

St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands.



The 3rd Sunday After Pentecost

June 9, 2024

10:30 Service of the Word

This is the second week in our summer worship series on Old Testament poetry. We move into the heart of the book of Job today. We'll hear Job's bitter complaints. We'll also hear his three friends try to cheer him up (or else criticize him). But none of it works. This opens the door for us to wrestle with innocent suffering. It also invites us to consider how powerless we really are in this life and how much we depend upon God.

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 shown in the nursery.

⊕ GATHERING ⊕

Prelude and Announcements

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

<u>Gathering Hymn</u> Everybody's Got Something to Offer (For music turn to Hymn 55 in the Songbook binder)

Refrain

Everybody's got something to offer; young and old the prince and the pauper. Everybody's got something to offer in the name of the Lord.

- To the lost and the lowly ones the message it is clear; we have all got a gift to give our hands, our hearts, our tears. Refrain
- 2. To the believers gathered here the message it is true; we have all got a gift to give in all we say and do. *Refrain*

Text and Music: Larry Olson, copyright 1989 Dakota Road Music, used by permission

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

<u>Gathering Dialog</u> (Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)

A: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C: a people holy to the Lord our God.

A: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

A: One does not live by bread alone,

C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray:

God of heaven and earth, you have created us and all that exists. We depend upon you completely. Treat us with mercy and grace that we may enjoy the life you have given us, and protect us from all that would harm us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

骨 WORD 骨

First Reading Job 3:1-11

After this Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth. ²Job said:

³"Let the day perish in which I was born,

and the night that said,

'A man-child is conceived.'

⁴Let that day be darkness!

May God above not seek it,

or light shine on it.

⁵Let gloom and deep darkness claim it.

Let clouds settle upon it;

let the blackness of the day terrify it.

⁶That night—let thick darkness seize it!

let it not rejoice among the days of the year;

let it not come into the number of the months.

⁷Yes, let that night be barren;

let no joyful cry be heard in it.

⁸Let those curse it who curse the Sea,

those who are skilled to rouse up Leviathan.

⁹Let the stars of its dawn be dark;

let it hope for light, but have none;

may it not see the eyelids of the morning-

¹⁰because it did not shut the doors of my mother's womb,

and hide trouble from my eyes.

11"Why did I not die at birth,

come forth from the womb and expire?

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Disputation Between Job and His Friends

Job's friends have been insistent that Job must have done wicked things. Job continues to deny it, and he claims that his suffering is unfair.

Job 20:1-19, 27-29

B: Then Zophar the Naamathite answered:

²"Pay attention! My thoughts urge me to answer,

because of the agitation within me. ³I hear censure that insults me,

and a spirit beyond my understanding answers me.

⁴Do you not know this from of old,

ever since mortals were placed on earth,

⁵that the exulting of the wicked is short, and the joy of the godless is but for a moment?

⁶Even though they mount up high as the heavens, and their head reaches to the clouds.

⁷they will perish forever like their own dung;

those who have seen them will say, 'Where are they?'

⁸They will fly away like a dream, and not be found; they will be chased away like a vision of the night.

⁹The eye that saw them will see them no more, nor will their place behold them any longer.

¹⁰Their children will seek the favor of the poor, and their hands will give back their wealth.

¹¹Their bodies, once full of youth, will lie down in the dust with them.

124 Though wickedness is sweet in their mouth, though they hide it under their tongues,

¹³though they are loath to let it go, and hold it in their mouths,

¹⁴yet their food is turned in their stomachs; it is the venom of asps within them.

¹⁵They swallow down riches and vomit them up again;

God casts them out of their bellies.

¹⁶They will suck the poison of asps; the tongue of a viper will kill them.

¹⁷They will not look on the rivers, the streams flowing with honey and curds.

¹⁸They will give back the fruit of their toil, and will not swallow it down; from the profit of their trading they will get no enjoyment.

¹⁹For they have crushed and abandoned the poor, they have seized a house that they did not build.

²⁷The heavens will reveal their iniquity, and the earth will rise up against them.

²⁸The possessions of their house will be carried away, dragged off in the day of God's wrath.

²⁹This is the portion of the wicked from God, the heritage decreed for them by God."

Job 21:7-26
[Job replied]

7Why do the wicked live on, reach old age, and grow mighty in power?

8Their children are established in their presence,

and their offspring before their eyes.

