**

D: Case me not with sinners,  
my life with the violent,

**C: those with criminal hands,  
hands filled with bribes.**

D: Yes I will be honest.  
Rescue me, be gracious!

**C: My stance is firm.  
At gatherings, I bless the Lord.**

### Third Reading Job 2

E: One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD. <sup>2</sup>The LORD said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the LORD, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." <sup>3</sup>The LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." <sup>4</sup>Then Satan answered the LORD, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. <sup>5</sup>But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." <sup>6</sup>The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life."

<sup>7</sup>So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. <sup>8</sup>Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among

the ashes. <sup>9</sup>Then his wife said to him, “Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die.” <sup>10</sup>But he said to her, “You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

<sup>11</sup>Now when Job’s three friends heard of all these troubles that had come upon him, each of them set out from his home—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. They met together to go and console and comfort him. <sup>12</sup>When they saw him from a distance, they did not recognize him, and they raised their voices and wept aloud; they tore their robes and threw dust in the air upon their heads. <sup>13</sup>They sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great.

*After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Children’s Sermon

### Sermon

Hymn of the Day God of Grace and God of Glory  
(For music see Hymn 705 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your pow’r;  
crown your ancient church’s story;  
bring its bud to glorious flow’r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.**
2. **Lo! The hosts of evil round us  
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.**
3. **Cure your children’s war-ing madness;  
bend our pride to your control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,**

lest we miss your kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

4. Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore;  
let the gift of your salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving you whom we adore,  
serving you whom we adore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969. Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932

### 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)*

**640** *Our Father, By Whose Name (Red Hymnal)*

**638** *Blessed Assurance (Red Hymnal)*

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    Great Is Thy Faithfulness  
*(for music please turn to Hymn 733 in the Red Hymnal)*

**1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, thy fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

*Refrain*

**Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain***

**3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bring hope for tomorrow,  
blessing all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain***

Text: Thomas Chisholm; Music: William Runyan; Copyright 1923, renewed 1951 Hope Publishing Co.

*Dismissal*

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers      Tom and Carol Urbanic  
Acolyte                      Thomas Bullwinkle  
Altar Care                    Linda Thompson  
Communion Assistants      Sally Mansfield  
Counters                      Bruce and Connie Stevenson  
Coffee Hour

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, June 9**

Greeters and Ushers      Bruce and Connie Stevenson  
Acolyte                      Alyssa Young  
Counters                      Linda Flood and Sue Kaufmann  
Coffee Hour

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