



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Galilee Ministry Part 2—Mark 6-8*

*February 4, 2018*

*10:30 Holy Communion*

Today we're going to experience the better part of three chapters from Mark's gospel. They cover Jesus' second tour through villages in Galilee and surroundings. There are two great feeding miracles, and many people cured and healed. Ironically the Pharisees come to him and ask him for a sign from heaven to test him! They aren't satisfied with his response and by the end of the reading we see the clouds of the crucifixion are beginning to loom.

*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

#### Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray...

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve 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: Mark 6:30-44

<sup>30</sup>The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. <sup>35</sup>When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; <sup>36</sup>send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat." <sup>37</sup>But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, and give it to them to eat?" <sup>38</sup>And he said to them, "How many loaves have you? Go and see." When they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." <sup>39</sup>Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup>So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. <sup>41</sup>Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and he divided the two fish among them all. <sup>42</sup>And all ate and were filled; <sup>43</sup>and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. <sup>44</sup>Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Hymn Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak  
(For music see Hymn 676 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Lord, speak to us, that we may speak  
in living echoes of your tone;  
as you have sought, so let us seek  
your straying children, lost and lone.**
2. **Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead  
the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;  
oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed  
your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.**
3. **Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach  
the precious truths which you impart;  
and wing our words, that they may reach  
the hidden depths of many-a heart.**
4. **Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord,  
until our very hearts o'erflow  
in kindling thought and glowing word,  
your love to tell, your praise to show.**

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt. Music: Robert Schumann, 1810-1856

Second Reading Mark 6:45-56

<sup>45</sup>Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>46</sup>After saying farewell to them, he went up on the mountain to pray.

<sup>47</sup>When evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. <sup>48</sup>When he saw that they were straining at the oars against an adverse wind, he came towards them early in the morning, walking on the sea. He intended to pass them by. <sup>49</sup>But when they saw him walking on the sea, they thought it was a ghost and cried out; <sup>50</sup>for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." <sup>51</sup>Then he got into the boat with them and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, <sup>52</sup>for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

<sup>53</sup>When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. <sup>54</sup>When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, <sup>55</sup>and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup>And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Prayer

P: Let us pray.

**C: Lord, you bring comfort, safety, and healing to all who call on you. Bless our lives with the same goodness so that we can rejoice and be glad in who you made us. Amen.**

## Third Reading Mark 7:1-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;

<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

<sup>9</sup>Then he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition! <sup>10</sup>For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever speaks evil of father or mother must surely die.’ <sup>11</sup>But you say that if anyone tells father or mother, ‘Whatever support you might have had from me is Corban’ (that is, an offering to God)— <sup>12</sup>then you no longer permit doing anything for a father or mother, <sup>13</sup>thus making void the word of God through your tradition that you have handed on. And you do many things like this.”

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

<sup>17</sup>When he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about the parable. <sup>18</sup>He said to them, “Then do you also fail to understand? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, <sup>19</sup>since it enters, not the heart but the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.) <sup>20</sup>And he said, “It is what comes out of a person that defiles. <sup>21</sup>For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Dialog

P: Lord, we are your people and we search for meaning in our lives.

**C: We find meaning in faith and traditions and rituals.**

P: Many of these things serve us well.

**C: But some of them do not.**

P: Like the Pharisees before us, sometimes we make the ritual more important than its purpose.

**C: Without knowing it, we start to seek meaning in the wrong places.**

P: Speak to us so that we may hear.

**C: And open our ears so that we may listen.**

P: Teach us again how you would have us live.

**C: Fill our lives in the way only you can fill.**

P: Give us meaning that builds our confidence.

**C: Let us know that our worth dwells securely in you.**

### Fourth Reading Mark 7:24-37

<sup>24</sup>From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Scripture Poetry Psalm 39

A: I said I will not sin!

**C: I will curb my tongue  
and muzzle my mouth**

**when the wicked confront me.**

A: I kept silent, would not say a word,  
yet my anguish grew.

**C: It scorched my heart  
and seared my thoughts  
until I had to speak.**

A: Lord, what will become of me?  
How long will I live?  
Let me see how short life is!

**C: You give me a brief span of time;  
before you, my days are nothing.**

A: People are but a breath: they walk like shadows;  
their efforts amount to nothing; they hoard, but others gain.

**C: Why do I wait for you, Lord?  
You are my hope**

A: to save me from my sins;  
do not make a fool of me.

**C: I will keep quiet.  
I have said enough,  
since all this is your doing.**

A: Stop tormenting me;  
you strike and I grow weak.

**C: You rebuke us for our sin,  
eat up our riches like a moth;  
we are but a breath.**

A: Lord, hear my prayer,  
my cry for help.  
Do not ignore my tears,  
as if I were alien to you, a stranger like my ancestors.