⁹Their houses are safe from fear, and no rod of God is upon them.

¹⁰Their bull breeds without fail; their cow calves and never miscarries.

¹¹They send out their little ones like a flock, and their children dance around.

¹²They sing to the tambourine and the lyre, and rejoice to the sound of the pipe.

¹³They spend their days in prosperity, and in peace they go down to Sheol.

¹⁴They say to God, 'Leave us alone!

We do not desire to know your ways.

¹⁵What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? And what profit do we get if we pray to him?'

The plans of the wicked are repugnant to me.

17"How often is the lamp of the wicked put out? How often does calamity come upon them? How often does God distribute pains in his anger?

¹⁸How often are they like straw before the wind, and like chaff that the storm carries away?

¹⁹You say, 'God stores up their iniquity for their children.' Let it be paid back to them, so that they may know it.

²⁰Let their own eyes see their destruction, and let them drink of the wrath of the Almighty.

²¹For what do they care for their household after them, when the number of their months is cut off?

²²Will any teach God knowledge, seeing that he judges those that are on high?

²³One dies in full prosperity, being wholly at ease and secure,

²⁴his loins full of milk and the marrow of his bones moist.

²⁵Another dies in bitterness of soul, never having tasted of good.

²⁶They lie down alike in the dust, and the worms cover them.

Job 22:5-28

D: [Eliphaz replied to Job]

⁵Is not your wickedness great?

There is no end to your iniquities.

⁶For you have exacted pledges from your family for no reason, and stripped the naked of their clothing.

⁷You have given no water to the weary to drink, and you have withheld bread from the hungry.

⁸The powerful possess the land, and the favored live in it.

⁹You have sent widows away empty-handed, and the arms of the orphans you have crushed.

¹⁰Therefore snares are around you, and sudden terror overwhelms you,

¹¹or darkness so that you cannot see;

a flood of water covers you.

²¹"Agree with God, and be at peace; in this way good will come to you.

²²Receive instruction from his mouth, and lay up his words in your heart.

²³If you return to the Almighty, you will be restored, if you remove unrighteousness from your tents,

²⁴if you treat gold like dust,

and gold of Ophir like the stones of the torrent-bed,

²⁵and if the Almighty is your gold and your precious silver,

²⁶then you will delight yourself in the Almighty, and lift up your face to God.

²⁷You will pray to him, and he will hear you, and you will pay your vows.

²⁸You will decide on a matter, and it will be established for you, and light will shine on your ways.

Job 27:1-6

Job again took up his discourse and said:

²"As God lives, who has taken away my right, and the Almighty, who has made my soul bitter,

³as long as my breath is in me

and the spirit of God is in my nostrils,

⁴my lips will not speak falsehood,

and my tongue will not utter deceit.

⁵Far be it from me to say that you are right;

until I die I will not put away my integrity from me.
⁶I hold fast my righteousness, and will not let it go;
my heart does not reproach me for any of my days.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

<u>Hymn of the Day</u> Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me (For music turn to Hymn 623 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed, be of sin the double cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
- 2. Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands; could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone; thou my save, and thou alone.
- 3. Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to thy cross I cling.
 Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.
- 4. While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death, when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne, Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-1778. Music: Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872.

Response to the Word

P: In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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.

A: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit.

(Jude 20)

A: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Jude 21)

A: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C: Everything old has passed away;

behold, everything has become new! (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Prayers of Intercession

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: Let us share that peace with one another.

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

⊕ THANKSGIVING ⊕

Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil

For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal

Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your Word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.

When my heart is hard,
break the stone away.

When my heart is cold,
warm it with the day.

When my heart is lost,
lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God,

C: ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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.

◆ 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.

<u>Sending Hymn</u> Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (For music turn to Hymn 834 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!
- 2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

4. Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all laud we would render; oh, help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt. Music: Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807-1876

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C: God's Work. Our Hands.

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers Bruce and Connie Stevenson

Acolyte Alyssa Young

Counters Linda Flood and Sue Kaufmann

Coffee Hour

Worship assistants for next Sunday, June 16

Greeters and Ushers Mary and Greg Zuege
Acolyte Thomas Bullwinkle
Altar Care Linda Thompson
Communion Assistant Gary Boisseau

Counters John and Linda Thompson

Coffee Hour Father's Day

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St. John's Lutheran Church

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