



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Exodus 33 God Reassures Moses*

*September 30, 2018*

*10:30 Holy Communion*

Last week we read about Israel's great disobedience toward God by creating and worshipping a golden calf. God was not pleased but decides to forgive the people and stay in relationship with them. Still though, the relationship will remain rocky. Moses continues as the main intermediary between the people and God. Today we'll see him turn to God for strength and reassurance.

### *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 Purify My Heart

(For music turn to Hymn 27 in the Songbook binder)

**Purify my heart,  
touch me with your cleansing fire.  
Take me to the cross.  
Your holiness is my desire.  
Breathe your life in me,  
kindle a love that flows from your throne.  
Oh, purify my heart,  
oh, purify my heart.**

Text and music by Jeff Nelson; CCLI #1314323

### 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...

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

First Reading Exodus 33

A1: The Lord said to Moses, “Go, leave this place, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, and go to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, ‘To your

descendants I will give it.’<sup>2</sup> I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.<sup>3</sup> Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I will not go up among you, or I would consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people.”<sup>4</sup> When the people heard these harsh words, they mourned, and no one put on ornaments.<sup>5</sup> For the Lord had said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘You are a stiff-necked people; if for a single moment I should go up among you, I would consume you. So now take off your ornaments, and I will decide what to do to you.’”<sup>6</sup> Therefore the Israelites stripped themselves of their ornaments, from Mount Horeb onward.

A2: Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp; he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp.<sup>8</sup> Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise and stand, each of them, at the entrance of their tents and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent.<sup>9</sup> When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses.<sup>10</sup> When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise and bow down, all of them, at the entrance of their tent.<sup>11</sup> Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then he would return to the camp; but his young assistant, Joshua son of Nun, would not leave the tent.

A3: Moses said to the Lord, “See, you have said to me, ‘Bring up this people’; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’<sup>13</sup> Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.”<sup>14</sup> He said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”<sup>15</sup> And he said to him, “If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here.<sup>16</sup> For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.”<sup>17</sup> The Lord said to Moses, “I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.”<sup>18</sup> Moses said, “Show me your glory, I pray.”<sup>19</sup> And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, ‘The Lord’; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.”<sup>20</sup> But,” he

said, “you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.” <sup>21</sup>And the Lord continued, “See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; <sup>22</sup>and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; <sup>23</sup>then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Proverbs 2:1-10 (*read responsively*)

A: My child, if you accept my words  
and treasure up my commandments within you,  
making your ear attentive to wisdom  
and inclining your heart to understanding;

**C: if you indeed cry out for insight,  
and raise your voice for understanding;  
if you seek it like silver,  
and search for it as for hidden treasures—**

A: then you will understand the fear of the Lord  
and find the knowledge of God.

**C: For the Lord gives wisdom;  
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;**

A: he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;  
he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly,

**C: guarding the paths of justice  
and preserving the way of his faithful ones.**

A: Then you will understand righteousness and justice  
and equity, every good path;

**C: for wisdom will come into your heart,  
and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.**

Second Reading Hebrews 3:1-6

Therefore, brothers and sisters, holy partners in a heavenly calling, consider that Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession,<sup>2</sup> was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses also “was faithful in all God’s house.”<sup>3</sup> Yet Jesus is worthy of more glory than Moses, just as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. <sup>4</sup>(For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.)<sup>5</sup> Now Moses was faithful in all God’s house as a servant, to testify to the things that would be spoken later. <sup>6</sup>Christ, however, was faithful over God’s

house as a son, and we are his house if we hold firm the confidence and the pride that belong to hope.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation* (*Exodus 33:14*)

**C: Alleluia. My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest. Alleluia.**

*Gospel Reading* Luke 24:44-48

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>44</sup>Then [Jesus said to the disciples], “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

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

*Children’s Sermon*

*Sermon*

*Hymn of the Day* Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise  
(*For music turn to Hymn 834 in the Red Hymnal*)

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!
2. Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,  
nor wanting nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

3. **To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.**
4. **Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render; oh, help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!**

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt. Music: Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807-1876

### *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)*

**492 Eat This Bread (Red Hymnal)**

**80 Given and Shed (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    The River is Here  
(For music turn to Hymn 34 in the Songbook binder)

**1. Down the mountain the river flows,  
and it brings refreshing wherever it goes;  
Through the valleys and over the fields,  
the river is rushing and the river is here.**

*Refrain:* **The river of God sets our feet to dancing,  
the river of God fills our hearts with cheer;  
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,  
and we rejoice for the river is here.**

**2. The river of God is teeming with life,  
and all who touch it can be revived.  
And all who linger on this river's shore  
will come back thirsting for more of the Lord. *Refrain***

**3. Up to the mountain we love to go,  
to find the presence of the Lord.  
Along the banks of the river we run,  
we dance with laughter, giving praise to the Son. *Refrain***

Text and music by: Andy Park; CCLI# 1475231; copyright 1994 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (Admin by Music Services)

Dismissal

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

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

|                      |                                    |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Greeters and Ushers  | John and Linda Thompson            |
| Acolyte              | Viala Wagner                       |
| Altar Care           | Linda Thompson                     |
| Communion Assistants | Tim and Liz Brown                  |
| Nursery Care         | Katy Stimmel                       |
| Counters             | Nancy and Ivan Shuler              |
| Coffee Hour          | Connie Stevenson and Pat CiPollina |

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, October 7, 2018**

|                      |                                 |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Greeters and Ushers  | Karen and Jim Spawton           |
| Acolyte              | Joe Wyman                       |
| Altar Care           | Sally Mansfield                 |
| Communion Assistants | Helen Crown and Sally Mansfield |
| Nursery Care         | Laura Stroup                    |
| Counters             | Bruce Boncke and Art Fields     |
| Coffee Hour          | Gay Card                        |

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Heidi Griffith, Music Director