



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Arrival in Jerusalem – Mark 11:1-19*

*March 14, 2021*

*10:30 Service of the Word*

Jerusalem was the religious center of the Jewish people. Within it stood the great temple, the house of God. While Jews believed God was everywhere the temple was God's promised dwelling place. It was to the temple that Jews turned for forgiveness of sins and for right relationship with God. We know the stories of Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem and his time in the temple. Today we take a fresh look at these old stories and discover new things to learn from them.

### *Welcome to worship today!*

This order of worship is designed to accompany what is happening live on Zoom. In order to make things work smoothly please keep your computer's microphone off unless you have a speaking part. It may be helpful to use a headset or earbuds to minimize feedback. You are welcome to use the chat feature to ask questions or provide feedback. Following worship we will have a time for those who would like to chat.

† GATHERING †

Announcements

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,  
the keeper of the covenant,  
the source of steadfast love,  
our rock and our redeemer.

**C: Amen.**

P: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

P: Fountain of living water,

**C: pour out your mercy over us.**

**Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.**

**Rebuild what we have ruined  
and mend what we have torn.**

**Wash us in your cleansing flood.**

**Make us alive in the Spirit**

**to follow in the way of Jesus,**

**as healers and restorers of the world you so love.**

**Amen.**

P: Beloved, God's word never fails.

The promise rests on grace:

by the saving love of Jesus Christ,

the wisdom and power of God,

your sins are forgiven, and God remembers them no more.

Journey in the way of Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

*Gathering Hymn* There in God's Garden  
(For music see Hymn 342 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **There in God's garden stands the Tree of Wisdom,  
whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations:  
Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion,  
Tree of all beauty.**
2. **Its name is Jesus, name that says, "Our Savior!"  
There on its branches see the scars of suff'ring;  
see there the tendrils of our human selfhood  
feed on its life blood.**
3. **Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage;  
our greed has starved it, our despite has choked it.  
Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not destroyed it  
nor fire consumed it.**
4. **See how its branches reach to us in welcome;  
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye weary!  
Give me your sickness, give me all your sorrow,  
I will give blessing."**
5. **This is my ending, this my resurrection;  
into your hands, Lord, I commit my spirit.  
This have I searched for; now I can possess it.  
This ground is holy.**
6. **All heav'n is singing, "Thanks to Christ whose passion  
offers in mercy healing, strength, and pardon.  
Peoples and nations, take it, take it freely!"  
Amen! My Master!**

Text: Kiraly Imre von Pecselyi, c.1590-c.1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917-1982. Text copyright 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc. Music: K. Lee Scott, b. 1950, copyright 1987 Birnamwood Publications, a div. of MorningStar Publishers, Inc.

*Gathering Dialog* (Romans 10)

P: The word is near you,

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

P: 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.**

P: Faith comes from what is heard,

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

Prayer of the Day

**A:** Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through 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 Zechariah 9:9-10

**B:** <sup>9</sup>Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

<sup>10</sup>He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
and the war horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Psalm 84 (read responsively)

**D:** Your temple is my joy,  
Lord of heaven's might.  
I am eager for it,  
eager for the courts of God.

**C: My flesh, my flesh sings  
its joy to the living God.**

**D:** As a sparrow homing,  
a swallow seeking a nest  
to hatch its young,

**C: I am eager for your altars,  
Lord of heaven's might,  
my king, my God.**

**D:** To live with you is joy,  
to praise you and never stop.

**C: Those you bless with courage  
will bless you from their hearts.**

**D:** When they cross the Valley of Thirst  
the ground is spaced with springs,  
with the welcome rain of autumn.

**C: They travel the towns to reach  
to God of gods in Zion.**

**D:** Hear me, Lord of might,  
heed me, God of Jacob.

**C: God our shield, look,  
see the face of your anointed.**

**D:** One day within your courts  
is worth a thousand without.

**C: I would rather stand at God's gate  
then move among the wicked.**

**D:** God is our sun, our shield,  
the gift of honor and grace.  
The Lord never fails to bless  
those who walk with integrity.

**C: Lord of heaven's might,  
blest are all who trust in you.**

### **Second Reading Ephesians 6:10-17**

**E:** <sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. <sup>15</sup>As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (Mark 11:9b-10)

**C: Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!**

Gospel Reading Mark 11:1-19

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” <sup>4</sup>They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” <sup>6</sup>They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

<sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

<sup>11</sup>Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

<sup>12</sup>On the following day, when they came from Bethany, he was hungry. <sup>13</sup>Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see whether perhaps he would find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. <sup>14</sup>He said to it, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again.” And his disciples heard it.

<sup>15</sup>Then they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling and those who were buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves; <sup>16</sup>and he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. <sup>17</sup>He was teaching and saying, “Is it not written,

‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations?’

But you have made it a den of robbers.”

