



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Matthew 8-9 Miracles*

*January 15, 2017 10:30 Holy Communion*

Last week we read Jesus' 'Sermon on the Mount'. It is a massive collection of teachings showing us how to think and act and live. Today we continue in Matthew and discover two chapters about Jesus' miracles. These miracles come after the Sermon on the Mount for a purpose. They show what life is like when Jesus puts his words into action.

### *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

Gathering Hymn I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light  
*For music turn to Hymn 815 in the Red Hymnal*

1. **I want to walk as a child of the light.**  
**I want to follow Jesus.**  
**God set the stars to give light to the world.**  
**The star of my life is Jesus.**

*Refrain* **In him there is no darkness at all.**  
**The night and the day are both alike.**  
**The Lamb is the light of the city of God.**  
**Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

2. **I want to see... the brightness of God.**  
**I want to look at Jesus.**  
**Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,**  
**and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain***
3. **I'm looking for... the coming of Christ.**  
**I want to be with Jesus.**  
**When we have run... with patience the race,**  
**we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain***

Text and music: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934, copyright 1970,1975 Celebration

## 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.**

## Confession and Forgiveness

**P:** Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,  
who stretches out the heavens,  
who sends light to the nations,  
who gives breath to us all.

**C: Amen.**

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

**P:** Loving God,

**C: we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times:  
we have spoken or acted too quickly;  
we have not spoken at all;  
we have hurt those closest to us;  
we have hurt those we have yet to know;  
we have thought more about ourselves than others;  
we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.  
Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,  
so that we can live again as your children.**

P: Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen**

*Hymn of Praise* Now the Feast and Celebration  
(For music turn to Hymn 789 in the Blue Hymnal)

*Refrain*

**Now the feast and celebration,  
all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom  
praise and glory forevermore!**

**1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,  
whose blood has freed and united us  
to be one great people of God.      *Refrain***

**2. Power and riches, wisdom and might,  
all honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain***

**3. For God has come to dwell with us,  
to make us people of God;  
to make all things new.      *Refrain***

Text and music: Marty Haugen; Copyright 1990 GIA Publications Inc.

*Prayer of the Day*

A: Let us pray.

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you

follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

*First Reading* Isaiah 42:1-4

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup>He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Scripture Poetry* Psalm 78:1-11 (*read responsively*)

A: Listen, my people, mark each word.

I begin 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.  
The Lord gave precepts to Jacob, instructions to Israel,  
that the people before us could teach their children.**

A: Let future generations learn and let them grow up  
to teach their young to trust in God,  
remembering great deeds, cherishing the law.

**C: Not like their ancestors, stubborn, bitter, wavering,  
unfaithful to God; not like the Ephraimites,  
archers who fled the battle, breaking their covenant,  
defying the Lord.**

**They forgot all God had done, wonders revealed to them.**

Second Reading Matthew 8-9

A1: When Jesus had come down from the mountain, great crowds followed him; <sup>2</sup>and there was a leper who came to him and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean.” <sup>3</sup>He stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I do choose. Be made clean!” Immediately his leprosy was cleansed. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.”

A2: When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him <sup>6</sup>and saying, “Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible distress.” <sup>7</sup>And he said to him, “I will come and cure him.” <sup>8</sup>The centurion answered, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup>For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and the slave does it.” <sup>10</sup>When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who followed him, “Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith. <sup>11</sup>I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, <sup>12</sup>while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” <sup>13</sup>And to the centurion Jesus said, “Go; let it be done for you according to your faith.” And the servant was healed in that hour.

A3: When Jesus entered Peter’s house, he saw his mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever; <sup>15</sup>he touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got up and began to serve him. <sup>16</sup>That evening they brought to him many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and cured all who were sick. <sup>17</sup>This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah, “He took our infirmities and bore our diseases.”

