



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Duccio di Buoninsegna (1255-1319), "Hosea" (photo: Public Domain)

## *The Prophets - Hosea*

*May 30, 2021*

*10:30 Service of the Word*

Today we begin a summer long worship series on the Old Testament prophets. We'll spend at least one Sunday on each of them and multiple Sundays on the longer ones. Today's prophet is Hosea. Hosea is one of the oldest writings from the ancient Hebrews. He prophesied to the northern kingdom of Israel. His message was that the people were not being faithful to God in multiple ways. He says that God will ultimately not allow them to be completely destroyed, but that their current unfaithfulness would have consequences.

### *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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

**C: Amen.**

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God, our provider,

**C: help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world  
in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life  
and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

P: Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are  
forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory  
(For music see Hymn 890 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are  
stored;  
he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword;  
his truth is marching on.**

*Refrain* **Glory, glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!  
Glory, glory! Hallelujah!  
His truth is marching on.**

2. **He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;  
he is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgement seat.  
Oh be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!  
Our God is marching on. *Refrain***

3. **In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me.  
As he died to make men holy, let us die\* to make men free,  
while God is marching on. *Refrain***

\* As originally written. Many modern hymnals substitute "live."  
Text: Julia Ward Howe, 1819-1910. Music: North American, 19<sup>th</sup> century

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.**

Prayer of the Day

**A:** Let us pray:

All powerful God, in Christ Jesus you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## † WORD †

### First Reading Hosea 1

**B:** The word of the LORD that came to Hosea son of Beeri, in the days of Kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah of Judah, and in the days of King Jeroboam son of Joash of Israel.

<sup>2</sup>When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, “Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD.” <sup>3</sup>So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

<sup>4</sup>And the LORD said to him, “Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. <sup>5</sup>On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.”

<sup>6</sup>She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the LORD said to him, “Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. <sup>7</sup>But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen.”

<sup>8</sup>When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. <sup>9</sup>Then the LORD said, “Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God.”

<sup>10</sup>Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, “You are not my people,” it shall be said to them, “Children of the living God.” <sup>11</sup>The people of Judah and the people of Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall appoint for themselves one head; and they shall take possession of the land, for great shall be the day of Jezreel.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Scripture Poetry Psalm 14 (*read responsively*)

**D:** Fools tell themselves,  
“There is no God.”

Their actions are corrupt,  
none of them does good.

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

D: But all have turned away,  
all are depraved.  
No one does good,  
not even one.

**C: Are these evil-doers mad?  
They eat up my people  
like so much bread;  
they never pray.**

D: They should cringe in fear,  
for God sits with the just.

**C: You may mock the poor,  
but the Lord keeps them safe.**

D: If only a savior would come from Zion  
to restore the people's fortunes!

**C: Then Jacob would sing,  
and Israel rejoice.**

Second Reading Romans 11:25-32

E: [Paul writes:] So that you may not claim to be wiser than you are, brothers and sisters, I want you to understand this mystery: a hardening has come upon part of Israel, until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. <sup>26</sup>And so all Israel will be saved; as it is written, "Out of Zion will come the Deliverer; he will banish ungodliness from Jacob." <sup>27</sup>"And this is my covenant with them, when I take away their sins." <sup>28</sup>As regards the gospel they are enemies of God for your sake; but as regards election they are beloved, for the sake of their ancestors; <sup>29</sup>for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup>For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (Isaiah 6:3)

**C: Alleluia. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; God's glory fills the whole earth. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 7:24-29

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

[Jesus preached:] “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. <sup>25</sup>The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. <sup>26</sup>And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup>The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!” <sup>28</sup>Now when Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astounded at his teaching, <sup>29</sup>for he taught them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

*After the reading:*

P: The Gospel of the Lord

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

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.”**

Response to the Word

**E:** 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.

P: That we build our lives around your will and shun those false gods which draw us away from you:

*A brief silence.*

O God, creator, sustainer, and safety, for our own faithfulness we pray:

**C: Holy God, we praise your name.**

**A:** That the leaders of nations enact justice for all their people; that prejudice against those of different nationality or color or language cease; and that democracy flourish around the globe:

*A brief silence.*

O God, fortress, monarch, and protector, for the nations we pray:

**C: Holy God, we praise your name.**

**B:** That all people shun the use of violence; and that, in remembrance of all the soldiers and civilians who have died in warfare, humankind maintain peace between nations, on our streets, and in our homes:

*A brief silence.*

O God, judge, peacemaker, and shield, for peace we pray:

**C: Holy God, we praise your name.**

**E:** That summertime offer refreshment to everyone; that relatives and friends find joy with one another; that travelers be kept safe; and that refugees receive refuge:

*A brief silence.*

O God, friend, companion, and homeland, for summertime we pray:

**C: Holy God, we praise your name.**

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: The blessing of God,  
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
be upon you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn This Is My Song

*(For music see Hymn 887 in the Red Hymnal)*

- 1. This is my song. O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
but other hearts in other lands are beating  
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**
- 2. My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,  
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.  
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,  
and skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.  
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.**

**3. This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,  
your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.  
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,  
and hearts united learn to live as one.  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations;  
myself I give you, let your will be done.**

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*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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



"He decided to go on a fast somewhere  
between his peas and carrot sticks."

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