



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Forgiveness and Healing

March 3, 2019

10:30 Holy Communion

We want the world to make sense. We want punishments to fit the crimes and rewards that reflect the effort given. We want good things to happen to good people and bad things to happen to bad people. But the world does not work that way. Why? People have been asking that for as far back as there is written history. In today's gospel we see the whole situation is wrapped in God's boundless grace.

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 Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life
(For music turn to Hymn 816 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Come, my way, my truth, my life:**
Such a way as gives us breath;
Such a truth as ends all strife;
Such a life as killeth death.
2. **Come, my light, my feast, my strength:**
Such a light as shows a feast;
Such a feast as mends in length;
Such a strength as makes his guest.
3. **Come, my joy, my love, my heart:**
Such a joy as none can move;
Such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.

Text: George Herbert, 1593-1632; Music: R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

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 creates us and forms us,
who redeems us and calls us,
who unifies us and sends us.

C: Amen.

P: Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.
(A moment of silence for reflection)

P: Mighty and loving God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We seek our own way to fulfillment.

We cause division rather than create unity.

In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us.

Let the words of our mouths,

**the thoughts of our hearts,
and everything that we do
be filled with faith, hope, and love.**

Amen.

P: Hear the voice of Jesus:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives.”

In the name of Jesus the Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

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...

Almighty God, in signs and wonders your Son revealed the greatness of your saving love. Renew us with your grace, and sustain us by your power, that we may stand in the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Isaiah 43:18-25

¹⁸Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.

¹⁹I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

²⁰The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

²²Yet you did not call upon me, O Jacob;
but you have been weary of me, O Israel!

²³You have not brought me your sheep for burnt offerings,
or honored me with your sacrifices.
I have not burdened you with offerings,
or wearied you with frankincense.

²⁴You have not bought me sweet cane with money,
or satisfied me with the fat of your sacrifices.
But you have burdened me with your sins;
you have wearied me with your iniquities.

²⁵I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for my own sake,
and I will not remember your sins.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 41 (*read responsively*)

A: Blest are those ready to help the poor;
in hard times God repays their care.

**C: God watches, protects,
blesses them in their land,
lets no enemy swallow them up!**

A: God comforts them on their sickbed
and nurses them to health.

**C: I said, "God, pity me,
heal me for I have failed you."**

Enemies predict the worst for me:

**“How soon till this one dies,
how soon forgotten?”**

A: Visitors wish me well,
but they come seeking bad news
to gossip on the street.

**C: My enemies whisper
and spread the worst about me:**

A: “Something fatal has taken hold,
this one will not get well.”

**C: Even my trusted friend
who used to eat with me
now turns on me.**

A: Pity me, God, restore me
so I can pay them back.

**C: Then I will know you favor me
when my foes cannot prevail.**

A: I am innocent; uphold me!
Let me stand with you forever.

**C: Blessed be the Lord,
God of Israel forever.
Amen! Amen!**

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 1:17b-22

[Paul writes] Do I make my plans according to ordinary human standards, ready to say “Yes, yes” and “No, no” at the same time? ¹⁸As surely as God is faithful, our word to you has not been “Yes and No.” ¹⁹For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not “Yes and No”; but in him it is always “Yes.” ²⁰For in him every one of God’s promises is a “Yes.” For this reason it is through him that we say the “Amen,” to the glory of God. ²¹But it is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us, ²²by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit in our hearts as a first installment.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Isaiah 43:19)

C: Alleluia. God says, “I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” Alleluia.

Gospel Reading Luke 5:12-26

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 5th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

¹²Once, when he was in one of the cities, there was a man covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he bowed with his face to the ground and begged him, “Lord, if you choose, you can make me clean.” ¹³Then Jesus stretched out his hand, touched him, and said, “I do choose. Be made clean.” Immediately the leprosy left him. ¹⁴And he ordered him to tell no one. “Go,” he said, “and show yourself to the priest, and, as Moses commanded, make an offering for your cleansing, for a testimony to them.” ¹⁵But now more than ever the word about Jesus spread abroad; many crowds would gather to hear him and to be cured of their diseases. ¹⁶But he would withdraw to deserted places and pray.

¹⁷One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting near by (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with him to heal. ¹⁸Just then some men came, carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; ¹⁹but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus. ²⁰When he saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven you.” ²¹Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, “Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” ²²When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, “Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? ²³Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Stand up and walk’? ²⁴But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” —he said to the one who was paralyzed—“I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.” ²⁵Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God. ²⁶Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, “We have seen strange things today.”

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Healer of Our Every Ill
(For music turn to Hymn 612 in the Red Hymnal)

Refrain: **Healer of our ev'ry ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.**

**1. You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain***

**2. In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. *Refrain***

**3. Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. *Refrain***

**4. You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. *Refrain***

Text and music: Marty Haugen, Copyright 1987 GIA Publications

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 For music turn to page 35 in the Blue Hymnal

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence, Lord,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray: God of all creation,

C: all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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)*

27 *Purify My Heart (Songbook Binder)*

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:

We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

† SENDING †

Blessing

P: The God of glory dwell in you 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 with you now and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn I See the Lord
(For music turn to #89 in the Songbook Binder)

Verse

**I see the Lord
And He is seated on the throne
The train of His robe
Is filling the heavens
I see the Lord
And He is shining like the sun
His eyes full of fire
His voice like the waters
Surrounding His throne
Are thousands singing**

Chorus

**Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Holy holy holy
Is the Lord
Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Holy holy holy
Is the Lord**

Text and Music by Paul Baloche; copyright 1998 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; CCLI #2444044

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Kim and Gary Boisseau
Acolyte	Joe Wyman
Altar Care	Linda Thompson
Communion Assistants	Gary Boisseau and Rob Stroup
Nursery Care	Katy Stimmel
Counters	Beth Perdan and Bettina Kalish
Coffee Hour	The Sacketts

Worship assistants for next Sunday, March 10, 2019

Greeters and Ushers	Dick and Phyllis Henderson
Acolyte	Tierney White
Nursery Care	Beth Perdan
Counters	Linda Flood and Sue Kaufmann
Coffee Hour	Julie and Nic Stuart

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