



“THY WORD IS TRUTH.”

John 17:17

Allowing God's Word to shape
how we view the world around us



Weekend Worship
Fourth Sunday of Easter
May 7 & 8, 2022

302 NE 2nd Street, Buffalo
763-682-1883
stjohnsbuffalo.org

Weekend Worship Services:

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:15 AM

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*O Lord, my Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness.
Hear me for the sake of His Name, Amen.*

WORDS OF WELCOME

(We rise)

WE BEGIN IN SONG

(Saturday) “Shepherd”/ “Lord, From Sorrows Deep I Call”

(Sunday) “How Firm a Foundation”

LSB 728

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

“Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.”

“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no never, no never, forsake!”

“When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.”

“Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove
My sov’ reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: We read responsively selected verses from Psalm 42: As the deer pants for streams of water,

People: so my soul pants for you, my God.

Pastor: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

People: When can I go and meet with God?

Pastor: My tears have been my food day and night,

People: while people say to me all day long, “Where is your God?”

Pastor: These things I remember as I pour out my soul:

People: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng.

Pastor: Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me?

People: Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Pastor: Let us go before our faithful and awesome God to confess our sins to Him. Lord God, Heavenly Father,

People: We confess to You that our faith is not perfect. We don't always trust perfectly in You. We have no excuse. You have been faithful all the days of our lives. And You have given us Your Word to show us Your character and how faithful You have been in the past. Forgive us, Lord, for Jesus' sake. And by Your Holy Spirit, grow our faith that we might trust in You all the days of our lives. Amen.

People: God indeed is faithful and is worthy of our trust. For the sake of Jesus, He is also forgiving. Therefore go in that forgiveness to trust in Him in the Name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Be Thou My Vision”

Worship Choir

*(Please be seated)***THE FIRST LESSON**

Joshua 3:14-4:9

(God does a miracle on behalf of His people, and a memorial is set up that they would always remember what He did that day.)

So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge, the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan from right where the priests are standing and carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight."

So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, and said to them, "Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' Tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever."

So the Israelites did as Joshua commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, as the LORD had told Joshua; and they carried them over with them to their camp, where they put them down. Joshua set up the twelve stones that had been in the middle of the Jordan at the spot where the priests who carried the ark of the covenant had stood. And they are there to this day.

*Reader: This is the word of the Lord!***People: Thanks be to God!**

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 11:1-2

(Faith Defined.)

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

ALLELUIA

LSB 190

People: *(sung)* Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

(We rise)

THE GOSPEL LESSON

John 20:19-30

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter, beginning at the nineteenth verse.

People: *(sung)* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord!**

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” Then Jesus told him,

“Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

People: *(sung)* **Praise be to Thee, O Christ!**

Pastor: Together, as God’s People, united in faith by the One Who is the Messiah, the Son of God, let us join together professing our common faith using the words of the Apostles’ Creed:

People: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SONG OF THE DAY

(Saturday)

“While I’m Waiting”

(Sunday)

“O Sons and Daughters of the King”

LSB 470
(vs. 1, 4-8)

O sons and daughters of the King, Whom heav’nly hosts in glory sing,
Today the grave has lost its sting! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

That night the apostles met in fear; among them came their master dear
And said, “My peace be with you here.” Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

When Thomas first the tidings heard that they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

"My pierced side, O Thomas, see, and look upon My hands, My feet;
Not faithless but believing be." Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

No longer Thomas then denied; he saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

How blest are they who have not seen and yet whose faith has constant been,
For they eternal life shall win. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THE MESSAGE

"A Deep Dive Into Faith"

Pastor Ryan Clark

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Special prayers are lifted...we then join together in speaking:

All: 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.

THE BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

(We rise)

WE CLOSE IN SONG

(Saturday)

“Turn Your Eyes”

(Sunday)

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

LSB 733

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever –rolling stream, soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream dies at the op’ning day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last and our eternal home!

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