



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Jeremiah Ignored*

*October 10, 2021 10:30 Service of the Word*

Our reading from Jeremiah today comes from the time after the Babylonians destroy Jerusalem. A remnant of the people have remained, Jeremiah with them. Their leader, a man name Gedaliah, is assassinated. They decide to flee to Egypt, but they also consult Jeremiah. He tells them it is God's will that they stay. But they ignore him and go to Egypt anyway. Despite their disobedience to God's will Jeremiah goes with them and remains a messenger of hope in God.

### *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,  
whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure,  
and whose love is endless.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: God our comforter:

**C: like lost sheep, we have gone astray.  
We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.  
We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.  
We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.  
Free us from our sin, gracious God.  
Listen when we call out to you for help.  
Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.  
Amen.**

P: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**C: Amen.**

### Gathering Shout to the Lord

*(For music turn to Hymn 821 in the Red Hymnal)*

*Verse*

**My Jesus, my Savior,  
Lord there is none like you;  
All of my days  
I want to praise  
The wonders of your mighty love.  
My comfort, my shelter,  
Tower of refuge and strength;  
Let ev'ry breath, all that I am  
Never cease to worship You.**

*Chorus*

**Shout to the Lord all the earth  
Let us sing power and majesty, praise to the King;  
Mountains bow down  
And the seas will roar  
At the sound of Your name.  
I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,  
Forever I'll love You,  
Forever I'll stand,  
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.**

*Repeat Verse and Chorus*

Text and music: Darlene Zschech; copyright 1993 Darlene Zschech, Admin. Integrity's Hosanna! Music; CCLI #1406918

*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* (Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)

A: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

**C: a people holy to the Lord our God.**

A: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

**C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,  
when you lie down and when you rise.**

A: One does not live by bread alone,

**C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

*Prayer of the Day*

A: Let us pray:

O God, full of compassion, we commit ourselves to you, in whom we live and move and have our being. Be the goal of our pilgrimage, and our rest by the way. Give us refuge from the turmoil of worldly distractions beneath the shadow of your wings. Let our hearts, so often a sea of restless waves, find peace in you, O God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## † WORD †

### First Reading Jeremiah 42

Then all the commanders of the forces, and Johanan son of Kareah and Azariah son of Hoshaiiah, and all the people from the least to the greatest, approached <sup>2</sup>the prophet Jeremiah and said, “Be good enough to listen to our plea, and pray to the LORD your God for us—for all this remnant. For there are only a few of us left out of many, as your eyes can see. <sup>3</sup>Let the LORD your God show us where we should go and what we should do.” <sup>4</sup>The prophet Jeremiah said to them, “Very well: I am going to pray to the LORD your God as you request, and whatever the LORD answers you I will tell you; I will keep nothing back from you.” <sup>5</sup>They in their turn said to Jeremiah, “May the LORD be a true and faithful witness against us if we do not act according to everything that the LORD your God sends us through you. <sup>6</sup>Whether it is good or bad, we will obey the voice of the LORD our God to whom we are sending you, in order that it may go well with us when we obey the voice of the LORD our God.” <sup>7</sup>At the end of ten days the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah. <sup>8</sup>Then he summoned Johanan son of Kareah and all the commanders of the forces who were with him, and all the people from the least to the greatest, <sup>9</sup>and said to them, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, to whom you sent me to present your plea before him: <sup>10</sup>If you will only remain in this land, then I will build you up and not pull you down; I will plant you, and not pluck you up; for I am sorry for the disaster that I have brought upon you. <sup>11</sup>Do not be afraid of the king of Babylon, as you have been; do not be afraid of him, says the LORD, for I am with you, to save you and to rescue you from his hand. <sup>12</sup>I will grant you mercy, and he will have mercy on you and restore you to your native soil. <sup>13</sup>But if you continue to say, ‘We will not stay in this land,’ thus disobeying the voice of the LORD your God <sup>14</sup>and saying, ‘No, we will go to the land of Egypt, where we shall not see war, or hear the sound of the trumpet, or be hungry for bread, and there we will stay,’ <sup>15</sup>then hear the word of the LORD, O remnant of Judah. Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: If you are determined to enter Egypt and go to settle there, <sup>16</sup>then the sword that you fear shall overtake you there, in the land of Egypt; and the famine that you dread shall follow close after you into Egypt; and there you shall die. <sup>17</sup>All the people who have determined to go to Egypt to settle there shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence; they shall have no remnant or survivor from the disaster that I am bringing upon them. <sup>18</sup>“For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Just as my anger and my wrath were poured out on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so my wrath will be poured out on you when you go to

Egypt. You shall become an object of execration and horror, of cursing and ridicule. You shall see this place no more. <sup>19</sup>The LORD has said to you, O remnant of Judah, Do not go to Egypt. Be well aware that I have warned you today <sup>20</sup>that you have made a fatal mistake. For you yourselves sent me to the LORD your God, saying, ‘Pray for us to the LORD our God, and whatever the LORD our God says, tell us and we will do it.’ <sup>21</sup>So I have told you today, but you have not obeyed the voice of the LORD your God in anything that he sent me to tell you. <sup>22</sup>Be well aware, then, that you shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence in the place where you desire to go and settle.”

