



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Forgiveness and Healing*

*February 20, 2022*

*10:30 Holy Communion*

We want the world to make sense. We want punishments to fit the crimes and rewards that reflect the effort given. We want good things to happen to good people and bad things to happen to bad people. But the world does not work that way. Why? People have been asking that for as far back as there is written history. In today's gospel we see the whole situation is wrapped in God's boundless grace.

### *Welcome to worship today!*

Please observe social distancing and remain conscious of the need to prevent the spread of infectious disease. In this bulletin is an insert that will be used to determine today's attendance. It will also help to identify who was here if contact tracing is necessary. Please fill it out and place it in the offering plate.

# † GATHERING †

## Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life  
(For music turn to Hymn 816 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Come, my way, my truth, my life:**  
Such a way as gives us breath;  
Such a truth as ends all strife;  
Such a life as killeth death.
2. **Come, my light, my feast, my strength:**  
Such a light as shows a feast;  
Such a feast as mends in length;  
Such a strength as makes his guest.
3. **Come, my joy, my love, my heart:**  
Such a joy as none can move;  
Such a love as none can part;  
such a heart as joys in love.

Text: George Herbert, 1593-1632; Music: R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

## 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.**

## Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
who creates us,  
redeems us,  
and calls us by name.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have sinned against you  
and your beloved children.**

**We have turned our faces away from your glory  
when it did not appear as we expected.**

**We have rejected your word  
when it made us confront ourselves.  
We have failed to show hospitality  
to those you called us to welcome.  
Accept our repentance for the things we have done  
and the things we have left undone.  
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe  
in the glory of your Son born among us,  
and reflect your love for all creation.  
Amen.**

**P: Rejoice in this good news:  
In Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.  
You are descendants of the Most High,  
adopted into the household of Christ,  
and inheritors of eternal life.  
Live as freed and forgiven children of God.  
C: Amen.**

*Hymn of Praise* Now the Feast and Celebration  
(For music turn to Hymn 789 in the Blue Hymnal)

*Refrain*  
**Now the feast and celebration,  
all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom  
praise and glory forevermore!**

- 1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,  
whose blood has freed and united us  
to be one great people of God.      *Refrain***
- 2. Power and riches, wisdom and might,  
all honor and glory to Christ forever.      *Refrain***
- 3. For God has come to dwell with us,  
to make us people of God;  
to make all things new.      *Refrain***

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

Almighty God, in signs and wonders your Son revealed the greatness of your saving love. Renew us with your grace, and sustain us by your power, that we may stand in the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

First Reading Isaiah 43:18-25

B: <sup>18</sup>Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.

<sup>19</sup>I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.

<sup>20</sup>The wild animals will honor me,  
the jackals and the ostriches;

for I give water in the wilderness,  
rivers in the desert,

to give drink to my chosen people,  
<sup>21</sup>the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.

<sup>22</sup>Yet you did not call upon me, O Jacob;  
but you have been weary of me, O Israel!

<sup>23</sup>You have not brought me your sheep for burnt offerings,  
or honored me with your sacrifices.

I have not burdened you with offerings,  
or wearied you with frankincense.

<sup>24</sup>You have not bought me sweet cane with money,  
or satisfied me with the fat of your sacrifices.

But you have burdened me with your sins;  
you have wearied me with your iniquities.

<sup>25</sup>I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for my own sake,  
and I will not remember your sins.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Scripture Poetry* Psalm 41 (read responsively)

D: Blest are those ready to help the poor;  
in hard times God repays their care.

**C: God watches, protects,  
blesses them in their land,  
lets no enemy swallow them up!**

D: God comforts them on their sickbed  
and nurses them to health.

**C: I said, “God, pity me,  
heal me for I have failed you.”  
Enemies predict the worst for me:  
“How soon till this one dies,  
how soon forgotten?”**

D: Visitors wish me well,  
but they come seeking bad news  
to gossip on the street.

**C: My enemies whisper  
and spread the worst about me:**

D: “Something fatal has taken hold,  
this one will not get well.”

**C: Even my trusted friend  
who used to eat with me  
now turns on me.**

D: Pity me, God, restore me  
so I can pay them back.

**C: Then I will know you favor me  
when my foes cannot prevail.**

D: I am innocent; uphold me!  
Let me stand with you forever.

