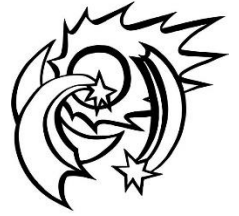


St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude

Bells

Welcome and Announcements

Temple Talk

Dan Robison

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,
We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

ELW # 553

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Canticle of Praise

Setting 4

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture and preaching; we respond in profession of faith and prayer

First Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

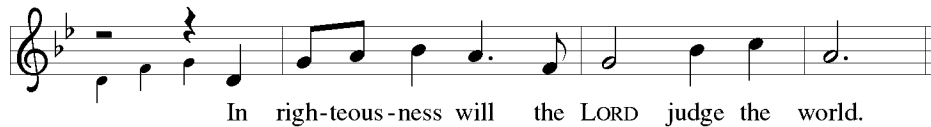
Malachi, whose name means "my messenger," warns that the day of the Lord is coming. On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the "sun of righteousness" will shine on those who fear God.

¹See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a}But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

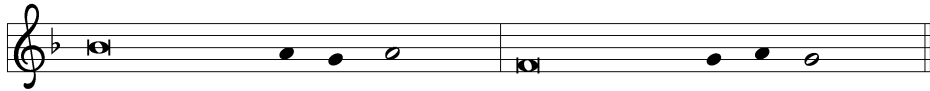
Psalm 98



Psalm 98:9

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Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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- ¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.
- ²**O LORD, you have made | known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**
- ³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.
- ⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing. R**
- ⁵Sing to the LORD | with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.
- ⁶**With trumpets and the sound | of the horn
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.**
- ⁷Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,
the world and those who | dwell therein.
- ⁸**Let the rivers | clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge the
earth.**
- ⁹The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peo- | ples with equity. **R**

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. Paul warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

⁶Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹²Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: Alleluia. Stand up and | raise your heads, because your redemption is | drawing near. Alleluia. (Luke 21:28)*

The Holy Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and shall be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

The good news of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke:

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶"As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." ⁷They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" ⁸And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them" ⁹"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. ¹²"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to

synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your souls."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Children are invited to go to their Sunday lesson and activity. They will return at Holy Communion. Parents are welcome to accompany them.

Sermon

Pastor Mel Antonio

Hymn of the Day

"Goodness Is Stronger than Evil"

ELW # 721

Apostles' Creed

With the whole Church in heaven and on earth, we confess our faith...

**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

*Each petition concludes: "Hear us, O God." The congregation responds: **"Your mercy is great."***

We hold in prayer: Bob Cauble, Frances Bara, Chris Gates, Danny Myers, Rev. Louise Shaw, Jet Smith, Ralph Detwiler.

For prayer request updates, please contact the church office by phone or email at (210) 223-2611 or info@StJohnsSA.org

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

(Please share with those nearest you these or similar words: "Peace be with you.")

MEAL

*We bring our "first fruit" offerings to the Table of the Lord
where we are strengthened and nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ*

Offering

"Prayer of Peace"

Rentz

Offertory Hymn

"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"

ELW #207



Thank-ful hearts and voice-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
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Offertory Prayer

Merciful Father,

**We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time,
and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who
offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, Mighty, and Merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love for us and for all your creation, you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who took upon himself our own flesh and blood, who showed us your face, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

For on the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and 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, as often as you drink of it, for the remembrance of me.

We proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

Send your Spirit, O God, upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they become your people the Body and Blood of Christ. Send your Spirit also into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in this holy meal.

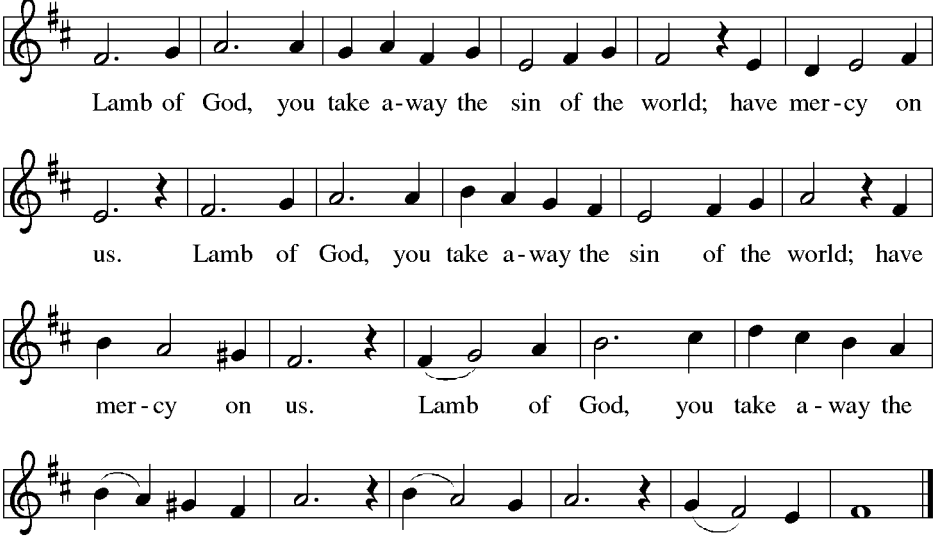
(Intoned) Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Remember us, Lord, in your kingdom, and help us to pray:

**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.**

All are welcome to this table. Come receive the gifts of God for the people of God.