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading Romans 5:1-5

B: Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Third Reading Jeremiah 43

D: When Jeremiah finished speaking to all the people all these words of the LORD their God, with which the LORD their God had sent him to them, <sup>2</sup>Azariah son of Hoshaiiah and Johanan son of Kareah and all the other insolent men said to Jeremiah, “You are telling a lie. The LORD our God did not send you to say, ‘Do not go to Egypt to settle there’; <sup>3</sup>but Baruch son of Neriah is inciting you against us, to hand us over to the Chaldeans, in order that they may kill us or take us into exile in Babylon.” <sup>4</sup>So Johanan son of Kareah and all the commanders of the forces and all the people did not obey the voice of the LORD, to stay in the land of Judah. <sup>5</sup>But Johanan son of Kareah and all the commanders of the forces took all the remnant of Judah who had returned to settle in the land of Judah from all the nations to which they had been driven— <sup>6</sup>the men, the women, the children, the princesses, and everyone whom Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard had left with Gedaliah son of Ahikam son of Shaphan; also the prophet Jeremiah and Baruch son of

Neriah. <sup>7</sup>And they came into the land of Egypt, for they did not obey the voice of the LORD. And they arrived at Tahpanhes.

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah in Tahpanhes: <sup>9</sup>Take some large stones in your hands, and bury them in the clay pavement that is at the entrance to Pharaoh's palace in Tahpanhes. Let the Judeans see you do it, <sup>10</sup>and say to them, Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I am going to send and take my servant King Nebuchadrezzar of Babylon, and he will set his throne above these stones that I have buried, and he will spread his royal canopy over them. <sup>11</sup>He shall come and ravage the land of Egypt, giving those who are destined for pestilence, to pestilence, and those who are destined for captivity, to captivity, and those who are destined for the sword, to the sword. <sup>12</sup>He shall kindle a fire in the temples of the gods of Egypt; and he shall burn them and carry them away captive; and he shall pick clean the land of Egypt, as a shepherd picks his cloak clean of vermin; and he shall depart from there safely. <sup>13</sup>He shall break the obelisks of Heliopolis, which is in the land of Egypt; and the temples of the gods of Egypt he shall burn with fire.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Children's Sermon

#### Sermon

#### Hymn of the Day Will You Come and Follow Me

*For music turn to Hymn 798 in the Red Hymnal*

1. **“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”**
2. **“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare,  
should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer pray'r in you and you in me?”**
3. **“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the pris'ners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,**

**and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"**

- 4. "Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"**
- 5. Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.**

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949, copyright 1987 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Music: Scottish Traditional

***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.

*The pastor begins the prayers with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional ones. These three will be read following the pastor. Please end your petition with the words, "Lord in your mercy."*

A: We pray for those whose lives are easy and who enjoy success at every turn. Keep them from becoming conceited and turn their hearts to you. Make them generous with their time, their finances, and their attention. Lord in your mercy...

**C: Hear our prayer.**

B: We pray that the churches in this area may grow and flourish. Be with the Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester and be with the Rev. Karen Anderson and the people of Chile. Lord in your mercy...

**C: Hear our prayer.**

E: Empowering God, you offer compassion for those who are overlooked or forgotten. Open the eyes and hearts of those who are in authority so that all may be seen and known. 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

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

**C: And also with you.**

P: 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: People of God,  
you are Christ's body,  
bringing new life to a suffering world.  
The holy Trinity, one God,  
bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn* Let All Things Now Living  
(For music see Hymn 881 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Let all things now living  
a song of thanksgiving  
to God the creator triumphantly raise,  
who fashioned and made us,  
protected and stayed us,  
who still guides us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us,  
God's light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
till shadows have vanished  
and darkness is banished,  
as forward we travel from light into light.**
  
2. **God rules all the forces:  
the stars in their courses  
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
the hills and the mountains,  
the rivers and fountains,  
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.  
We too should be voicing  
out love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration a song let us raise  
till all things now living  
unite in thanksgiving:  
"To God in the highest,  
hosanna and praise!"**

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892-1980 alt. Copyright 1939, 1966 E.C. Schirmer Music Company. Music: Welsh folk tune

*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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



"Welcome aboard 'Anointed Airlines,' Pastors!  
What say we begin by testing your faith  
right away?! Please join us in celebrating  
our captain's birthday...She's 104 today!!"

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