



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The Advocate - Holy Spirit

May 9, 2021

10:30 Service of the Word

The life of Jesus of Nazareth spanned roughly from a couple years before the year 0 to the year 30. What happens after that? Is Christianity a religion that is a collection of traditions passed on from generation to generation, and if that chain is broken all is lost? No. The Holy Spirit creates and sustains faith in each and every generation. Today we'll look at how John's gospel understands the role of the Holy Spirit.

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

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

The worship leader stands by the baptismal font. Water may be poured into it.

P: We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

**C: Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us as companions on our journey as we share your life.**

P: Make us one, risen Christ.

Cleanse our hearts.

Shower us with life.

**C: To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.**

Amen.

Gathering Hymn Holy Spirit, Truth Divine
(For music see Hymn 398 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Holy Spirit, truth divine,
dawn upon this soul of mine;
breath of God and inward light,
wake my spirit, clear my sight.**

2. **Holy Spirit, love divine,
glow within this heart of mine;**

kindle ev'ry high desire;
purge me with your holy fire.

3. Holy Spirit, pow'r divine,
fortify this will of mine;
by your will I strongly live,
bravely bear, and nobly strive.

4. Holy Spirit, peace divine,
still this restless heart of mine;
speak to calm this tossing sea,
stayed in your tranquility.

4. Holy Spirit, right divine,
king within my conscious reign;
be my guide, and I shall be
firmly bound, forever free.

Text: Samuel Longfellow, 1819-1892.. Music: Orlando Gibbons, 1583-1625

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.

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...

Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, 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 2 Samuel 23:1-5

B: Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the favorite of the Strong One of Israel:

²The spirit of the LORD speaks through me,
his word is upon my tongue.

³The God of Israel has spoken,
the Rock of Israel has said to me:
One who rules over people justly,
ruling in the fear of God,

⁴is like the light of morning,
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

⁵Is not my house like this with God?
For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things and secure.

Will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 139:1-18 (read responsively)

D: You search me, Lord, and know me.

**C: Whenever I sit or stand,
you read my inmost thoughts;**

D: whenever I walk or rest,
you know where I have been.

**C: Before a word slips from my tongue,
Lord, you know what I will say.**

D: You close in on me,
pressing your hand upon me.

**C: All this overwhelms me-
too much to understand!**

D: Where can I hide from you?
How can I escape your presence?

**C: I scale the heavens, you are there!
I plunge to the depths, you are there!**

D: If I fly toward the dawn,
or settle across the sea,

**C: even there you take hold of me,
your right hand directs me.**

D: If I think night will hide me
and darkness give me cover,

**C: I find darkness is not dark.
For your night shines like day,
darkness and light are one.**

D: You created every part of me,
knitting me in my mother's womb.

**C: For such handiwork, I praise you.
Awesome this great wonder!
I see it so clearly!**

D: You watched every bone
taking shape in secret,
forming in the hidden depths.

**C: You saw my body grow
according to your design.
Your recorded all my days
before they ever began.**

D: How deep are your thoughts!
How vast their sum!

**C: like countless grains of sand,
well beyond my grasp.**

Second Reading Romans 8:9-11

E: ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (John 6:51)

**C: Alleluia. Jesus said, I will ask the Father, and he will give you
another Advocate, to be with you forever. Alleluia**

Gospel Reading John 14:15-31

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

[Jesus said] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them." ²²Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?" ²³Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

²⁸You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe. ³⁰I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me; ³¹but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry
(For music turn to Hymn 732 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **"I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,**

**with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.”**

2. **“When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun.”**
3. **“In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I’ll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I’ve begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I’ll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.”**
4. **“I was there to hear your borning cry,
I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.”**

Text: John Ylvisaker, b. 1937; Music: John Ylvisaker, b. 1937

‡ BAPTISM ‡

Baptisms of Eliana Boisseau and Elijah DeCann

Please turn to the Service of Holy Baptism on page 227 in the front of the Red Hymnal.

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: May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth
(for music, please turn to Hymn 735 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Mothering God, you gave me birth
in the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of ev'ry breath,
you are my rain, my wind, my sun.**
2. **Mothering Christ, you took my form,
offering me your food of light,
grain of new life, and grape of love,
your very body for my peace.**
3. **Mothering Sprit, nurt'ring one,
in arms of patience hold me close,
so that in faith I root and grow
until I flow'r, until I know.**

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933, based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342-c. 1413 Music: Caroly Jennings, b. 1936; Test© 1991 Jean Janzen. Music© 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

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