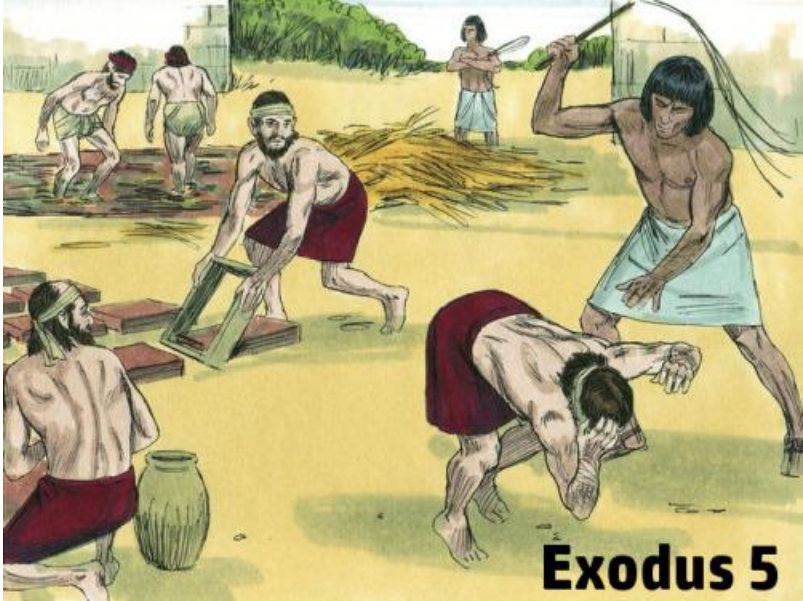




St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Exodus 5:1-6:13

July 8, 2018

10:30 Service of the Word

Moses has returned to Egypt with his brother Aaron by his side. They follow God's command and approach Pharaoh asking for the people's release. It's no surprise that Pharaoh says no. Things get worse for the people of Israel and Moses. It is hard to follow God's command when doing so makes your life harder. We'll explore that today and see how to remain faithful.

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, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

C: Amen

P: Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

P: Eternal God our creator,

C: in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God forgives you all your sins.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn Soon and Very Soon

(For music turn to Hymn 439 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. Soon and ve-ry soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and ve-ry soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and ve-ry soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**
- 2. No more cry-in' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more cry-in' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more cry-in' there we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**
- 3. No more dy-in' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more dy-in' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more dy-in' there we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**

4. **Soon and ve-ry soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and ve-ry soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and ve-ry soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

Text and Music: Andrae Crouch; copyright 1976 Budjohn Songs/Crouch Music, admin. The Sparrow Corp.

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 (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...

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Exodus 5:1-6:13

A1: Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'Let my people go, so that they may celebrate a festival to me in the wilderness.'"²But Pharaoh said, "Who is the Lord, that I should heed him and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, and I will not let Israel go."

³Then they said, "The God of the Hebrews has revealed himself to us; let us go a three days' journey into the wilderness to sacrifice to the Lord our God, or he will fall upon us with pestilence or sword."⁴But the king

of Egypt said to them, “Moses and Aaron, why are you taking the people away from their work? Get to your labors!”⁵Pharaoh continued, “Now they are more numerous than the people of the land and yet you want them to stop working!”⁶That same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people, as well as their supervisors,⁷“You shall no longer give the people straw to make bricks, as before; let them go and gather straw for themselves.”⁸But you shall require of them the same quantity of bricks as they have made previously; do not diminish it, for they are lazy; that is why they cry, ‘Let us go and offer sacrifice to our God.’⁹Let heavier work be laid on them; then they will labor at it and pay no attention to deceptive words.”

A2: ¹⁰So the taskmasters and the supervisors of the people went out and said to the people, “Thus says Pharaoh, ‘I will not give you straw. ¹¹Go and get straw yourselves, wherever you can find it; but your work will not be lessened in the least.’”¹²So the people scattered throughout the land of Egypt, to gather stubble for straw. ¹³The taskmasters were urgent, saying, “Complete your work, the same daily assignment as when you were given straw.”¹⁴And the supervisors of the Israelites, whom Pharaoh’s taskmasters had set over them, were beaten, and were asked, “Why did you not finish the required quantity of bricks yesterday and today, as you did before?”

¹⁵Then the Israelite supervisors came to Pharaoh and cried, “Why do you treat your servants like this? ¹⁶No straw is given to your servants, yet they say to us, ‘Make bricks!’ Look how your servants are beaten! You are unjust to your own people.”¹⁷He said, “You are lazy, lazy; that is why you say, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to the Lord.’ ¹⁸Go now, and work; for no straw shall be given you, but you shall still deliver the same number of bricks.”¹⁹The Israelite supervisors saw that they were in trouble when they were told, “You shall not lessen your daily number of bricks.”²⁰As they left Pharaoh, they came upon Moses and Aaron who were waiting to meet them. ²¹They said to them, “The Lord look upon you and judge! You have brought us into bad odor with Pharaoh and his officials, and have put a sword in their hand to kill us.”²²Then Moses turned again to the Lord and said, “O Lord, why have you mistreated this people? Why did you ever send me? ²³Since I first came to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has mistreated this people, and you have done nothing at all to deliver your people.”

