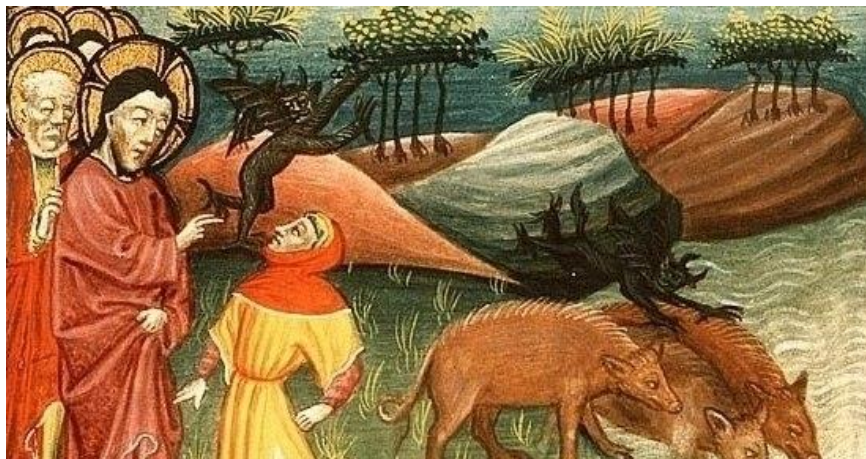




St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Jesus' Abilities – Mark 5

January 21, 2018

10:30 Holy Communion

Is anything impossible for Jesus? Nope. In today's reading from Mark we'll discover his power over the forces of nature, over mental illness, physical illness and even death. This is all great news... until we start asking why Jesus doesn't use his powers to keep us and protect us too. Are Jesus' powers something from the past? Is he less present today than then? Mark's gospel will help us find answers to these difficult questions and provide strength for faith.

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 You Are Mine
(for music see Hymn 581 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice,
be still and know I am here.**
- 2. I am hope for all who are hopeless,
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night, I will be your light,
come and rest in me.**

Refrain

**Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me, I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine.**

- 3. I am strength for all the despairing,
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free,
and all will know my name. *Refrain***
- 4. I am the Word that leads all to freedom,
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name, embracing all your pain.
Stand up, now walk and live! *Refrain***

Text and music: David Haas; copyright 1991 GIA Publications; Reprinted under OneLicense.net #S-902689

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: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(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 too quickly;

we have not spoken or acted 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. Amen.

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...

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

‡ WORD ‡

Scripture Poetry Psalm 65:1-9 (*read responsively*)

A: Praise is yours, God in Zion.

Now is the moment to keep our vow,
for you, God, are listening.

**C: All people come to you
bringing their shameful deeds.
You free us from guilt,
from overwhelming sin.**

A: Happy are those you invite
and then welcome to your courts.

**C: Fill us with the plenty of your house,
the holiness of your temple.**

A: You give victory
in answer to prayer.
You inspire awe, God, our savior,
hope of distant lands and waters.

**C: Clothed in power,
you steady the mountains;**

A: you still the roaring seas,
restless waves, raging nations.

**C: People everywhere
stand amazed at what you do,
east and west shout for joy.**

Bible Reading Mark 4:35-5:43

A1: On that day, when evening had come, [Jesus] said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.”³⁶ And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him.³⁷ A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped.³⁸ But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?”³⁹ He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm.⁴⁰ He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?”⁴¹ And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

A2: They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes.² And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him.³ He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain;⁴ for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him.⁵ Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones.⁶ When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him;⁷ and he shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.”⁸ For he had said to him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!”⁹ Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He replied, “My name is Legion; for we are many.”¹⁰ He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country.¹¹ Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding;¹² and the unclean spirits begged him, “Send us into the swine; let us enter them.”¹³ So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the sea.

¹⁴The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened.¹⁵ They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid.¹⁶ Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine reported it.¹⁷ Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood.¹⁸ As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him.¹⁹ But Jesus refused, and said to

him, “Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you.”²⁰ And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.

A3: When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea.²² Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet²³ and begged him repeatedly, “My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.”

A4: So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him.²⁵ Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years.²⁶ She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse.²⁷ She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak,²⁸ for she said, “If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.”²⁹ Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease.³⁰ Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, “Who touched my clothes?”³¹ And his disciples said to him, “You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, ‘Who touched me?’”³² He looked all around to see who had done it.³³ But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth.³⁴ He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”

A3: While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader’s house to say, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?”³⁶ But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, “Do not fear, only believe.”³⁷ He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James.³⁸ When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly.³⁹ When he had entered, he said to them, “Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.”⁴⁰ And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was.⁴¹ He took her by the hand and said to her, “Talitha cum,” which means, “Little girl, get up!”⁴² And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this

they were overcome with amazement. ⁴³He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

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 We Come to You for Healing, Lord
(For music see Hymn 617 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **We come to you for healing, Lord,
of body, mind, and soul,
and pray that by your Spirit, touch
we may again be whole.**
2. **As once you walked through ancient streets
and reached toward those in pain,
come, risen Christ, among us still
with pow'r to heal again.**
3. **You touch us through physicians' skills,
through nurses' gifts of care,
and through the love of faithful friends
who lift our lives in prayer.**
4. **When nights are long with wakefulness,
through days when strength runs low,
grant us your gift of patience, Lord,
your calming peace to know.**
5. **We come to you, O loving Lord,
in our distress and pain,
in trust that through our nights and days
your grace will heal, sustain.**

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr. b. 1923, Music: Hugh Wilson, 1764-1824, Text copyright 2002 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

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

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.

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:

(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. 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)

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

611 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus (Red Hymnal)*

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: 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 There is a Balm in Gilead
(For music turn to Hymn 614 in the Red Hymnal)

Refrain:

**There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.**

1. **Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.** *Refrain*
2. **If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all."**
Refrain
3. **Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,
and if you lack for knowledge, he'll ne'er refuse to lend.**
Refrain

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Mike and Bettina Kalish
Acolyte	Viala Wagner
Altar Care	Helen Crown
Communion Assistants	Gary Boisseau and Rob Stroup
Nursery Care	Katy Stimmel
Counters	Ethan Minkel and Bill Hagerman
Coffee Hour	Sub Sale – Annual Meeting

Worship assistants for next Sunday, January 28, 2018

Greeters and Ushers	Nancy and Ivan Shuler
Acolyte	Hanna Stroup
Nursery Care	Lynne Minkel
Counters	Nancy and Ivan Shuler
Coffee Hour	<i>Please sign up</i>

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St. John's Lutheran Church

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