



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Jeremiah vs. Hananiah*

*October 3, 2021*

*10:30 Holy Communion*

Jeremiah was called by God to deliver a very difficult message to his people; they should submit to the Babylonians who had conquered them. The Babylonians were going to rule for a long time and cooperation was the best policy. There was another prophet in Jerusalem at that time. His name was Hananiah. His message was the opposite. He said God would restore the nation within two years. While this message was popular with the people, it was inaccurate. How do we tell the difference between a true prophet and a false one?

### *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 Hymn Change My Heart, O God  
(For music turn to Hymn 801 in the Red Hymnal)

**Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.  
You are the potter; I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.  
Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.**

Text and music: Eddie Espinosa, 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services.

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...

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, who in your self-emptying love gathered up and reconciled all creation to the Father. Innumerable galaxies of the heavens worship you. Creatures that grace the earth rejoice in you. All those in the deepest seas bow to you in adoration. As with them we give you praise, grant that we may cherish the earth, our home, and live in harmony with this good creation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

First Reading Jeremiah 27

In the beginning of the reign of King Zedekiah son of Josiah of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD. <sup>2</sup>Thus the LORD said to me: Make yourself a yoke of straps and bars, and put them on your neck. <sup>3</sup>Send word to the king of Edom, the king of Moab, the king of the Ammonites, the king of Tyre, and the king of Sidon by the hand of the envoys who have come to Jerusalem to King Zedekiah of Judah. <sup>4</sup>Give them this charge for their masters: Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: This is what you shall say to your masters: <sup>5</sup>It is I who by my great power and my outstretched arm have made the earth, with the people and animals that are on the earth, and I give it to whomever I please. <sup>6</sup>Now I have given all these lands into the hand of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, my servant, and I have given him even the wild animals of the field to serve him. <sup>7</sup>All the nations shall serve him and his son and his grandson, until the time of his own land comes; then many nations and great kings shall make him their slave. <sup>8</sup>But if any nation or kingdom will not serve this king, Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, and put its neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, then I will punish that nation with the sword, with famine, and with pestilence, says the LORD, until I have completed its destruction by his hand. <sup>9</sup>You, therefore, must not listen to your prophets, your diviners, your dreamers,

your soothsayers, or your sorcerers, who are saying to you, ‘You shall not serve the king of Babylon.’ <sup>10</sup>For they are prophesying a lie to you, with the result that you will be removed far from your land; I will drive you out, and you will perish. <sup>11</sup>But any nation that will bring its neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon and serve him, I will leave on its own land, says the LORD, to till it and live there.

<sup>12</sup>I spoke to King Zedekiah of Judah in the same way: Bring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live. <sup>13</sup>Why should you and your people die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence, as the LORD has spoken concerning any nation that will not serve the king of Babylon? <sup>14</sup>Do not listen to the words of the prophets who are telling you not to serve the king of Babylon, for they are prophesying a lie to you. <sup>15</sup>I have not sent them, says the LORD, but they are prophesying falsely in my name, with the result that I will drive you out and you will perish, you and the prophets who are prophesying to you. <sup>16</sup>Then I spoke to the priests and to all this people, saying, Thus says the LORD: Do not listen to the words of your prophets who are prophesying to you, saying, “The vessels of the Lord’s house will soon be brought back from Babylon,” for they are prophesying a lie to you. <sup>17</sup>Do not listen to them; serve the king of Babylon and live. Why should this city become a desolation? <sup>18</sup>If indeed they are prophets, and if the word of the LORD is with them, then let them intercede with the LORD of hosts, that the vessels left in the house of the LORD, in the house of the king of Judah, and in Jerusalem may not go to Babylon. <sup>19</sup>For thus says the LORD of hosts concerning the pillars, the sea, the stands, and the rest of the vessels that are left in this city, <sup>20</sup>which King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon did not take away when he took into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon King Jeconiah son of Jehoiakim of Judah, and all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem— <sup>21</sup>thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, concerning the vessels left in the house of the LORD, in the house of the king of Judah, and in Jerusalem: <sup>22</sup>They shall be carried to Babylon, and there they shall stay, until the day when I give attention to them, says the LORD. Then I will bring them up and restore them to this place.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading Jeremiah 28

B: In that same year, at the beginning of the reign of King Zedekiah of Judah, in the fifth month of the fourth year, the prophet Hananiah son of Azzur, from Gibeon, spoke to me in the house of the LORD, in the

presence of the priests and all the people, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon. <sup>3</sup>Within two years I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the Lord’s house, which King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon took away from this place and carried to Babylon. <sup>4</sup>I will also bring back to this place King Jeconiah son of Jehoiakim of Judah, and all the exiles from Judah who went to Babylon, says the LORD, for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon.” <sup>5</sup>Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; <sup>6</sup>and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup>But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

