



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Jesus at Sukkot*

### *-The Festival of Booths-*

*November 11, 2018*

*10:30 Service of the Word*

Today and next Sunday we'll look at two passages from John's gospel that don't get a lot of attention. They share a time when Jesus went to Jerusalem for Sukkot, or The Festival of Booths. This ancient holiday was a harvest festival that took place in October. Jews would travel to Jerusalem and live in tents, or "booths" for a week. The festival came to be a celebration awaiting God's sending of a savior. Jesus is that Savior, but he isn't going to be the Savior many people are expecting.

### *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,  
who calls us into an everlasting hope,  
who guides us to springs of the water of life,  
who enlightens us with the spirit of wisdom.

**C: Amen.**

P: One with the communion of saints in all times and places, let us  
confess our sin against God and one another.

*(Silence for reflection)*

P: O God, our merciful redeemer,

**C: we confess the ways that we live only for ourselves.**

**We fail to see you in our neighbor's face.**

**We turn our ears from voices that cry out.**

**We pass by the hungry and the oppressed.**

**In your great mercy, forgive us our sin and strengthen us for service  
to all in need;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you,  
and for his sake, God forgives you all your sin. Blessed are you!  
Rejoice and be glad, beloved people of God.

**C: Amen**

Gathering Hymn Thy Word is a Lamp Unto my Feet  
*(For music turn to Hymn 36 in the Songbook binder)*

*Refrain:* **Thy word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path.  
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path.**

- 1. When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,  
still you're there right beside me  
And nothing will I fear, as long as you are near  
Please be near me to the end. *Refrain***
- 2. I will not forget your love for me and yet,  
my heart forever is wandering.  
Jesus be my guide and hold me to your side,**

**and I will love you to the end**

*Refrain*

3. Instrumental-----  
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**Nothing will I fear as long as you are near.  
Please be near me to the end.**

*Refrain*

Text by Amy Grant, music by Michael W. Smith; copyright 1984 Meadowgreed Music Co./Word Music, Inc.; CCLI #14301

*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...

O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. 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* Deuteronomy 16:13-15

<sup>13</sup>You shall keep the festival of booths for seven days, when you have gathered in the produce from your threshing floor and your wine press. <sup>14</sup>Rejoice during your festival, you and your sons and your daughters, your male and female slaves, as well as the Levites, the strangers, the orphans, and the widows resident in your towns. <sup>15</sup>Seven days you shall keep the festival for the Lord your God at the place that

the Lord will choose; for the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all your undertakings, and you shall surely celebrate.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Psalm 126 (*read responsively*)

A: The Lord brings us back to Zion,  
we are like dreamers,  
laughing, dancing,  
with songs on our lips.

**C: Other nations say,  
“A new world of wonders!  
The Lord is with them.”**

A: Yes, God works wonders.  
Rejoice! Be glad!

**C: Lord, bring us back  
as water to thirsty land.**

A: Those sowing in tears  
reap, singing and laughing.

**C: They left weeping, weeping,  
casting the seed.  
They come back singing, singing,  
holding high the harvest.**

Second Reading Hebrews 10:32-11:1

<sup>32</sup>But recall those earlier days when, after you had been enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, <sup>33</sup>sometimes being publicly exposed to abuse and persecution, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. <sup>34</sup>For you had compassion for those who were in prison, and you cheerfully accepted the plundering of your possessions, knowing that you yourselves possessed something better and more lasting. <sup>35</sup>Do not, therefore, abandon that confidence of yours; it brings a great reward. <sup>36</sup>For you need endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. <sup>37</sup>For yet “in a very little while, the one who is coming will come and will not delay; <sup>38</sup>but my righteous one will live by faith. My soul takes no pleasure in anyone who shrinks back.” <sup>39</sup>But we are not among those who shrink back and so are lost, but among those who have faith and so are saved. Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (Hebrews 11:1)

**C: Alleluia. Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading John 7:1-18

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you O Lord.**

After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He did not wish to go about in Judea because the Jews were looking for an opportunity to kill him.<sup>2</sup> Now the Jewish festival of Booths was near.<sup>3</sup> So his brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea so that your disciples also may see the works you are doing;<sup>4</sup> for no one who wants to be widely known acts in secret. If you do these things, show yourself to the world."<sup>5</sup> (For not even his brothers believed in him.)<sup>6</sup> Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always here.<sup>7</sup> The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify against it that its works are evil.<sup>8</sup> Go to the festival yourselves. I am not going to this festival, for my time has not yet fully come."<sup>9</sup> After saying this, he remained in Galilee.<sup>10</sup> But after his brothers had gone to the festival, then he also went, not publicly but as it were in secret.<sup>11</sup> The Jews were looking for him at the festival and saying, "Where is he?"<sup>12</sup> And there was considerable complaining about him among the crowds. While some were saying, "He is a good man," others were saying, "No, he is deceiving the crowd."<sup>13</sup> Yet no one would speak openly about him for fear of the Jews.