<sup>18</sup>And when the chief priests and the scribes heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him; for they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching. <sup>19</sup>And when evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

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

### Children's Sermon

### Sermon

Hymn of the Day      Bless Now, O God, the Journey  
(For music see Hymn 326 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Bless now, O God, the journey  
that all your people make,  
the path through noise and silence,  
the way of give and take.  
The trail is found in desert  
and winds the mountain round,  
then leads beside still waters,  
the road where faith is found.**
2. **Bless sojourners and pilgrims  
who share this winding way;  
your hope burns through the terrors,  
your love sustains the day.  
We yearn for holy freedom  
while often we are bound;  
together we are seeking  
the road where faith is found.**
3. **Divine eternal lover,  
you meet us on the road.  
We wait for lands of promise  
where milk and honey flow,  
but waiting not for places,  
you meet us all around.  
Our covenant is written  
on roads, as faith is found.**

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.**

F: 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.**

F: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**C: pray in the Holy Spirit.** *(Jude 20)*

F: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

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

F: 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)*



## † PRAYER †

### 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. These three petitions will be read by people in the congregation:*

**A:** Continue your creation of this good earth. Nourish seas and rivers, and give water to thirsty lands. Nurture spring growth that feeds hungry creatures, and bless the fields being prepared for the growing season. Lord in your mercy...

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**B:** O God, preserve your church through good times and bad. Empower pastors, missionaries, Young Adults in Global Mission, and all ministries of service for their work throughout this pandemic. Be with the missionaries we support: the Rev. Karen Anderson in Chile and the Rev. Matthew Nickoloff in Rochester. Lord in your mercy...

**C: Hear our prayer.**

**F:** In Brazil and wherever COVID-19 rages, send healing. In Myanmar and wherever tyranny rules, restore human rights. In Nigeria and wherever there is domestic terrorism, send concord. In Ethiopia and wherever there is bloodshed, bring peace. In Yemen and wherever people starve, give food and water. In the United States and wherever there is discrimination, inspire all residents to honor one another and to strive for justice. Prosper the work of those who care for victims of violence, and grant legislators wisdom in decision-making. Lord in your mercy...

**C: 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

**A:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**A:** We share that peace with one another.

*The congregation may greet one another with messages of Christ's peace.*

Special Music

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: You are what God made you to be:  
created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
chosen as holy and beloved,  
freed to serve your neighbor.  
God bless you that you may be a blessing,  
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn On Our Way Rejoicing  
(For music see Hymn 537 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. On our way rejoicing  
gladly let us go.  
Christ, our Lord has conquered;  
Vanquished is the foe.  
Christ without, our safety;  
Christ within, our joy;  
who, if we be faithful,  
can our hope destroy?**

*Refrain:* **On our way rejoicing;**

**as we forward move,  
hearken to our praises,  
O blest God of love!**

**2. Unto God the Father  
joyful songs we sing;  
unto God the Savior  
thankful hearts we bring;  
unto God the Spirit  
bow we and adore,  
on our say rejoicing  
now and evermore. *Refrain***

Text: John S.B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt. Music: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

### *Dismissal*

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

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

## *Announcements*

### **Office Hours**

Pastor Jon anticipates being in the office:

Monday –morning and afternoon

Tuesday –afternoon

Wednesday –morning and afternoon

Thursday - morning

He can be available other times by appointment. Please call the church:

(585) 924-5192 or pastor's cell: (585) 281-3595

### **Church Playground – Girl Scout Gold Project Can & Bottle Collection**

Kelsey Sackett is working to replace the church playground for her Girl Scout Gold Award project. Please consider donating your deposit bottles and cans to help pay for it. A collection bin is in the old entrance room.

### **Easter Flowers**

We will be having some form of in-person worship for Easter and we will have some Easter flowers in the sanctuary. If you would like to sponsor a lily, tulip, hyacinth, or daffodil please let Pastor Jon know. The cost will be the going rate at local grocery stores. We will not be ordering from a florist this year.

## **Conference Good Friday Worship**

For Good Friday this year we will have our own worship service at 7pm as usual. However our conference is also putting together a conference-wide Stations of the Cross service. It will be pre-recorded and available on Good Friday. Two families from our church are invited to each create a video for the service. It will involve going to a location that is significant to you (for whatever reason you choose), then recording reading the scripture passage and a brief meditation. Entries are due by March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Pastor Jon has more information and please be in touch with him if you'd like to participate.

## **Giving Up Lint for Lent**

This annual collection is the easiest thing you'll have to "give up" for Lent. Save your dryer lint, candle stubs, and worn down crayons and drop them off in the collection box at church. We usually melt the wax into the lint and use it for the fire on Easter Sunday. We may or may not do that this year, but we will use the collected materials for a fun fire sometime in the year!

## **Mid-Week Lenten Worship**

Wednesdays in Lent the Genesee Finger Lakes Conference pastors are putting together an online worship series called Created for Community. The worship service itself at 7:00pm and goes until about 7:30. After that the worshippers will be split into two groups. One group will have time for questions and discussion with the worship leaders. The other group will explore a different prayer technique or discipline. The services will use the Zoom platform and our own Jim Spawton will be managing it. You will receive the Zoom link in your email during the weeks of Lent.

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 2021* copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress.

## **St. John's Lutheran Church**

888 County Road 9, Victor, NY 14564  
stjohnsvictor.com (585) 924-5192

The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor  
Nathan Cheung, Pianist