



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

*Have I not commanded you*

*Be strong and courageous.*

*Do not be afraid; do not*

*be discouraged, for the*

*Lord your God will be*

*with you wherever you go.*

JOSHUA 1:9



## *Joshua 1*

*October 21, 2018*

*10:30 Holy Communion*

The Israelites have finally arrived at the Promised Land. Their new leader, Joshua, is ready to lead them in. But the land is not empty. People already live there! There is still much work to do. The Book of Joshua says that God leads the Israelites through years of bloody wars that kill off almost all the inhabitants. Our Christian sensibilities are offended. We'll look into what is going on in the writing of Joshua and what it means for our faith today.

### *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 There is a Balm in Gilead  
(For music turn to Hymn 614 in the Red Hymnal)

*Refrain:*

**There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;  
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.**

- 1. Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. *Refrain***
- 2. If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all."  
*Refrain***
- 3. Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,  
and if you lack for knowledge, he'll ne'er refuse to lend.  
*Refrain***

Text and Music: African American Spiritual

## 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.**

## Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

**C: Amen**

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.  
(*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*)

P: Source of all life,

**C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

P: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

Hymn of Praise Kyrie Eleison

*"Kyrie Eleison" is Greek for "Lord have mercy."  
(For music turn to Hymn 19 in the Songbook binder)*

*Refrain*

**Kyrie Eleison on our world and on our way.  
Kyrie Eleison ev'ry day**

- 1. For peace in the world, for the health of the church,  
for the unity of all.  
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! *Refrain***
- 2. That we may live out your impassioned response to the  
hungry and the poor.  
That we may live out truth and justice and grace,  
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! *Refrain***
- 3. For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes,  
for friends and family.  
For life and for love, for our work and our play,  
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! *Refrain***
- 4. For your spirit to guide, that you center our lives  
in the water and the Word  
That you nourish our souls with your body and blood  
let us pray to the Lord! Let us pray to the Lord! *Refrain***

Text and music: Larry Olson, copyright 1989, Dakota Road Music, CCLI #1765776

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## ✠ WORD ✠

### First Reading Joshua 1

After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying, <sup>2</sup>“My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. <sup>3</sup>Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. <sup>4</sup>From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. <sup>5</sup>No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. <sup>6</sup>Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. <sup>7</sup>Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. <sup>8</sup>This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. <sup>9</sup>I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

<sup>10</sup>Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, <sup>11</sup>“Pass through the camp, and command the people: ‘Prepare your provisions; for in three days you are to cross over the Jordan, to go in to take possession of the land that the Lord your God gives you to possess.’” <sup>12</sup>To the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh Joshua said, <sup>13</sup>“Remember the word that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, saying, ‘The Lord your God is providing you a place of rest, and will give you this land.’ <sup>14</sup>Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock shall remain in the land that Moses gave you beyond the Jordan. But all the warriors among you shall cross over armed before your kindred and shall help them, <sup>15</sup>until the Lord gives rest to your kindred as well as to you, and they too take possession of the land that the Lord your God is giving them. Then you shall return to your own land and take possession of it, the land that Moses the servant of the Lord gave you beyond the Jordan to the east.”

<sup>16</sup>They answered Joshua: “All that you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. <sup>17</sup>Just as we obeyed Moses in all things, so we will obey you. Only may the Lord your God be with you,

as he was with Moses! <sup>18</sup>Whoever rebels against your orders and disobeys your words, whatever you command, shall be put to death. Only be strong and courageous.”

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Psalm 80:9-20 (*read responsively*)

A: You brought a vine from Egypt,  
cleared out nations to plant it;

**C: you prepared the ground  
and made it take root  
to fill the land.**

A: It overshadowed the mountains,  
towered over the might cedars,

**C: stretched its branches to the sea,  
its roots to the distant river.**

A: Why have you now torn down its walls?  
All who pass by steal the grapes,  
wild boars tear up its roots,  
beasts devour its fruit.

