



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Birth of Ishmael

July 9, 2017

10:30 Service of the Word

God has promised Abram a biological son. The promise has not been fulfilled and he and his wife Sarai are too old to have a child. They decide to take matters into their own hands. But things get complicated and their family starts to fall apart. Despite their lack of trust, God stays true to Abram and Sarai and continues to be with them.

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 in 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 our 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 us all our sins.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn Into Your Courts

(for music please turn to Hymn 47 in the Songbook binder)

**Into Your courts we come,
deep in our hearts we long to be
near to the throne of Your glory;
As we draw near to You,
know that we're here to do Your will,
God how we long to be near to You.
May our prayers be like incense
rising up to Your throne
may our songs be a fragrance unto You;
May our lives be as pleasing offerings in all that we do;
God how we long to be near to You.
God how we long to be near to You.**

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...

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Genesis 16

Now Sarai, Abram's wife, bore him no children. She had an Egyptian slave-girl whose name was Hagar, ²and Sarai said to Abram, "You see that the Lord has prevented me from bearing children; go in to my slave-girl; it may be that I shall obtain children by her." And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. ³So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her slave-girl, and gave her to her husband Abram as a wife.

⁴He went in to Hagar, and she conceived; and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress. ⁵Then Sarai said to Abram, "May the wrong done to me be on you! I gave my slave-girl to your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked on me with contempt. May the Lord judge between you and me!" ⁶But Abram said to Sarai, "Your slave-girl is in your power; do to her as you please." Then Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she ran away from her.

⁷The angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. ⁸And he said, “Hagar, slave-girl of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?” She said, “I am running away from my mistress Sarai.” ⁹The angel of the Lord said to her, “Return to your mistress, and submit to her.”

¹⁰The angel of the Lord also said to her, “I will so greatly multiply your offspring that they cannot be counted for multitude.” ¹¹And the angel of the Lord said to her, “Now you have conceived and shall bear a son; you shall call him Ishmael, for the Lord has given heed to your affliction. ¹²He shall be a wild ass of a man, with his hand against everyone, and everyone’s hand against him; and he shall live at odds with all his kin.” ¹³So she named the Lord who spoke to her, “You are El-roi”; for she said, “Have I really seen God and remained alive after seeing him?” ¹⁴Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; it lies between Kadesh and Bered.

¹⁵Hagar bore Abram a son; and Abram named his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. ¹⁶Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 123 (*read responsively*)

A: I gaze at the heavens,
searching for you, my God.

**C: A slave watches his master’s hand,
a servant girl, the hand of her mistress;
so our eyes rest on you, Lord,
awaiting your kindness.**

A: Have mercy, Lord, have mercy,
we have swallowed enough scorn,

**C: stomached enough sneers:
the scoffing of the complacent,
the mockery of the proud.**

Second Reading Colossians 3:12-17

¹²As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be

thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (John 6:68)

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Luke 3:7-9

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Lord of All Hopefulness

(For music turn to Hymn 765 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**

**2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,**

Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

**3. Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hand swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

**4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

Text: Ian Struther, 1901-1953; Music: Irish Traditional

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 Travelers on the Journey
(For music turn to Hymn 37 in the Songbook binder)

Refrain

**We are
trav'lers on the journey
yearning to believe!
Hearts are burning
eyes are opened.
We are
trav'lers on the journey of love.**

**1. What is life really all about
in the struggle of faith?
Hear the word reaching out to you,
Jesus is alive today.** *Refrain*

**2. Do we walk in our foolishness
with our hearts ever slow
to the touch of the Holy One
who is with us on this road?** *Refrain*

**3. We are blessed in the gathering
at the table of grace.
free to see in another's pain
the face of Jesus here today.** *Refrain*

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Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

YOU'RE SAYING THAT I'M GOD'S SON TOO?



www.agustynalozes.com

RIGHT. DAUGHTERS AND SONS HEIR THROUGH BAPTISM.



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?



MY DOVE. WHERE'S MY DOVE?



LUKE 3: 15-17, 21-22

CONVERTED 19.01.02

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Tom and Lisa Kurilvitch
Acolyte	Abbie Bullwinkle
Nursery Care	Kristi Bullwinkle
Counters	Ivan and Nancy Shuler
Coffee Hour	

Worship assistants for next Sunday, July 16

Greeters and Ushers	Karen and Jim Spawton
Acolyte	Olivia DeLeon
Altar Care	Helen Crown
Communion Assistants	Gary Boisseau and Rob Stroup
Nursery Care	Katy Stimmel
Counters	Bruce Boncke and Art Fields
Coffee Hour	

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