A4: Now when Jesus saw great crowds around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side. <sup>19</sup>A scribe then approached and said, “Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.” <sup>20</sup>And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” <sup>21</sup>Another of his disciples said to him, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” <sup>22</sup>But Jesus said to him, “Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead.”

A5: And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. <sup>24</sup>A windstorm arose on the sea, so great that the boat was being swamped by

the waves; but he was asleep. <sup>25</sup>And they went and woke him up, saying, “Lord, save us! We are perishing!” <sup>26</sup>And he said to them, “Why are you afraid, you of little faith?” Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm. <sup>27</sup>They were amazed, saying, “What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?”

A6: When he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demoniacs coming out of the tombs met him. They were so fierce that no one could pass that way. <sup>29</sup>Suddenly they shouted, “What have you to do with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?” <sup>30</sup>Now a large herd of swine was feeding at some distance from them. <sup>31</sup>The demons begged him, “If you cast us out, send us into the herd of swine.” <sup>32</sup>And he said to them, “Go!” So they came out and entered the swine; and suddenly, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea and perished in the water. <sup>33</sup>The swineherds ran off, and on going into the town, they told the whole story about what had happened to the demoniacs. <sup>34</sup>Then the whole town came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood.

A1: And after getting into a boat he crossed the sea and came to his own town. <sup>2</sup>And just then some people were carrying a paralyzed man lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.” <sup>3</sup>Then some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.” <sup>4</sup>But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? <sup>5</sup>For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and walk’? <sup>6</sup>But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” —he then said to the paralytic— ‘stand up, take your bed and go to your home.’ <sup>7</sup>And he stood up and went to his home. <sup>8</sup>When the crowds saw it, they were filled with awe, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to human beings.

A4: As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him. <sup>10</sup>And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” <sup>12</sup>But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup>Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.”

<sup>14</sup>Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?” <sup>15</sup>And Jesus said to them, “The wedding guests cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. <sup>16</sup>No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. <sup>17</sup>Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.”

A2: While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.” <sup>19</sup>And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples.

A3: Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, <sup>21</sup>for she said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.” <sup>22</sup>Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And instantly the woman was made well.

A2: When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, <sup>24</sup>he said, “Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him. <sup>25</sup>But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. <sup>26</sup>And the report of this spread throughout that district.

A5: As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, crying loudly, “Have mercy on us, Son of David!” <sup>28</sup>When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” They said to him, “Yes, Lord.” <sup>29</sup>Then he touched their eyes and said, “According to your faith let it be done to you.” <sup>30</sup>And their eyes were opened. Then Jesus sternly ordered them, “See that no one knows of this.” <sup>31</sup>But they went away and spread the news about him throughout that district.

A6: After they had gone away, a demoniac who was mute was brought to him. <sup>33</sup>And when the demon had been cast out, the one who had been mute spoke; and the crowds were amazed and said, “Never has anything like this been seen in Israel.” <sup>34</sup>But the Pharisees said, “By the ruler of the demons he casts out the demons.”

A4: Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

*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      O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come **610** (*Red Hymnal*)

#### 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

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 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord

*For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal*

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

**Grace our table with your presence, Lord,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

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.**

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 Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in 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. You will receive bread from the communion assistant. 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)*

**581 You Are Mine (Red Hymnal)**

**80 Given and Shed (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.**

### Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray:

O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now – today, tomorrow, every day – that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## † SENDING †

### Blessing

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**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	Gay and John Card
Acolyte	Kelsey Sackett
Altar Care	Beth Perdan
Communion Assistants	Don and Sally Mansfield
Nursery Care	Laura Stroup
Counters	Babette Huber and Burdie Gillern
Coffee Hour	Pat Hortop

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, January 22, 2017**

Greeters and Ushers	Mike and Cassie Ross
Acolyte	Ally Buch
Nursery Care	Lynne Minkel
Counters	Tom Kurilovitch and Helen Crown
Coffee Hour	Sub Sale – Annual Meeting

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