



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Exorcisms and Healings

January 30, 2022 10:30 Service of the Word

What is wholeness of life? What is it like to live feeling fulfilled? Each of us would answer those questions differently, yet we would all agree it has something to do with feeling capable and worthwhile. Today we'll be reading about Jesus' initial healings and exorcisms. In all of them Jesus took people from being broken to being whole. While we may not experience miraculous restorations in our own lives, Jesus has still given us what we need to live a path of wholeness.

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

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination

L: 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.

L: 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.

Gathering Hymn There is a Balm in Gilead
(For music turn to Hymn 614 in the Red Hymnal)

Refrain:

**There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.**

- 1. Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.** *Refrain*
- 2. If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all."**
Refrain
- 3. Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,
and if you lack for knowledge, he'll ne'er refuse to lend.**
Refrain

Text and Music: African American Spiritual

Apostles' Greeting

L: 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.

Gathering Dialog (John 1)

L: In the beginning was the Word,

C: and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

L: In the Word was life,

C: and the life was the light of all people.

L: The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C: and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray...

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity. We pray through that same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns forever.

C: Amen

† WORD †

First Reading Isaiah 58:6-9a

B: Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 49:1-19 (*read responsively*)

D: Everyone, take heed,
all the world, listen,
high and low,
rich and poor alike.

**C: I have wisdom you need to hear.
I see to the heart of things,
I tune my ear to the truth
and set my insight to music.**

D: Why should I be afraid in bad times
when enemies surround me,
disdainful in their power,
arrogant in their wealth?

**C: We cannot save ourselves,
cannot set things right with God;
the price is too high,
well beyond our means.**

D: There is no escaping death,
no avoiding the grave.
Look, even the wisest die.

Fools and idiots perish with them,
and others claim their wealth.

**C: The grave is the only home
where they settle for good,
even if their land
still bears their name.**

D: No matter how great,
no one sees the truth:
we die like beasts.

**C: Here is the fate of those
only concerned for themselves:
they go straight to Sheol.**

D: Death shepherds them
right into the grave,
where flesh is eaten up
and earth consumes them.

**C: But I know God will rescue me,
save me from the grip of death.**

D: Do not worry about wealth,
when someone else becomes rich.

**C: You cannot take it to your grave,
wealth is worth nothing in death.**

D: No matter how wealthy,
no matter how many tell you,
“My, how well you have done,”

**C: the rich all join the dead
never to see light again.**

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

E: Finally, brothers and sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus that, as you learned from us how you ought to live and to please God (as, in fact, you are doing), you should do so more and more. ²For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. ³For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from fornication;⁴that each one of you know how to control your own body in holiness and honor, ⁵not with lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;⁶that no one wrong or exploit a brother or sister in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, just as we have already told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. ⁷For God did not call us

to impurity but in holiness. ⁸Therefore whoever rejects this rejects not human authority but God, who also gives his Holy Spirit to you.

⁹Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another; ¹⁰and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, beloved, to do so more and more, ¹¹to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we directed you, ¹²so that you may behave properly toward outsiders and be dependent on no one.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Psalm 49:2)

C: Alleluia. I have wisdom you need to hear. I see to the heart of things, I tune my ear to the truth and set my insight to music. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Luke 4:31-44

The gospel is announced:

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 4th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus] went down to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and was teaching them on the sabbath. ³²They were astounded at his teaching, because he spoke with authority. ³³In the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, ³⁴“Let us alone! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” ³⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” When the demon had thrown him down before them, he came out of him without having done him any harm. ³⁶They were all amazed and kept saying to one another, “What kind of utterance is this? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and out they come!” ³⁷And a report about him began to reach every place in the region. ³⁸After leaving the synagogue he entered Simon’s house. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked him about her. ³⁹Then he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her. Immediately she got up and began to serve them. ⁴⁰As the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various kinds of diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on each of them and cured them. ⁴¹Demons also came out of many, shouting, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Messiah. ⁴²At daybreak he departed and went into a deserted place.

And the crowds were looking for him; and when they reached him, they wanted to prevent him from leaving them. ⁴³But he said to them, “I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other cities also; for I was sent for this purpose.” ⁴⁴So he continued proclaiming the message in the synagogues of Judea.

After the reading:

L: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Lord of the Dance
(for music, see Hymn 24 in the Songbook)

**1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
at Bethlehem I had my birth.**

Refrain:

**Dance, dance wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the dance said he.
“And I’ll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I’ll lead you all in the dance,” said he.**

**2. I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
and they would not dance and they wouldn’t follow me.
I danced for the fishermen and James and John;
They came with me and the dance went on. *Refrain***

**3. I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
the holy people said it was a shame;
they whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
they left me there on the cross to die. *Refrain***

**4. I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
it’s hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I’d gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on. *Refrain***

**5. They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that will never, never die,
And I'll live in you if you live in me,
for I am the Lord of the dance, said he. Refrain**

Text: Sydney Carter. Music: American Folk Tune. Copyright 1963 Stainer and Bell, Ltd. (Admin. by Hope Publishing Company)

Apostles' Creed

L: 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

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

A few people in the congregation have prepared petitions to read. You are welcome to add your own. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,

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

The worship leader concludes the prayer:

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

C: Amen.

Peace

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

C: And also with you.

L: Let us share that peace with one another.

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

Special Music

† PRAYER †

Lord's Prayer

L: 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

L: 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 We Are an Offering
For music turn to Hymn 692 in the Red Hymnal

**We lift our voices,
we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you:
we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices,
Lord, use our hands,
Lord use our lives, they are yours:
we are an offering.
All that we have,
all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you,
we give to you.
We lift our voices,
we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you:
we are an offering,
we are an offering.**

Text and music: Dwight Liles, b. 1937, copyright 1984 Word Music, LLC

Dismissal

**L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
C: God's work. Our hands.**



"Bobby here is helping out until the bell gets back from the repair shop."

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Acolyte	Brody Ireland
Nursery Care	<i>not offered during the pandemic</i>
Counters	John and Linda Thompson
Coffee Hour	

Worship assistants for next Sunday, February 5

Greeters and Ushers	Greg and Mary Zuege
Acolyte	Creed White
Altar Care	Helen Crown
Communion Assistants	Greg Zuege
Nursery Care	<i>not offered during pandemic</i>
Counters	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
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 2022* copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress.

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