**C: Blessed be the Lord,  
God of Israel forever.  
Amen! Amen!**

*Second Reading* 2 Corinthians 1:17b-22

E: [Paul writes] Do I make my plans according to ordinary human standards, ready to say “Yes, yes” and “No, no” at the same time? <sup>18</sup>As surely as God is faithful, our word to you has not been “Yes and No.” <sup>19</sup>For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not “Yes and No”; but in him it is always “Yes.” <sup>20</sup>For in him every one of God’s promises is a “Yes.” For

this reason it is through him that we say the “Amen,” to the glory of God. <sup>21</sup>But it is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us, <sup>22</sup>by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit in our hearts as a first installment.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation* (Isaiah 43:19)

**C: Alleluia. God says, “I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” Alleluia.**

*Gospel Reading* Luke 5:12-26

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup>Once, when he was in one of the cities, there was a man covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he bowed with his face to the ground and begged him, “Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean.” <sup>13</sup>Then Jesus stretched out his hand, touched him, and said, “I do choose. Be made clean.” Immediately the leprosy left him. <sup>14</sup>And he ordered him to tell no one. “Go,” he said, “and show yourself to the priest, and, as Moses commanded, make an offering for your cleansing, for a testimony to them.” <sup>15</sup>But now more than ever the word about Jesus spread abroad; many crowds would gather to hear him and to be cured of their diseases. <sup>16</sup>But he would withdraw to deserted places and pray.

<sup>17</sup>One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting near by (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with him to heal. <sup>18</sup>Just then some men came, carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; <sup>19</sup>but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. <sup>20</sup>When he saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven you.” <sup>21</sup>Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, “Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” <sup>22</sup>When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, “Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? <sup>23</sup>Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and walk’? <sup>24</sup>But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” —he said to the one who was paralyzed—“I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.” <sup>25</sup>Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been

lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. <sup>26</sup>Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, “We have seen strange things today.”

*After the reading:*

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

### Children's Sermon

#### Sermon

Hymn of the Day Healer of Our Every Ill  
(For music turn to Hymn 612 in the Red Hymnal)

*Refrain:* **Healer of our ev'ry ill,  
light of each tomorrow,  
give us peace beyond our fear,  
and hope beyond our sorrow.**

1. **You who know our fears and sadness,  
grace us with your peace and gladness;  
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. Refrain**
2. **In the pain and joy beholding  
how your grace is still unfolding,  
give us all your vision, God of love. Refrain**
3. **Give us strength to love each other,  
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;  
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. Refrain**
4. **You who know each thought and feeling,  
teach us all your way of healing;  
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. Refrain**

Text and music: Marty Haugen, Copyright 1987 GIA Publications

#### 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 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.*

*Special Music*



† MEAL †

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*Offering Prayer*

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

**C: Sovereign of the universe.**

**You offer us new beginnings  
and guide us on our journey.**

**Lead us to your table,  
nourish us with this heavenly food,  
and prepare us to carry your love  
to a hungry world,  
in the name of Christ our light.  
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 Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

*(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.**

Communion Distribution

*Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. You are invited to come forward to the altar. Due to the pandemic we are using wheat wafers and individual glasses. If you need a gluten free wafer please tell the pastor. White grape juice is available in the individual glasses for those who do not wish to take wine. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:*

*Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)*

**610 O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come (Red Hymnal)**

**27 Purify My Heart (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:

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

† SENDING †

*Blessing*

P: God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,  
who rejoices over you,  
and who calls you by name,  
bless your going out and your coming in,  
today and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn* I See the Lord  
(For music turn to #89 in the Songbook Binder)

*Verse*

**I see the Lord  
And He is seated on the throne  
The train of His robe  
Is filling the heavens  
I see the Lord  
And He is shining like the sun  
His eyes full of fire  
His voice like the waters  
Surrounding His throne  
Are thousands singing**

*Chorus*

**Holy holy holy  
Is the Lord God Almighty  
Holy holy holy  
Is the Lord  
Holy holy holy  
Is the Lord God Almighty  
Holy holy holy  
Is the Lord**

Text and Music by Paul Baloche; copyright 1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; CCLI #2444044

*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers	Sue Kaufmann
Acolyte	Owen Young
Altar Care	Helen Crown
Communion Assistants	Sue Kaufmann
Nursery Care	<i>not offered during the pandemic</i>
Counters	Linda Flood and Sue Kaufmann
Coffee Hour	

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, February 27, 2022**

Greeters and Ushers	Helen Crown
Acolyte	Brody Ireland
Nursery Care	<i>not offered during the pandemic</i>
Counters	Tom Kurilovitch and Helen Crown
Coffee Hour	<i>Please sign up!</i>

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