**C: Stop looking so hard at me,  
allow me a little joy  
before I am no more.**

### Fifth Reading Mark 8:1-10

In those days when there was again a great crowd without anything to eat, he called his disciples and said to them, <sup>2</sup>“I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. <sup>3</sup>If I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way—and some of them have come from a great distance.”<sup>4</sup>His disciples replied, “How can one feed these people with bread here in the desert?”<sup>5</sup>He asked them, “How many loaves do you have?” They said, “Seven.”<sup>6</sup>Then he ordered the crowd to sit down on

the ground; and he took the seven loaves, and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to his disciples to distribute; and they distributed them to the crowd. <sup>7</sup>They had also a few small fish; and after blessing them, he ordered that these too should be distributed. <sup>8</sup>They ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. <sup>9</sup>Now there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away. <sup>10</sup>And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Hymn Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ  
(For music turn to Hymn 674 the Red Hymnal)

**1. Let us talents and tongues employ,  
Reaching out with a shout of joy;  
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

*Refrain (sung twice after each verse)*

**Jesus lives again,  
earth can breathe again,  
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

**2. Christ is able to make us one,  
At the table he sets the tone,  
Teaching people to live to bless,  
Love in word and in deed express.** *Refrain*

**3. Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
Bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
Gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere!** *Refrain*

Text: Frank Kaan, b. 1929, Music: Jamaican Folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980, Copyright 1975 Hope Publishing Company

Sixth Reading Mark 8:11-21

<sup>11</sup>The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, asking him for a sign from heaven, to test him. <sup>12</sup>And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to this generation." <sup>13</sup>And he left them, and getting into the boat again, he went across to the other side.

<sup>14</sup>Now the disciples had forgotten to bring any bread; and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. <sup>15</sup>And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch out—beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod." <sup>16</sup>They said to one another, "It is because we have no bread." <sup>17</sup>And becoming aware of it, Jesus said to

them, “Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? <sup>18</sup>Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to hear? And do you not remember? <sup>19</sup>When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?” They said to him, “Twelve.” <sup>20</sup>“And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?” And they said to him, “Seven.” <sup>21</sup>Then he said to them, “Do you not yet understand?”

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Video *A Cosmic Adventure Through Science & Faith* Episode 4

### Seventh Reading Mark 8:22-38

<sup>22</sup>They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. <sup>23</sup>He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village; and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, “Can you see anything?” <sup>24</sup>And the man looked up and said, “I can see people, but they look like trees, walking.” <sup>25</sup>Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he looked intently and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. <sup>26</sup>Then he sent him away to his home, saying, “Do not even go into the village.” <sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon



Hymn of the Day     Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness  
(For music see Hymn 843 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Praise the One who breaks the darkness  
with a liberating light;  
praise the One who frees the pris'ners,  
turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the gospel,  
healing ev'ry dread disease,  
calming storms and feeding thousands  
with the very bread of peace.**
  
2. **Praise the One who blessed the children  
with a strong yet gentle word;  
praise the One who drove out demons  
with a piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water  
to the desert's burning sand;  
from the well comes living water  
quenching thirst in ev'ry land.**
  
3. **Praise the one true love incarnate:  
Christ, who suffered in our place;  
Jesus died and rose for many  
that we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
seeing what our God has done.  
Praise the one redeeming glory;  
praise the One who makes us one.**

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955. Text copyright 1987 Hope Publishing Company. Music: J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Peace

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

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

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

†    MEAL    †

Offering and Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving 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.**

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

Offering Prayer

**A:** Let us pray: Merciful God,

**C:** receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Institution

**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. You will receive bread from the communion assistant. If you need gluten free wafers please ask the assistant distributing bread. You may receive wine from either the common cup or in an individual glass. If you would like to receive in a glass please pick one up from the tray as you approach the altar rail. White grape juice is available in the individual glasses for those who do not wish to take wine. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:*

*Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)*

**87** *There Is None Like You (Songbook Binder)*

**102** *Beauty for Brokenness (Songbook Binder)*

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.**

## † SENDING †

### Blessing

P: The God of glory dwell in your richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn I See the Lord  
*(For music turn to #89 in the Songbook Binder)*

*Verse*

**I see the Lord  
And He is seated on the throne  
The train of His robe  
Is filling the heavens  
I see the Lord  
And He is shining like the sun  
His eyes full of fire  
His voice like the waters  
Surrounding His throne  
Are thousands singing**

*Chorus*

**Holy holy holy  
Is the Lord God Almighty  
Holy holy holy  
Is the Lord  
Holy holy holy  
Is the Lord God Almighty  
Holy holy holy  
Is the Lord**

Text and Music by Paul Baloche; copyright 1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; CCLI #2444044

*Dismissal*

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Acolyte	Abbie Bullwinkle
Altar Care	Sally Mansfield
Communion Assistants	Babette Huber and Nancy Shuler
Nursery Care	Laura Stroup
Counters	Beth Perdan and Bettina Kalish
Coffee Hour	Julie and Nic Stuart

Worship assistants for next Sunday, February 11, 2018

Greeters and Ushers	Carol and Tom Urbanic
Acolyte	Olivia DeLeon
Nursery Care	Beth Perdan
Counters	Art and Hannah Fields
Coffee Hour	Bettina Kalish

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