



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



The Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2017

10:30 Holy Communion

Today we begin a tour of Genesis that will take us all the way through the summer. Genesis begins with a creation account in chapter 1. This is perhaps the most controversial chapter in the Bible. Many reject theories of scientific theories because of this chapter. Many try to reconcile it with science. And many others reject the Bible outright because of this chapter. We will approach Genesis 1 on its own terms and discover what it means, why it was written, and how it impacts our lives.

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 Morning Has Broken
(For music see Hymn 556 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Morning has broken
like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.
Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing
fresh from the Word!**

2. **Sweet the rain's new fall,
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dew fall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
spring in completeness
where God's feet pass.**

3. **Mine is the sunlight!
Mine is the morning,
born of the one light
Eden saw play!
Praise with elation,
praise ev'ry morning,
God's re-creation
of the new day!**

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965, copyright Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, admin. David Higham Associates.. Music: Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version, arr. copyright 2005 Augsburg Fortress

Apostles' Greeting

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.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P: Just as God's work of creation never ends,
so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day.
Let us give thanks together for the life given in baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life:
for water to bathe in, and for water to drink,
for the rain, the snow, and the water in the ground.

C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life.

P: We give you thanks, O God for the waters of this place:
the Finger Lakes, the Genesee River, and Lake Ontario;
for waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder,
for water that gives life to our planet.

C: We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of wonder.

P: We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
and for all who gather in this place;
for godparents and baptismal sponsors,
for children and grandchildren,
for our brothers and sisters in Christ whom we have never seen but to
whom we are bound.

C: We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for water, for life, for grace, for
forgiveness, for resurrection and for eternal life.

**C: We give you thanks, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
Amen.**

Hymn of Praise I Am the Resurrection and the Life

(For music turn to Hymn 16 in the Songbook binder)

Chorus

**I am the resurrection and the life
all who believe in Me will never die
I am the resurrection and the life
all who believe in Me will live a new life.**

**1. I have come to bring the truth
I have come to bring you life
if you believe then you shall live.**

Chorus

**2. In My word all men will come to know
it is love which makes the spirit grow
if you believe then you shall live.**

Chorus

**3. Keep in mind the things that I have said
remember Me in the breaking of the bread
if you believe then you shall live.**

Chorus

Text and music: Ray Repp, CCLI #9189, Copyright 1967 K & R Music Publishing

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, who in your self-emptying love gathered up and reconciled all creation to the Father. Innumerable galaxies of the heavens worship you. Creatures that grace the earth rejoice in you. All those in the deepest seas bow to you in adoration. As with them we give you praise, grant that we may cherish the earth, our home, and live in harmony with this good creation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

‡ WORD ‡

First Reading Genesis 1:1-2:3 (*read responsively*)

A1: In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

A2: Then God said,
“Let there be light”;
and there was light.

C: And God saw that the light was good;

A1: and God separated the light from the darkness.

⁵God called the light Day,
and the darkness he called Night.

**C: And there was evening and there was morning,
the first day.**

A2: And God said,
“Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters,
and let it separate the waters from the waters.”

⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome.

And it was so.

⁸God called the dome Sky.

**C: And there was evening and there was morning,
the second day.**

A1: And God said,

“Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place,
and let the dry land appear.”

And it was so.

¹⁰God called the dry land Earth,
and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas.

C: And God saw that it was good.

A2: Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation:
plants yielding seed,
and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit
with the seed in it.”

And it was so.

²The earth brought forth vegetation:
plants yielding seed of every kind,
and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it.

C: And God saw that it was good.

¹³**And there was evening and there was morning,
the third day.**

A1: And God said,

“Let there be lights in the dome of the sky
to separate the day from the night;
and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years,

¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky
to give light upon the earth.”

And it was so.

¹⁶God made the two great lights—
the greater light to rule the day
and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars.

¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth,
¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night,
and to separate the light from the darkness.

C: And God saw that it was good.

¹⁹**And there was evening and there was morning,
the fourth day.**

A2: And God said,

“Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures,
and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.”

²¹So God created the great sea monsters

and every living creature that moves, of every kind,
with which the waters swarm,
and every winged bird of every kind.

C: And God saw that it was good.

A1: God blessed them, saying,

“Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas,
and let birds multiply on the earth.”

**C: And there was evening and there was morning,
the fifth day.**

A2: And God said,

“Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind:
cattle and creeping things
and wild animals of the earth of every kind.”

And it was so.

²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind,
and the cattle of every kind,
and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind.

C: And God saw that it was good.

