



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



King Solomon by Simeon Solomon 1840-1905, National Gallery of Art

Solomon Becomes King

July 19, 2020

10:30 Worship

As King David ages and his health declines there is a conflict over who will follow him as king. David's son Adonijah is the next in line and the logical choice. However, David has selected Solomon, his seventh born son. Conflict within the family erupts again. Like times past, conflict in this family will again come to murders and assassinations. Faith and turning to God seem nonexistent as the conflict erupts, but we discover that God is ultimately still with this very troubled family he has chosen for leadership.

Welcome to worship today!

This order of worship is designed to accompany what is happening live on Zoom. In order to make things work smoothly please keep your computer's microphone off unless you have a speaking part. It may be helpful to use a headset or earbuds to minimize feedback. You are welcome to use the chat feature to ask questions or provide feedback. Following worship we will have a time for those who would like to chat.

† OPENING †

Welcome and Announcements

Candle Lighting

The candles are lit and the following prayer is said:

A: God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus the Christ our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C: Amen

P: Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection.

P: Reconciling God,

**C: we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.**

**We place our hope in ourselves
and rely on our own efforts.**

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

**We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.**

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

**By your grace, forgive us;
through your love, renew us;
and in your Spirit, lead us;**

so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.

Amen

P: Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Opening Music

Prayer of the Day

B: Let us pray:

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading 1 Kings 2:13-25

D: ¹³Then Adonijah son of Haggith came to Bathsheba, Solomon's mother. She asked, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably." ¹⁴Then he said, "May I have a word with you?" She said, "Go on." ¹⁵He said, "You know that the kingdom was mine, and that all Israel expected me to reign; however, the kingdom has turned about and become my brother's, for it was his from the LORD. ¹⁶And now I have one request to make of you; do not refuse me." She said to him, "Go on." ¹⁷He said, "Please ask King Solomon—he will not refuse you—to give me Abishag the Shunammite as my wife." ¹⁸Bathsheba said, "Very well; I will speak to the king on your behalf." ¹⁹So Bathsheba went to King Solomon, to speak to him on behalf of Adonijah. The king rose to meet her, and bowed down to her; then he sat on his throne, and had a throne brought for the king's mother, and she sat on his right. ²⁰Then she said, "I have one small request to make of you; do not refuse me." And the king said to her, "Make your request, my mother; for I will not refuse you." ²¹She said, "Let Abishag the Shunammite be given to your brother Adonijah as his wife." ²²King Solomon answered his mother, "And why do you ask Abishag the Shunammite for Adonijah? Ask for him the kingdom as well! For he is my elder brother; ask not only for him but also for the priest Abiathar and for Joab son of Zeruah!" ²³Then King Solomon swore by the LORD, "So may God do to me, and more also, for Adonijah has devised this scheme at the risk of his life! ²⁴Now therefore as the LORD lives, who has established me and placed me on the throne of my father David, and who has made me a house as he promised, today Adonijah shall be put to death." ²⁵So King Solomon sent Benaiah son of Jehoiada; he struck him down, and he died.

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

C: Thanks be to God!

Scripture Poetry Proverbs 25:1, 11-22

E: These are other proverbs of Solomon that the officials of King Hezekiah of Judah copied.

¹¹A word fitly spoken

is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.

¹²Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold
is a wise rebuke to a listening ear.

¹³Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest
are faithful messengers to those who send them;
they refresh the spirit of their masters.

¹⁴Like clouds and wind without rain
is one who boasts of a gift never given.

¹⁵With patience a ruler may be persuaded,
and a soft tongue can break bones.

¹⁶If you have found honey, eat only enough for you,
or else, having too much, you will vomit it.

¹⁷Let your foot be seldom in your neighbor's house,
otherwise the neighbor will become weary of you and hate you.

¹⁸Like a war club, a sword, or a sharp arrow
is one who bears false witness against a neighbor.

¹⁹Like a bad tooth or a lame foot
is trust in a faithless person in time of trouble.

²⁰Like vinegar on a wound
is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.

Like a moth in clothing or a worm in wood,
sorrow gnaws at the human heart.

²¹If your enemies are hungry, give them bread to eat;
and if they are thirsty, give them water to drink;

²²for you will heap coals of fire on their heads,
and the Lord will reward you.

Second Reading Romans 14:7-12

F: ⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the

Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.”¹² So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

C: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation (Psalm 24:10)

C: Alleluia. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading John 6:35-40

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. ³⁷Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; ³⁸for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. ⁴⁰This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.”

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon

Response to the Word

P: In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

G: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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.**

G: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C: pray in the Holy Spirit. *(Jude 20)*

G: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. *(Jude 21)*

G: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!** *(2 Corinthians 5:17)*

‡ PRAYER ‡

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. These three petitions will be read by people in the congregation:

B: God of the nations, we praise you for the good that has been given us in this country, and we mourn that many people here are poor and dispossessed, that we have allowed racism to distort our society, that violence breaks out in our land. Lead us to form communities in which all people are equal and where disputes are settled without violence. Save us from preserving a past that has been harmful to many. Bring an end to warfare around the world, and mend the torn fabric of humankind with your truth and mercy. Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

E: Gracious God, we seek to spread your reign throughout the world. Be with the missionaries we support: the Rev. Karen Anderson in Chile and the Rev. Matthew Nickoloff in Rochester. Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

G: God of humankind, we praise you for wherever health and happiness prevail, and we mourn that many people suffer. Each day thousands more contract the virus; renters are facing eviction; medical workers are exhausted; some of the sick have no access to health care; countless people are broken by sorrows. Open our hearts to your children who suffer in any way, and show us how to serve them. Lord in your mercy...

C: 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

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

C: And also with you.

B: We share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with messages of Christ's peace.

Special Music

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**

† ENDING †

Blessing

P: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator,
Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C: Amen.

Closing Music

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

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