



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Luke 14:15-35

November 10, 2019

10:30 Service of the Word

Political elections were last week. Even in local elections those running for office seek followers. They often make promises that are optimistic at best, downright lies at worst. How about Jesus? How did he attract followers? In our gospel reading today we'll see Jesus deliver the honest truth about what following him entails.

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, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this gathering, the builder of the city that is to come.

C: Amen

P: If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

P: God our helper,

C: we confess the many ways

we have failed to live as your disciples.

We have not finished what we began.

We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers.

We have been captivated by our possessions.

Lift our burdens, gracious God.

Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin.

Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us

in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

P: There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of Jesus the Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news.

C: Amen

Gathering Hymn O Jesus, I Have Promised

(For music see Hymn 810 in the Red Hymnal)

1. O Jesus, I have promised

to serve you to the end;

remain forever near me,

my master and my friend.

I shall not fear the battle

if you are by my side,

nor wander from the pathway

if you will be my guide.

2. Oh, let me feel you near me;

the world is ever near.

I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, then draw nearer
to shield my soul from sin.

3. Oh, let me hear you speaking
in accents clear and still
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will.
Now speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control
now speak and make me listen,
O Guardian of my soul.

4. O Jesus, you have promised
to all who follow you
that where you are in glory
your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end;
oh, give me grace to follow,
my master and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1974, alt. Music: *Neuvermehrtes*, Meiningen, 1693

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...

O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind that you are our God and judge. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

First Reading Ecclesiastes 3:9-15

⁹What gain have the workers from their toil? ¹⁰I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with.

¹¹He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. ¹²I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; ¹³moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. ¹⁴I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. ¹⁵That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 65:1-9 (*read responsively*)

A: Praise is yours, God in Zion.

Now is the moment to keep our vow,
for you, God, are listening.

**C: All people come to you
bringing their shameful deeds.
You free us from guilt,
from overwhelming sin.**

A: Happy are those you invite
and then welcome to your courts.

C: Fill us with the plenty of your house,

the holiness of your temple.

A: You give victory
in answer to prayer.
You inspire awe, God, our savior,
hope of distant lands and waters.

**C: Clothed in power,
you steady the mountains;**

A: you still the roaring seas,
restless waves, raging nations.

**C: People everywhere
stand amazed at what you do,
east and west shout for joy.**

Second Reading Romans 10:11-17

¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.”

¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” ¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” ¹⁶But not all have obeyed the good news; for Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?” ¹⁷So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Philippians 4:13)

**C: Alleluia. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading Luke 14:15-35

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 14th chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

¹⁵One of the dinner guests, on hearing this, said to him, “Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” ¹⁶Then Jesus said to him, “Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. ¹⁷At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come; for everything is ready now.’” ¹⁸But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out

and see it; please accept my regrets.’¹⁹ Another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets.’²⁰ Another said, ‘I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.’²¹ So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, ‘Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.’²² And the slave said, ‘Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.’²³ Then the master said to the slave, ‘Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.’²⁴ For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner.’”

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them,²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple.²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him,³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace.³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.³⁴ “Salt is good; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? ³⁵It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; they throw it away. Let anyone with ears to hear listen!”

After the reading:

P: The gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said
(For music see Hymn 667 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **“Take up your cross,” the Savior said,
“if you would my disciple be;
forsake the past, and come this day,
and humbly follow after me.”**
2. **Take up your cross; let not its weight
pervade your soul with vain alarm;
his strength shall bear your spirits up,
sustain your heart, and nerve your arm.**
3. **Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
nor let your foolish heart rebel;
for you the Lord endured the cross
to save your soul from death and hell.**
4. **Take up your cross and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for those who humbly bear the cross
one day will wear the glorious crown.**

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814-1877, alt. Music: W. Hauser, *Hesperian Harp*, 1848; arr. hymnal version. Arr. copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress

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.**

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray: God our provider,

C: we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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: Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. Almighty God bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.

C: Amen

Sending Hymn Lift High the Cross
(For music turn to Hymn 660 in the Red Hymnal)

Refrain **Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.**

1. **Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.** *Refrain*
2. **All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.** *Refrain*
3. **O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.** *Refrain*
4. **So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory!** *Refrain*

Text: George W. Kitchin; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, Music: Sydney Nickolson, Copyright 1974 Hope Publishing Company

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God's Work. Our Hands.

JESUS REALLY NEEDS
TO RE-THINK THIS
'COST OF DISCIPLESHIP'
THING. THAT'S NOT
HOW PEOPLE
DO BUSINESS.

WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?



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IF HE REALLY
WANTS TO GET
HIS NUMBERS UP
IT'S GOTTA BE...



NO MONEY
DOWN.
NO INTEREST
FOR TWO
WHOLE
YEARS!

TED, DO
YOU WANT
TO FOLLOW
JESUS OR
BUY A COUGH?



LUKE 14: 25-33

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Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Paul and Babette Huber
Acolyte	Joe Wyman
Nursery Care	Laura Stroup
Counters	
Coffee Hour	Elizabeth Young

Worship assistants for next Sunday, November 17, 2019

Greeters and Ushers	Bill and Katy Stimmel
Acolyte	Tierney White
Altar Care	Beth Perdan
Communion Assistants	Paul and Babette Huber
Nursery Care	Judy VanDeVelde
Counters	
Coffee Hour	Bettina Kalish

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