**C: Turn our way, God of might,  
look down from heaven;  
tend this vine you planted,  
cherish it once more.**

A: May those who slashed and burned it  
wither at your rebuke.

**C: Rest your hand upon your chosen one  
who draws strength from you.**

A: We have not turned from you.  
Give us life again  
and we will invoke your name.

**C: Restore to us, Lord God of might,  
the light of your presence,  
and we shall be saved.**

Second Reading Joshua 24:14-18

[Joshua told the people] “Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord.

<sup>15</sup>Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond

the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”<sup>16</sup> Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup>for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup>and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation* (Joshua 24:15)

**C: Alleluia. As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. Alleluia.**

*Gospel Reading* Matthew 7:1-8

*The gospel is announced:*

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

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

“Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. <sup>2</sup>For with the judgment you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. <sup>3</sup>Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? <sup>4</sup>Or how can you say to your neighbor, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ while the log is in your own eye? <sup>5</sup>You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor’s eye. <sup>6</sup>“Do not give what is holy to dogs; and do not throw your pearls before swine, or they will trample them under foot and turn and maul you.

<sup>7</sup>“Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>8</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

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

*Children’s Sermon*

*Sermon*

*Hymn of the Day* Jesus Still Lead On  
(For music see Hymn 624 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **Jesus, still lead on,  
till our rest be won;  
and, although the way be cheerless,  
we will follow, calm and fearless;  
guide us by your hand  
to the promised land.**
  
2. **If the way be drear,  
if the foe be near,  
let no faithless fear o'er take us,  
let not faith and hope forsake us;  
safely past the foe  
to our home we go.**
  
3. **When we seek relief  
from a long felt grief,  
when temptations come alluring  
make us patient and enduring;  
show us that bright shore  
when we weep no more.**
  
4. **Jesus, still lead on,  
till our rest be won;  
heav'nly leader, still direct us,  
still support, console, protect us,  
till we safely stand  
in the promised land.**

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700-1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897, alt. Music: Adam Drese, 1620-1701

*Apostles' Creed*

A: Let us 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 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: 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.**

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 of Nazareth; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with church of yesterday, today and tomorrow; and the church here in this place and all churches throughout the world, we praise your name and join 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. (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)*

**502** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is (Red Hymnal)*

**468** *Around You, O Lord Jesus (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...

Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

**C: Amen.**

† SENDING †

Blessing

P: God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;  
Jesus the Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;  
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:  
Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.  
**C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn    Send Us Out  
(For music turn to Hymn 29 in the Songbook binder)

1. **We have been called by the Lord.  
We have been saved by the Word.  
Now let the Word be restored.  
Now let the Gospel be heard**

*Refrain*

**Send us out to teach what God has done.  
Send us out to reach ev'ry single one.  
Send us out. Send us out.**

2. **We who were bound by our shame,  
ruled by our fears within.  
Stand and declare by the name,  
freedom from all of our sin.    *Refrain***

3. **Teach what God has done.  
Reach ev'ry single one.  
Teach what God has done.  
Reach ev'ry single one.    *Refrain***

4. **We have been called by the Lord.  
We have been saved by the Word.  
Now let the Word be restored.  
Now let the Gospel be heard    *Refrain***

Text and Music by James Hersch; Copyright 1994 Dakota Road Music; CCLI# 1790882

Dismissal

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

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Acolyte	Olivia DeLeon
Altar Care	Sally Mansfield
Communion Assistants	Gary Boisseau and Rob Stroup
Nursery Care	Katy Stimmel
Counters	Bruce and Connie Stevenson
Coffee Hour	Julie and Nic Stuart

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, October 28, 2018**

Greeters and Ushers	Sue Kaufmann and Linda Flood
Acolyte	Tierney White
Altar Care	Sally Mansfield
Communion Assistants	Paul and Babette Huber
Nursery Care	Beth Perdan
Counters	Beth Perdan and Bettina Kalish
Coffee Hour	Pie Sunday

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