



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



True Wisdom – Mark 10:32-52

March 7, 2021

10:30 Service of the Word

Context is important. We're always told to keep things in context. Unfortunately we no longer know much of the context our scriptures were written into. Many things the authors reference are vague to us or are totally lost. Today, however, we get a rare treat. Mark's gospel makes a clever stab at one of the most popular writings of his day. We not only know what that writing is, but it still exists and can be read today!

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 Open Your Ears, O Faithful People
(For music see Hymn 519 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Open your ears, O faithful people,
open your ears to hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.**

Refrain **God has spoken to the people hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!
God has spoken to the people hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!**

2. **They who have ears to hear the message,
they who have ears, now let them hear;
they who would learn the way of wisdom,
let them hear God's word. Refrain**

Text: Hasidic traditional; Williard F. Jabusch, b. 2930, English version. Text copyright 1966, 1982 Williard F. Jabusch sadmin. OCP Publications. Music: Hasidic tune.

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: Let us pray...

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, 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 Colossians 1:15-20

B: [Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Philippians 2:5-11 (*read responsively*)

P: Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

C: who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

P: but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave,

being born in human likeness.

C: And being found in human form,

he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death—

even death on a cross.

P: Therefore God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name

that is above every name,

C: so that at the name of Jesus

every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

P: and every tongue should confess

C: that Jesus Christ is Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

Second Reading Mark 10:32-45

D: ³²They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³saying, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; ³⁴they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.”

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” ³⁶And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

The Story in the Background

Mark 10:46-52

⁴⁶They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, “Call him

here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” ⁵²Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Be Thou My Vision
(For music turn to Hymn 793 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**
2. **Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**
3. **Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**
4. **Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Text and Music: Irish Folk Tune 8th-10th century; tr. Mary Burne; vers. Eleanor Hull

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.

E: 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.**

E: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

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

E: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

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

E: 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: Even during this pandemic, connect us in diverse ways to our worshiping communities, and give to all persons regular rest from their work. Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

B: O God, our lawgiver, our temple, our wisdom, form your church to worship you alone. As you blessed Gregory the Great, so bless our bishops for their ministry in church and world. 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.

E: Keep the nations of the earth from engaging in war, bloodshed, and torture, and help people of all ages to resist the lure of violence. 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 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed
(For music see Hymn 337 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
and did my sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head
for sinners such as I?**
- 2. Was it for sins that I had done
he groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
and love beyond degree!**
- 3. Well might the sun in darkness hide
and shut its glories in
when God, the mighty maker, died**

for his own creatures' sin.

**4. Thus might I hide my blushing face
while his dear cross appears,
dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
and melt my eyes to tears.**

**5. But tears of grief cannot repay
the debt of love I owe;
here, Lord, I give myself away;
'tis all that I can do.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Music: Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.



02-08-2010

OOH, DO THAT BISHOP THING WHERE YOU MOVE
DIAGONALLY

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.

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.

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St. John's Lutheran Church

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Nathan Cheung, Pianist