



St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA

"A Legacy of Worship and Outreach in San Antonio since 1857"

502 East Nueva, San Antonio, Texas 78205
www.StJohnsSA.org ◇ info@StJohnsSA.org
Phone 210-223-2611

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

August 9, 2020



Welcome! This week, the Prophet Elijah finds the presence of God not in the earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples cry out in fear during a storm on the sea, Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ with us. In the comforting words of Scripture and in the bread and cup of the Eucharist, God provides us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude and Bells

Toccata in F major by Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Humbling ourselves, yet held in grace, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

(A brief silence for reflection)

God of Promise...

**We confess that we have not lived as a people you would have us be,
and we have fallen short of your desire for us.**

**In your mercy, forgive us our failings, the wrongs we have done,
as well as the right and good things we have neglected to do.**

**Blow your Spirit among us, to open our hearts and hands anew,
that we may live as a people raised to new life, even here, even now. Amen.**

Our God is faithful, and for † Jesus' sake forgives you all your sins.
May his Spirit surround, fill, strengthen, and heal you,
to be living expressions of his grace, and indeed,
to lead you always toward everlasting life. **Amen.**

Choir

As We Gather at Your Table

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.**

Prayer of the Day

O God our defender,
storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid.
Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear,
and preserve us in the faith of your Son, 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

1Kings 19:9-18

⁹At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 14:22-33

The good news of Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

²²Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor James Dew

Solo (Christian Stevens)

Ave Maria by Schubert

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

As a people gathered, empowered, and then sent to serve, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all people who seek God's purpose and presence:

Holy God, we pray for your Church, gathered here and elsewhere, that we may continually learn to recognize your presence in both the extraordinary moments and the ordinary events of our daily living. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray, O Lord, for the opportunities which help us to grow a deeper trust in you, that even in hardship, we may remain faithful to you and to all you call us to be. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of grace, we pray for all who struggle with doubt, uncertainty, and fear, that you would use us to help bring hope and healing into their lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of all, we pray for all people in places of conflict, that you will hasten the day when their lives will no longer be struck by violence, but touched by peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Promise, we continue to offer our own prayers for the well-being of all your people, including *Bob Cauble, Chris Gates, Danny Myers, Janice Williams, Ralph Detwiler, Claudine Michalek, Kim Friesenhahn, Kenny Knippa, Bill Rickrim, Frances Franz, Alwin Schaefer, Bill Brewer, Paul Mason, Albert and Deleyce Tietze, Paul and Gloria Boenisch, Nat Castillo, Bill Witte, Beth Knox, Tom Bartholomew, Lauren Ottmers, Don Vogt, Lee and Karen Iredale, Mary Jane Schessenhagen, Dean Olson*, and all whom we name, that your Holy Spirit surround them, protect them, and fill them with the strength and power of healing love. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

May the prayers we offer, O God, be a means by which you bring forth new life, not only hoped for, but worked for, through our own faithful word and deed. **Amen.**

Peace

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

(Please verbally greet 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*

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.

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

Praise to you for the grace you've shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed, and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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 to remember 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, to remember 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 for 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.

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.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: **Have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: **Have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: **Grant us peace. Amen.**

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. During this time of pandemic, individual servings of the Eucharist will be consumed in the pews at the direction of the Pastor.

Communion Prayer

Faithful God,

here in this holy bread your Son Jesus keeps his promise

to be with us always, even to the end of time.

May he live and grow in us,

that we, ourselves, may be Christ's presence to the world. **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 mercy and grace,

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.

Choir

My Life Flows On in Endless Joy

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ goes with you.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Improvisation on Simple Gifts

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

Today, August 9 @ 8:30am	Pastor's Class
Today, August 9 @ 10:00am	Worship
Mon – Sun August 10–16	Pastor Jim on Vacation

(Please see our online calendar at www.stjohnssa.org for other events.)

Ministry Opportunities at CAM

Clothing Needs

CAM is accepting gently-used clothing items for both adult men and women. Items needed are casual wear, jeans, khakis, t-shirts, tennis shoes, and athletic shoes. Currently, CAM is not accepting any slacks, suits, heels, men's dress shoes, prom dresses, or business wear. Contact Sarah Kory at skory@cam-sa.org or call 210-223-4099 with any questions.

Help Feed the Hungry

Every other Tuesday, we deliver sandwiches to CAM around 11:00am. If you would like more information about this ministry and how you can lend support, please contact Bea Imken at 210-887-2217.

*For prayer requests, please contact the church office
(210) 223-2611 or info@StJohnsSA.org
The Prayer List is updated monthly (or as needed).*



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

*Liturgical texts and liturgical music copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress.
All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under
Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003035
New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989,
Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches in Christ
in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*