A3: Then the Lord said to Moses, “Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh: Indeed, by a mighty hand he will let them go; by a mighty hand he will drive them out of his land.”²God also spoke to Moses and said to

him: “I am the Lord. ³I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as God Almighty, but by my name ‘The Lord’ I did not make myself known to them. ⁴I also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they resided as aliens. ⁵I have also heard the groaning of the Israelites whom the Egyptians are holding as slaves, and I have remembered my covenant. ⁶Say therefore to the Israelites, ‘I am the Lord, and I will free you from the burdens of the Egyptians and deliver you from slavery to them. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. ⁷I will take you as my people, and I will be your God. You shall know that I am the Lord your God, who has freed you from the burdens of the Egyptians. ⁸I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; I will give it to you for a possession. I am the Lord.’” ⁹Moses told this to the Israelites; but they would not listen to Moses, because of their broken spirit and their cruel slavery.

¹⁰Then the Lord spoke to Moses, ¹¹“Go and tell Pharaoh king of Egypt to let the Israelites go out of his land.” ¹²But Moses spoke to the Lord, “The Israelites have not listened to me; how then shall Pharaoh listen to me, poor speaker that I am?” ¹³Thus the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, and gave them orders regarding the Israelites and Pharaoh king of Egypt, charging them to free the Israelites from the land of Egypt.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 44:1-9 (*read responsively*)

A: We have heard the story
our ancestors told us
of your deeds so long ago:

**C: how you, God, uprooted nations
to plant your own people,
how you weeded out others
so they could flourish.**

A: Sword did not win the land,
might did not bring the victory;
it was your power, your light,
your love for them.

**C: You, my God and King,
led Jacob to victory.**

A: By the power of your name
we defeated our enemies,
crushing those who rose against us.

C: I did not rely on my bow,

my sword did not save me.

A: You, God, rescued us from danger
and put our foes to shame.

**C: Every day we praise your name,
may we never fail to thank you.**

Second Reading Romans 12:9-21

[Paul writes] Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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 Are Marching in the Light

(For music turn to 866 in the Red Hymnal)

We are marching in the light of God,

we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God,

we are marching in the light of, the light of God.

We are marching, marching,

we are marching, marching

we are marching in the light of,

the light of God.

**We are marching, marching,
we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.**

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

**We are dancing...
We are praying...
We are singing...**

Text: South African traditional; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984. Music: South African traditional; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*. Tr. and arr. ©1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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 & 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:

C: Merciful God, 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: May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn I'll Fly Away

(For music see Hymn 96 in the Songbook Binder)

**1. Some bright morning when this life is o'er
I'll fly away,
to that home on God's celestial shore
I'll fly away.**

Refrain I'll fly away (O glory).

I'll fly away (in the morning).

**When I die, Hallelujah by and by,
I'll fly away.**

**2. When the shadows of this life have gone
I'll fly away,
Like a bird from prison bars has flown
I'll fly away. *Refrain***

**3. Oh, how glad and happy when we meet
I'll fly away,
No more cold iron shackles on my feet
I'll fly away. *Refrain***

**4. Just a few more weary days and then
I'll fly away,
Just a few more weary days and then
I'll fly away. *Refrain***

Text and music: American Traditional

Dismissal

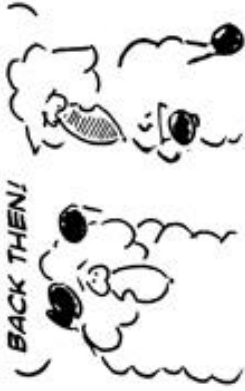
A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

I'M GLAD I DIDN'T
LIVE BACK IN
BIBLE TIMES!

GOD WAS
TERRIFYING
BACK THEN!

GOD
HASN'T
CHANGED.



WE'VE ALWAYS
NEEDED SOMEONE
TO STAND BEFORE
GOD IN OUR PLACE.



LET ME
GUESS...
JESUS?



YES, THE
ANSWER IS
ALWAYS JESUS.



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EXODUS 24:12-18

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Sara DeMuzio and Tricia Kolczynski
Acolyte	Mary Ehrlinger
Nursery Care	Beth Perdan
Counters	Tom Kurilovitch and Helen Crown
Coffee Hour	Bettina Kalish

Worship assistants for next Sunday, July 15, 2018

Greeters and Ushers	Karn and Jim Spawton
Acolyte	Tierney White
Altar Care	Gary Boisseau
Communion Assistants	
Nursery Care	Judy VanDeVelde
Counters	John and Linda Thompson
Coffee Hour	

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