<sup>14</sup>About the middle of the festival Jesus went up into the temple and began to teach.<sup>15</sup> The Jews were astonished at it, saying, "How does this man have such learning, when he has never been taught?"<sup>16</sup> Then Jesus answered them, "My teaching is not mine but his who sent me.<sup>17</sup> Anyone who resolves to do the will of God will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own.<sup>18</sup> Those who speak on their own seek their own glory; but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and there is nothing false in him.

*After the reading:*

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day* Beauty for Brokenness (God of the Poor)  
(For music see Hymn 102 in the Songbook Binder)

1. **Beauty for brokenness,  
hope for despair,  
Lord, in your suff'ring world,  
this is our prayer.  
Bread for the children,  
justice, joy, peace,  
sunrise to sunset  
Your kingdom increase.**
2. **Shelter for fragile lives,  
cures for their ills  
work for the craftsmen,  
trade for their skills  
land for the dispossessed,  
rights for the weak  
voices to plead the cause,  
of those who can't speak.**

*Chorus* **God of the poor  
friend of the weak,  
give us compassion we pray,  
melt our cold hearts,  
let tears fall like rain.  
Come change our love  
from a spark to a flame.**

3. **Refuge from cruel wars,  
havens from fear  
cities for sanctu'ry,  
freedoms to share  
peace to the killing fields,  
scorched earth to green  
Christ for the bitterness,  
his cross for the pain.** *Chorus*
4. **Rest for the ravaged earth,  
oceans and streams  
plundered and poisoned,  
our future our dreams  
Lord end our madness,**

**carelessness, greed  
make us content with  
the things that we need.**      *Chorus*

**5. Lighten our darkness,  
breath on this flame  
until your justice  
burns brightly again  
until the nations  
learn of your ways  
seek your salvation  
and bring you their praise.**      *Chorus*

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*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: God of life,

**C: you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. 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: The love of God surround you;  
the grace of Christ release you;  
and the Holy Spirit be your guide and strength, now and forevermore.

**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*

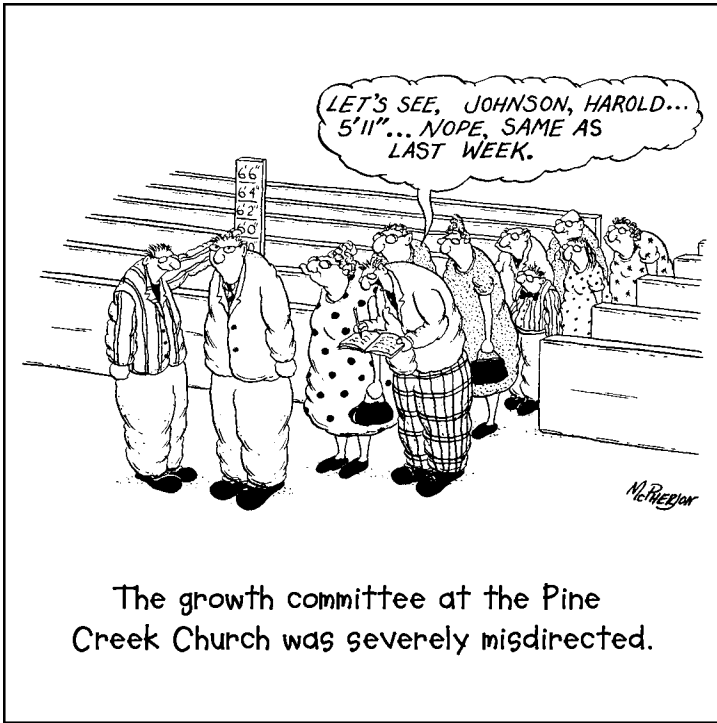
4. **Just a few more weary days and then**  
I'll fly away,  
Just a few more weary days and then  
I'll fly away. *Refrain*

Text and music: American Traditional

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **God's Work. Our Hands.**



**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers	Tim and Liz Brown
Acolyte	Molly Perdan
Nursery Care	Katy Stimmel
Counters	Tom Kurilovitch and Helen Crown
Coffee Hour	Helen Crown and Connie Stevenson

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, November 18, 2018**

Greeters and Ushers	Kim and Gary Boisseau
Acolyte	Katya Kurilovitch
Altar Care	Beth Perdan
Communion Assistants	Bruce and Diane Boncke
Nursery Care	Laura Stroup
Counters	John and Linda Thompson
Coffee Hour	Browns and Thompsons

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