



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *The Boy Jesus in the Temple*

*January 13, 2019 10:30 Service of the Word*

Jesus' parents traveled to Jerusalem every year to celebrate Passover. Presumably Jesus went with them. At twelve years of age he stays behind without his parents' knowledge or consent. When they finally find him in the temple he says that he, "must be in my Father's house." What is behind this apparent disregard for his parents? What form will faith take for those who follow Jesus in the time to come?

*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,  
who creates us and forms us,  
who redeems us and calls us,  
who unifies us and sends us.

**C: Amen.**

P: Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.  
*(A moment of silence for reflection)*

P: Mighty and loving God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We seek our own way to fulfillment.**

**We cause division rather than create unity.**

**In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us.**

**Let the words of our mouths,**

**the thoughts of our hearts,**

**and everything that we do**

**be filled with faith, hope, and love.**

**Amen.**

P: Hear the voice of Jesus:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives.”

In the name of Jesus the Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

**C: Amen**

Gathering Hymn As with Gladness Men of Old  
*(For music turn to Hymn 302 in the Red Hymnal)*

1. As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we  
evermore be led by thee.

2. As with joyful steps they sped,  
Savior, to thy lowly bed,  
there to bend the knee before

thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet  
ever seek thy mercy seat.

3. As they offered gifts most rare  
at thy cradle, rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ to thee, our heav'nly king.

4. Holy Jesus, ev'ry day  
keep us in the narrow way;  
and when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds thy glory hide.

5. In the heav'nly country bright  
need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown,  
thou its sun which goes not down;  
there forever may we sing  
alleluias to our King.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt. Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

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 (John 1)

A: In the beginning was the Word,

**C: and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

A: In the Word was life,

**C: and the life was the light of all people.**

A: The Word became flesh and lived among us,

**C: and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.**

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

First Reading Colossians 3:12-17

<sup>12</sup>As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Scripture Poetry Psalm 148 (*read responsively*)

A: Praise the Lord!

Across the heavens,  
from the heights,  
all you angels, heavenly beings,  
sing praise, sing praise!

**C: Sun and moon, glittering stars,  
sing praise, sing praise,  
Highest heavens, rain clouds,  
sing praise, sing praise.**

A: Praise God's name,

whose word called you forth  
and fixed you in place for ever  
by eternal decree.

**C: Let there be praise:  
from depths of earth,  
from creatures of the deep.**

A: Fire and hail, snow and mist,  
storms, winds,  
mountains, hills,  
fruit trees and cedars,  
wild beasts and tame,  
snakes and birds,

**C: princes, judges,  
rulers, subjects,  
men, women,  
old and young,  
praise, praise the holy name,  
this name beyond all names.**

A: God's splendor above the earth,  
above the heavens,

**C: gives strength to the nation,  
glory to the faithful,  
a people close to the Lord.  
Israel, let there be praise!**

Second Reading Deuteronomy 16:16-17

<sup>16</sup>Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God at the place that he will choose: at the festival of unleavened bread, at the festival of weeks, and at the festival of booths. They shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed; <sup>17</sup>all shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (Colossians 3:15,16)

**C: Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and let the word of God dwell in you richly. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading Luke 2:41-52

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>41</sup>Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." <sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Holy Child within the Manger

*(for music, turn to Hymn 638 in the Blue Hymnal)*

1. **Holy Child within the manger,  
long ago yet ever near;  
come as friend to ev'ry stranger,  
come as hope for ev'ry fear.  
As you live to heal the broken,  
greet the outcast, free the bound,  
as you taught us love unspoken,  
teach us now where you are found.**

2. **Once again we tell the story  
how your love for us was shown,  
when the image of your glory  
wore an image like our own.  
Come, enlighten with your wisdom,  
come and fill us with your grace.  
May the fire of your compassion  
kindle ev'ry land and race.**
3. **Holy Child within the manger,  
lead us ever in your way,  
so we see in ev'ry stranger  
how you come to us today.  
In our lives and in our living  
give us strength to live as you,  
that our hearts might be forgiving  
and our spirits strong and true.**

Text and music: Mary Haugen, Copyright 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

*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

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.**



Thanksgiving Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

**C: we give you thanks and praise.**

A: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

**C: we give you thanks and praise.**

A: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

**C: we give you thanks and praise.**

P: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be honor and glory forever.

**C: 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: The God of glory dwell in you 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 with you now and remain with you always.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn Jesus, Come! For We Invite You  
(For music turn to Hymn 312 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Jesus, come! for we invite you,  
guest and master, friend and Lord;  
now, as once at Cana's wedding,  
speak and let us hear your word:  
lead us through our need or doubting,  
hope be born and joy restored.**
2. **Jesus, come! transform our pleasures,  
guide us into paths unknown;  
bring your gifts, command your servants,  
let us trust in you alone:  
though your hand may work in secret,  
all shall see what you have done.**
3. **Jesus, come! in new creation,  
heav'n brought near in pow'r divine;  
give your unexpected glory,  
changing water into wine:  
rouse the faith of your disciples  
come, our first and greatest Sign!**
4. **Jesus, come! surprise our dullness,  
make us willing to receive  
more than we can yet imagine,  
all the best you have to give;  
let us find your hidden riches,  
taste your love, believe, and live!**

Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938. Music Harold Friedell, 1905-1958. Text copyright 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company. Music copyright 1957, 1985 H.W. Gray, admin CPP/Belwin

## Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

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



"I'm a perfect little angel while I'm asleep, Sir.  
It's being awake that gives me trouble."

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers	Tom and Carol Urbanic
Acolyte	Mary Ehrlinger
Nursery Care	Laura Stroup
Counters	Linda Flood and Sue Kaufmann
Coffee Hour	Diane Boncke

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, January 20**

Greeters and Ushers	Linda Flood and Sue Kaufmann
Acolyte	Molly Perdan
Altar Care	Liz Brown
Communion Assistants	Tim and Liz Brown
Nursery Care	Kristi Bullwinkle
Counters	Tim Brown and Bill Hagerman
Coffee Hour	Annual Meeting – Sub Sale

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