A1: Then God said,

“Let us make humankind in our image,
according to our likeness;
and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,
and over the birds of the air,
and over the cattle,
and over all the wild animals of the earth,
and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

²⁷So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them,

“Be fruitful and multiply,
and fill the earth and subdue it;
and have dominion over the fish of the sea
and over the birds of the air
and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”

²⁹God said,

“See, I have given you every plant yielding seed

that is upon the face of all the earth,
and every tree with seed in its fruit;
you shall have them for food.

⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every
everything that has the breath of life,
I have given every green plant for food.”

And it was so.

**C: God saw everything that he had made,
and indeed, it was very good.**

**And there was evening and there was morning,
the sixth day.**

A2: Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude.

²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done,
and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.

**C: So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it,
because on it God rested
from all the work that he had done in creation.**

Scripture Poetry Psalm 104:24-31 (*read responsively*)

A: God, how fertile your genius!

You shape each thing,
you fill the world
with what you do.

**C: I watch the sea, wide and deep,
filled with fish, large and small,**

A: with ships that ply their trade,
and your own toy, Leviathan.

**C: All look to you for food
when they hunger;**

A: you provide it and they feed.
You open your hand, they feast;

**C: you turn away, they fear.
You steal their breathe,
they drop back into dust.**

A: Breathe into them, they rise;
the face of the earth comes alive!

**C: Let God's glory endure
and the Lord delight in creating.**

Second Reading Colossians 1:15-20

[Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Matthew 8:27)

C: Alleluia. “What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?” Alleluia

Gospel Reading Matthew 8:23-27

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 28th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

²³And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. ²⁴A windstorm arose on the sea, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. ²⁵And they went and woke him up, saying, “Lord, save us! We are perishing!” ²⁶And he said to them, “Why are you afraid, you of little faith?” Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm. ²⁷They were amazed, saying, “What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?”

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day One Maker
(For music turn to Hymn 43 in the Songbook binder)

1. **Leaf falling, river running
flower dying in the fall.
Dead of winter, spring is coming,
Who can understand it all?
Time moving, earth spinning,
Another new beginning.
One Spirit, one Savior,
One Maker for them all.**

Refrain

**One Spirit of the earth surrounds us.
One Savior with his arms around us.
One Maker with a promise for them all.**

2. **One suffering, one crying,
one back against the wall.
One living, one dying,
One learning how to crawl.
Some given in sorrow,
Some praying for tomorrow.
One Spirit, one Savior,
One Maker for them all. *Refrain***

After final refrain:

**One Spirit, one Savior,
One Maker for them all.**

Text and music: David Lee Brown and James Hersch; Copyright 1990 Dakota Raod Music, used by permission.

Nicene Creed

A: Let us confirm our faith with the Nicene Creed

**C: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,**

**of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again,
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

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: We share that peace with one another.

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

† MEAL †

Offering & Special Music

Hymn of Thanksgiving Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord
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:

C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has embodied the promise of eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3, 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. 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)

740 *God of the Sparrow (Red Hymnal)*

485 *I Am the Bread of Life (Red Hymnal)*

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...

Life giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C: Amen.

‡ SENDING ‡

Blessing

P: May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn I, the Lord of Sea and Sky
(for music, see Hymn 574 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **"I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?"**

Refrain **Here I am, Lord.**

**Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
If you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.**

2. **"I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.**

**I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?"**

Refrain

3. **"I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?"**

Refrain

Text: Daniel Schutte. Music: Daniel Schutte; arr. Michael Pope, SJ, Daniel Schutte, and John Weissrock.
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Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: **God's Work. Our Hands.**

I WONDER
WHAT THE
HOLY TRINITY
DID BEFORE
CREATION.



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TED, I DON'T
THINK YOU'LL
GET ANYTHING
OUT OF THAT
KIND OF
SPECULATION.



YEAH, YOU'RE
PROBABLY RIGHT.
AFTER ALL, THEY'RE
ALL OF ONE MIND
AND WILL...



SO CHARADES WON'T
WORK AND POKER
IS OUT OF THE
QUESTION.



GENESIS!

© WERTSTEN 2 02-05

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Kim and Gary Boisseau
Acolyte	Julia Bullwinkle
Altar Care	Liz Brown
Communion Assistants	Ethan and Lynne Minkel
Nursery Care	Laura Stroup
Counters	Bruce Boncke and Art Fields
Coffee Hour	Perdan and Stevenson

Worship assistants for next Sunday, May 14, 2017

Greeters and Ushers	Liz and Tim Brown
Acolyte	Abbie Bullwinkle
Nursery Care	Lynne Minkel
Counters	Beth Perdan and Bettina Kalish
Coffee Hour	Men of the Church

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