D: Then the prophet Hananiah took the yoke from the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, and broke it. <sup>11</sup>And Hananiah spoke in the presence of all the people, saying, “Thus says the LORD: This is how I will break the yoke of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon from the neck of all the nations within two years.” At this, the prophet Jeremiah went his way. <sup>12</sup>Sometime after the prophet Hananiah had broken the yoke from the neck of the prophet Jeremiah, the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: <sup>13</sup>Go, tell Hananiah, Thus says the LORD: You have broken wooden bars only to forge iron bars in place of them! <sup>14</sup>For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: I have put an iron yoke on the neck of all these nations so that they may serve King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, and they shall indeed serve him; I have even given him the wild animals. <sup>15</sup>And the prophet Jeremiah said to the prophet Hananiah, “Listen, Hananiah, the LORD has not sent you, and you made this people trust in a lie. <sup>16</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD: I am going to send you off the face of the earth. Within this year you will be dead, because you have spoken rebellion against the LORD.” <sup>17</sup>In that same year, in the seventh month, the prophet Hananiah died.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Third Reading Colossians 1:15-20

E: [Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; <sup>16</sup>for 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. <sup>17</sup>He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>He 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. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and 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.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus  
*(for music, please turn to Hymn 802 in the Red Hymnal)*

- 1. Let us ever walk with Jesus,  
follow his example pure,  
through a world that would deceive us  
and to sin our spirits lure.  
Onward in his footsteps treading,  
trav'lers here, our home above,  
full of faith and hope and love,  
let us do our Savior's bidding.  
Faithful Lord, with me abide;  
I shall follow where you guide.**
- 2. Let us suffer here with Jesus,  
and with patience bear our cross.  
Joy will follow all our sadness;  
where he is there is no loss.  
Though today we sow no laughter,  
we shall reap celestial joy;  
All discomforts that annoy  
shall give way to mirth here after.  
Jesus, here I share your woe;**

**help me there your joy to know.**

**3. Let us gladly die with Jesus.  
Since by death he conquered death,  
he will free us from destruction,  
give to us immortal breath.  
Let us mortify all passion  
that would lead us into sin;  
and the grave that shuts us in  
shall but prove the gate of heaven.  
Jesus, here with you I die,  
there to live with you on high.**

**4. Let us also live with Jesus.  
He has risen from the dead  
that to life we may awaken,  
Jesus, you are now our head,  
we are your own living members;  
where you live, there we shall be  
in your presence constantly,  
living there with you forever.  
Jesus, let me faithful be;  
life eternal grant to me.**

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-1681; tr. Luthuan Book of Worship, alt. Music: Georg G. Boltze, 18<sup>th</sup> cent.

*Apostles' Creed*

P: We join in confessing our faith with the Apostles' Creed.

**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.**

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: Bring your peace and comfort to those who are anxious or depressed. Help them to find the support they need and fill them with the knowledge that you are stronger than anything that can happen. Lord in your mercy...

**C: Hear our prayer.**

B: Help those whose lives are in jeopardy because of fires, storms, or earthquakes. Bring them the help that they need and show us ways to use our resources for their benefit. Lord in your mercy...

**C: Hear our prayer.**

D: Be with our elected leaders. Give them insight and wisdom so that they may make decisions that are to the benefit of all the people of our nation. 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.*



† MEAL †

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Special Music

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray: God of abundance,

**C: you cause streams to break forth in the desert  
and manna to rain from the heavens.**

**Accept the gifts you have first given us.**

**Unite them with the offering of our lives**

**to nourish the world you love so dearly;**

**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus of Nazareth; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with church of yesterday, today and tomorrow; and the church here in this place and all churches throughout the world, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*(Isaiah 6:3, spoken)*

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

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.**

Communion Distribution

*Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. Please come forward to the altar rail. The pastor will give you a wafer. The communion assistant will hold a tray of wine or grape juice (white) or wine. If you need a gluten free option please tell the pastor.*

Communion Blessing After all have communed the pastor will say:

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

E: Let us pray: Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: 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 the Walls Fall Down  
(for music, please turn to Hymn 21 in the Songbook binder)  
*Refrain*

**Let the walls fall down,  
let the walls fall down,  
let the walls fall down;  
By his love let the walls fall down.**

1. **One by one, we're drawn together,  
one by one, to Jesus' side.  
One in Him, we'll live forever,  
strangers He has reconciled.    *Refrain***
  
2. **In His Love, no walls between us,  
in His love, a common ground.  
Kneeling at the cross of Jesus  
all our pride comes tumbling down.    *Refrain***

Text and music: Bill Balstone, John Barbour, Anne Barbour; copyright 1993 Maranatha Praise, Inc.; CCLI #1185954

*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**C: God's Work. Our Hands.**



Church Choir Director Denzel Brainard  
knew how to recruit choir participants.

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St. John's Lutheran Church  
888 County Road 9, Victor, NY 14564  
stjohnsvictor.com (585) 924-5192  
The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor  
William Shi, Pianist