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Holy Communion

We believe that Christ is truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and we welcome all who wish to receive the Holy Sacrament to the Lord's Table, available both at the altar railing and by intinction on the sanctuary floor. Please follow the direction of the ushers. A gluten free host is available upon request.

Communion Hymns

ELW # 484 You Satisfy My Hungry Heart
ELW # 686 We Give Thee but Thine Own
ELW # 438 My Lord, What a Morning

Communion Blessing

Communion Prayer

Almighty God,
Through this Holy Sacrament you have fed us
with the very body and blood of Christ.
Now send us out, to do the work you have given us to do,
to live-out your love to a hurting world,
and to be the hands and feet of Christ
to all we encounter; in Jesus' Name. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us out in mission to the world

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the Name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

"Soon and Very Soon"

ELW #439

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ goes with you.
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister † Pastor Mel Antonio
Assisting Minister † Rosemary Petry
Lector † Ross Halvorson

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Worship is central to who we are as a people of God. Every time we gather to hear and respond to the Word, to offer up our prayers for the needs of many, and to receive Christ's living presence in the consecrated bread and wine, we seek to "become what we receive", namely, the Body of Christ for the sake of the life of the world. As we are gathered, fed, and then sent back out in mission, God empowers us to be bearers of blessing and vessels of grace, commissioning us to intentionally live out the reign of God throughout the course of our weekly living.

This week at St. John's

Sun 17 • Acolyte Training 11:00 AM
Sun 17 • Family Ministry Meeting 11:00 AM
Wed 20 • Mid-Week Word and Prayer 12:15 PM
Wed 20 • Campus Ministry Dinner 6:00 PM
Wed 20 • Choir Practice 7:00 PM

Thu 21 • Finance Team Meeting 9:30 AM
Thu 21 • Building Use Committee Meeting
6:30 PM
Sun 24 • Stewardship Sunday and
Re-Dedication of the Sanctuary 9:30 AM
Sun 24 • Stewardship Sunday meal 10:45 AM

*Please see our online calendar at stjohnssa.org (under the Home tab)
for weekly recurring events and the current month's Tidings.*

**Financial Reports and Council Minutes are available in the Member Section
of the church website, and in the church office by request.**

Stewardship Sunday

Please join us for Stewardship Sunday on November 24 for worship and for brunch following the service. During worship you will have the opportunity to return your pledge cards for 2020. This will be a special day for recognizing the blessings we have and giving thanks to God for all that has been given us. Deacon John Dellis, senior gift planner in our synod through the Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest, will be our special guest for a temple talk. We look forward to seeing you on November 24 for worship, brunch, and fellowship.

Let the Children Come

It seems the tone of these texts is too harsh for children, or too scary. We often want to shield children from scary parts and harsh words, yet our protecting efforts don't always help them build resilience when facing struggles in real life. How can we temper the scary edge of these stories while still conveying God's presence with them, even when times get scary? How do we help children cry out in lament and longing for a more hopeful future?

Theological Reflection

Musician Billy Joel's song "We Didn't Start the Fire," from his 1989 album *Storm Front*, highlights the historical events, many considered to be tragedies or catastrophes, from the year of his birth (1949) until the release of the song. This Sunday's readings invite us to consider how we view threats and tragedies in light of God's enduring promises. If the fire of unrest has "been always burning since the world's been turning," how do we cling to God's hope even in the midst of disasters past, present, and future?

Liturgical Calendar Commemorations

Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231

Sunday, November 17, 2019

Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100

Saturday, November 23, 2019

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927

Saturday, November 23, 2019

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

The Artwork of the Week

The window in the west transept closest to the front of the church is the Baptism Window. Together with the adjoining Mission Window highlighted last week, it overlooks the church's original baptistery. Two scenes are illustrated—the baptism of the Ethiopian and Christ's baptism by John the Baptist. Symbols highlight the sacrament of Baptism and our death, resurrection and new life in Christ. The window is dedicated to Paulina, Fredericka and Fred Rilling, children of Henry and Fredericke Hotz Rilling. The three, none of whom married, all died as young adults.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.