



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Second Sunday in Lent*

*Rich Young Man - Mark 10:17-31*

*February 25, 2024 10:30 Service of the Word*

How do you get to heaven and how hard is the way? These are the questions many people ask. Our gospel reading will give us the answer – it's impossible! But God can do the impossible, so it is to God we turn and upon God that we rely.

*Welcome to worship today!*

If you are a visitor we invite you to sign the guest book in the back of the sanctuary.

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

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,  
who writes the law on our hearts,  
who draws all people together through Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

P: Holy God,

**C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin  
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors  
are hungry and cold.**

**We speak in ways that silence others.**

**We are silent when we should speak up.**

**We keep score in our hearts.**

**We let hurts grow into hatred.**

**For all these things and for sins only you know,  
forgive us, Lord.**

**Amen.**

P: Here is a flood of grace:  
Out of love for the whole world,  
God draws near to us,  
breaks every snare of sin,  
washes away our wrongs,  
and restores the promise of life through Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn    What Wondrous Love Is This

*(For music turn to Hymn 666 in the Red Hymnal)*

**1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
What wondrous love is this  
that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?**

2. When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down  
beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

3. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,  
to God and to the Lamb I will sing;  
to God and to the Lamb,  
who is the great I Am,  
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,  
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;  
and when from death I'm free,  
I'll sing his love for me,  
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
And through eternity I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19<sup>th</sup> cent., alt. Music: W Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914-1997, alt.  
Arr. copyright 1955 Augsburg Publishing House

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13, Romans 10)

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.**

A: The word is near you,

**C: on your lips and in your heart.**

A: If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

**C: and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.**

A: Faith comes from what is heard,

**C: and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.**

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

O God, by the death of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us a means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of

your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

First Reading Romans 3:21-26

B: <sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Psalm 53 (*read together*)

**C: Fools tell themselves,**

**“There is no God.”**

**Their actions are corrupt,  
none of them does good.**

**The Lord looks down  
to see if anyone is wise,  
if anyone seeks God.**

**But all are worthless,  
all are depraved.**

**No one does good,  
not even one.**

**Are these evil-doers mad?**

**They eat up my people  
like so much bread;**

**they never pray.**

**They should cringe in fear  
as never before,**

**since God will scatter their bones.**

**Your attackers may shame you,  
but God rejects them.  
Let God send victory from Zion  
and restore the people's fortunes!  
Then Jacob will sing,  
and Israel rejoice.**

Gospel Acclamation (Mark 10:27)

**C: For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.**

Gospel Reading Mark 10:17-31

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>17</sup>As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"<sup>18</sup>Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. <sup>19</sup>You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" <sup>20</sup>He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." <sup>21</sup>Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." <sup>22</sup>When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

<sup>23</sup>Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" <sup>24</sup>And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." <sup>26</sup>They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" <sup>27</sup>Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

<sup>28</sup>Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." <sup>29</sup>Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, <sup>30</sup>who will not receive a hundredfold

now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup>But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

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

### Children's Sermon

#### Sermon

Hymn of the Day      How Firm a Foundation  
(For music see Hymn 796 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said  
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**
2. **“Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.”**
3. **“When through fi'ry trials your pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply.  
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.”**
4. **“Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove  
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,  
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.”**

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt. Music: Early American

#### 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.**

*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*

*Hymn of Thanksgiving* *As the offering is brought forward:*

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.

† PRAYER †

Thanksgiving Prayer

P: Let us pray. Merciful God,

**C: we offer to you what is already your own: ourselves, our time and our possessions. Guide us so that we may use your gifts in the service of your will; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.**

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: Beloved,



we are God's own people,  
holy, washed, renewed.  
God bless you and keep you,  
shower you with mercy,  
fill you with courage,  
and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn* How Great Thou Art  
(For music turn to Hymn 856 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works thy hands hath made;  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;**

*Refrain* **Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee,  
How great thou art! How great thou art!**

**2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;** *Refrain*

**3. But when I think that God, his Son not sparing  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin;** *Refrain*

**4. When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"** *Refrain*

Text: Carl Boberg (Swedish); Stuart K. Hine (English); Music: Swedish fold tune, arr. Stuart K Hine;  
Copyright 1955 Manna Music

*Dismissal*

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

**C: God's work. Our hands.**

I FEEL BAD FOR  
THIS GUY, ALL HE  
WANTS IS AN  
ANSWER.



YEAH, BUT HE'S  
ASKING THE WRONG  
QUESTION.



A **BETTER**  
QUESTION  
WOULD BE ...



HOW DO I INHERIT  
ETERNAL LIFE AND  
KEEP ALL MY  
STUFF?



**NO!**



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MARK 10:17-31

## Live Streaming Church



The more things change, the more they remain the same!

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers     Bruce and Connie Stevenson  
Acolyte                     Thomas Bullwinkle  
Counters                    Bill and Katy Stimmel  
Coffee Hour

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, March 4**

Greeters and Ushers     Janice Lockwood  
Acolyte                     Alyssa Young  
Altar Care                 Emma Deibler  
Communion Assistant     Gary Boisseau  
Counters                    Bruce and Connie Stevenson  
Coffee Hour

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The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor  
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