



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Luke 8:22-39

July 28, 2019

10:30 Service of the Word

Fear, Chaos, Calamity, Death... These are powerful forces at work in today's reading from Luke's gospel. We'll look at two different scenes and discover how Jesus' power dominates all of them. Sometimes our own lives feel out of control. Even so, Jesus is with us in the midst of it and he is providing help to restore peace and calm.

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 forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen

P: Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

P: God of mercy,

**C: we confess that we have sinned against you,
against one another,**

and against the earth entrusted to our care.

**We are worried and distracted by many things,
and we fail to love you above all else.**

**We store up treasures for ourselves
and turn away from our neighbors in need.**

**Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P: When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross. For freedom Christ has set us free: Rejoice in this good news!

C: Amen

Gathering Hymn When Long Before Time

(The Singer and the Song)

(For music see Hymn 861 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. When long before time and the worlds were begun,
when there was no earth and no sky and no sun,
and all was deep silence and night reigned supreme,
and even our Maker had only a dream-**
- 2. The silence was broken when God sang the Song,
and light pierced the darkness and rhythm began,
and with its first birth-cries creation was born,
and creaturely voices sang praise to the morn.**
- 3. The sounds of the creatures were one with their Lord's,
their harmonies sweet and befitting the Word;**

**the Singer was pleased as the earth sang the Song,
the choir of the creatures re-echoed it long.**

**4. Though down through the ages the Song disappeared,
its harmonies broken and almost unheard,
the Singer comes to us to sing it again,
our God-is-with-us in the world now as then.**

**5. The Light has returned as it came once before,
the Song of the Lord is our own song once more,
so let us all sing with one heart and one voice
the Song of the Singer in whom we rejoice.**

**6. To you God the singer, our voices we raise,
to you, Song Incarnate, we give all our praise,
to you, Holy Spirit, our life and our breath,
be glory forever, through life and through death.**

Text: Peter W. A. Davison, b. 1936. Music: Peter W. A. Davison; arr. George Black, 1931-2003. Text and tune copyright Peter W. A. Davison, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Arr. copyright George Black

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13)

A: 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 (Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)

A: You are the treasured people of the Lord,

C: a people holy to the Lord our God.

A: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

**C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,
when you lie down and when you rise.**

A: One does not live by bread alone,

C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

Mighty God, all of creation is subject to you and under your care. When the world around us rages in chaos pour out your peace and restore stability. Let us ever rejoice in the goodness you provide, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

First Reading Isaiah 66:1-3

Thus says the Lord:

Heaven is my throne and the earth is my footstool;
what is the house that you would build for me,
and what is my resting place?

²All these things my hand has made,
and so all these things are mine,
says the Lord.

But this is the one to whom I will look,
to the humble and contrite in spirit,
who trembles at my word.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 89:6-19 (*read responsively*)

A: The skies tell your wonders, Lord,
the stars, your constant love.

**C: In the heavens what equals you?
What god compares with you?**

A: Great and dreaded God,
you strike terror among the holy ones.

**C: Who is like you, Lord of might,
clothed in truth, a God of power?**

A: You rule the storming seas,
you calm the roaring waves.

**C: Yes! You split the sea monster
and scatter your enemies.**

A: Yours the sky, yours the earth,
yours the world of creatures.

**C: You created north and south
Mount Tabor and Mount Hermon
sing out your name.**

A: Yours, a mighty arm,
yours, a powerful hand
raised in triumph.

**C: Justice and right anchor your throne,
fidelity and love attend you.**

A: How your people rejoice!

you summon us into your light.

**C: Lord, your name is our joy,
and your justice, our strength.**

A: You, our glory and power,
favor us with victory,

**C: you, the Holy One of Israel,
our shield, our Lord, our King.**

Gospel Acclamation (Isiah 66:2)

C: Alleluia. God says, “This is the one to whom I will look, to the humble and contrite in spirit, who trembles at my word.” Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Luke 8:22-39

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

²²One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side of the lake.” So they put out, ²³and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A windstorm swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. ²⁴They went to him and woke him up, shouting, “Master, Master, we are perishing!” And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. ²⁵He said to them, “Where is your faith?” They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, “Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?” ²⁶Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.

²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me”— ²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. ³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country.³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day We Cannot Measure How You Heal
(For music see Hymn 103 in the Songbook Binder)

1. **We cannot measure how You heal
Or answer every sufferer's prayer
Yet we believe Your grace responds
Where faith and doubt unite to care
Your hands though bloodied on the cross
Survive to hold and heal and warn
To carry all through death to life
And cradle children yet unborn**

2. **The pain that will not go away
The guilt that clings from things long past
The fear of what the future holds
Are present as if meant to last
But present too is love which tends
The hurt we never hoped to find
The private agonies inside
The memories that haunt the mind**

3. **So some have come who need Your help**

**And some have come to make amends
As hands which shaped and saved the world
Are present in the touch of friends
Lord let Your Spirit meet us here
To mend the body mind and soul
To disentangle peace from pain
And make Your broken people whole**

CCLI Song # 961368 Graham Maule | John L. Bell
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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 worship leader 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 leader 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 & Special Music

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.**

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray: Merciful God...

C: you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set many blessings before us. Open our hands to receive them. Open our hearts to embrace them. Open our lives to live them. We pray this through Christ our Lord. 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: Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him, and bound in thanksgiving; and the blessing of God be upon you and remain with you always.

C: Amen

Sending Hymn For the Beauty of the Earth
(For music see Hymn 879 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:**

Refrain **Christ, our God, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.**

**2. For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow'r,
sun and moon and stars of light:** *Refrain*

**3. For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight:** *Refrain*

**4. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above;
for all gentle thoughts and mild:** *Refrain*

**5. For each perfect gift of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
for thyself, best gift divine,
to our world so freely giv'n:** *Refrain*

Text: Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1835-1917, alt. Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

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“If I count my blessings and some of them are heavily taxed, do they still count as blessings?”

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers Lisa and Tom Kurilovitch
Acolyte Rudy Stroup
Nursery Care Bill and Katy Stimmel
Counters John and Linda Thompson
Coffee Hour

Worship assistants for next Sunday, August 4, 2019

Greeters and Ushers Helen Crown and Sally Mansfield
Acolyte Jacob Kurilovitch
Altar Care *No communion*
Communion Assistants *No communion*
Nursery Care Laura Stroup
Counters Tim Brown and Bill Hagerman
Coffee Hour

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