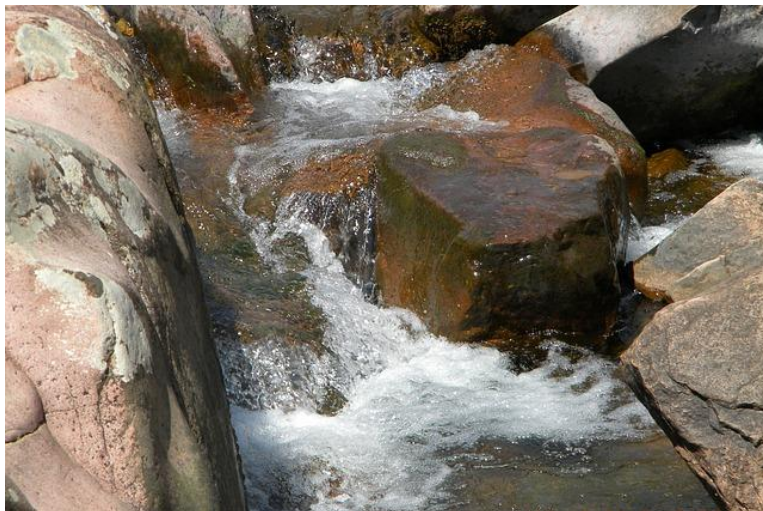




# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Water from the Rock*

### *Exodus 17:1-7*

*August 26, 2018*

*10:30 Service of the Word*

We're far enough into the Exodus story to start seeing a pattern emerge. Despite God freeing the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, and delivering them from Egypt's army at the Red Sea, and providing leadership for them, and providing them with daily bread and meat, (and on and on the list could go!) they still aren't satisfied. They grumble against God constantly. Before we roll our eyes at these people too much, however, we discover that many of those same qualities exist in us. We are thankful for God's incredible patience even as we ask for more.

### *Welcome to worship today!*

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available during the service. Please see one of the ushers if you need more information.

# † GATHERING †

## Prelude and Announcements

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

**C: Amen**

P: Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)*

P: Eternal God our creator,

**C: in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God forgives you all your sins.

**C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing  
*(For music see Hymn 886 in the Red Hymnal)*

- 1. Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and king,  
the triumphs of his grace!**
- 2. My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honor of your name.**
- 3. The name of Jesus charms our fears  
and bids our sorrows cease,  
sings music in the sinner's ears,  
brings life and health and peace.**

4. **He speaks, and list'ning to his voice,  
new life the dead receive;  
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,  
the humble poor believe.**
5. **Look unto him, your Savior own,  
O fallen human race!  
Look and be saved through faith alone,  
be justified by grace!**
6. **To God all glory, praise, and love  
be now and ever giv'n  
by saints below and saints above,  
the church in earth and heav'n.**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: Carl G. Glaser, 1784-1928; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

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...

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## † WORD †

### First Reading Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Scripture Poetry Psalm 78:1-7 (*Read responsively*)

A: Listen, my people,  
mark each word.  
I bring with a story,  
I speak of mysteries  
welling up from ancient depths,  
heard and known from our elders.

**C: We must not hide  
this story from our children  
but tell the mighty works  
and all the wonders of God.**

A: The Lord gave precepts to Jacob,  
instructions to Israel,  
that the people before us  
could teach their children.

**C: Let future generations learn  
and let them grow up  
to teach their young,  
to trust in God,**

**remembering great deeds,  
cherishing the law.**

Second Reading Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (Philippians 2:10)

**C: Alleluia. At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading Matthew 21:23-32

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup>He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day As the Deer

*(For music turn to Hymn 2 in the Songbook binder)*

**1. As the deer panteth for the water,  
so my soul longeth after thee.  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship thee.**

**Refrain: You alone are my strength, my shield;  
To you alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship thee.**

**2. You're my friend and You are my brother  
even though you are a King.  
I love you more than any other,  
So much more than anything.**      *Refrain*

**3. I want you more than gold or silver,  
only You can satisfy.  
You alone are the real joy-giver  
And the apple of my eye.**      *Refrain*

Text and music: Martin Nystrom; Copyright 1984 Maranatha Praise, Inc. CCLI # 1431

*Apostles' Creed*

**A: We confirm 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 will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,*

*The congregation will respond: **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: Let us share that peace with one another.

*The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*

‡ THANKSGIVING ‡

Offering & Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving *As the offering is brought forward the congregation sings:*

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil

*For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal*

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
open to the seed of your Word.  
Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
where love can grow and peace is understood.  
When my heart is hard,  
break the stone away.  
When my heart is cold,  
warm it with the day.  
When my heart is lost,  
lead me on your way.  
Lord, let my heart,  
Lord, let my heart,  
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**



Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray:

**C: Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set many blessings before us. Open our hands to receive them. Open our hearts to embrace them. Open our lives to live them. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

A: 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, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn Rock of Ages

*(For music turn to Hymn 28 in the Songbook binder)*

**There is no rock, there is no god like our God;  
no other name worthy of all our praise.  
The rock of salvation that cannot be moved,  
He's proven himself to be faithful and true.  
There is no rock, there is no god like ours. (Repeat)**

**Rock of ages, Jesus is the rock.  
Rock of ages, Jesus is the rock.  
Rock of ages. Jesus is the rock.  
There is no rock, there is no god like ours.**

Text and Music: Rita Baloché, copyright 1997 Maranatha Praise, Inc. Admin: The Copyright Company; CCLI Song #2240547

*Dismissal*

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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

I TRIED TO  
APPLY  
THIS VERSE  
TO MY  
LIFE ONCE...

REALLY?



YEAH. MY MOM ASKED  
ME TO DO SOMETHING.  
I TOLD HER I WOULDN'T  
SO I COULD CHANGE  
MY MIND LATER...

TED, PLEASE  
TAKE OUT  
THE  
DARTS

NO!



SO WHAT HAPPENED?

SHE GROUNDED ME.

OH.

YEAH - JESUS  
ASKS TRICK  
QUESTIONS.



MATTHEW 21: 28-32

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**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers Tom and Lisa Kurilovitch  
Acolyte Joe Wyman  
Nursery Care Beth Perdan  
Counters Beth Perdan and Bettina Kalish  
Coffee Hour

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, September 2, 2018**

Greeters and Ushers John and Gay Card  
Acolyte Morgan Sackett  
Altar Care Linda Thompson  
Communion Assistants Beth Bright and Adele Garvey  
Nursery Care Laura Stroup  
Counters Linda Flood and Helen Crown  
Coffee Hour

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