Saint James the Elder, Apostle

July 25, 2021



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

200 East Beidler Road King of Prussia, PA 19406

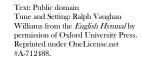
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SERVICE OF THE WORD

TODAY'S THREAD: The gospel gives us new life that lives to serve our Savior.

OPENING HYMN

For All the Saints | 551:1-5





M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

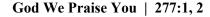
C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- **M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C: Amen.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

SONG OF PRAISE



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PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

O Gracious God, we remember today your servant James, who readily followed the calling of your Son, Jesus Christ, and was first among the Twelve to suffer martyrdom for his name. Enable the leaders of your Church to forsake all false and passing allurements and follow him alone, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON 1 Kings 19:9-18 EHV

After a life of service, Elijah didn't feel great in God's kingdom. He felt like a failure. The LORD revealed he had worked wonders through Elijah's service. We serve. His word does the work.

⁹[Elijah] came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD suddenly came to him, saying, "Why are you here, Elijah?"

¹⁰He said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of Armies, but the people of Israel have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking to take my life."

¹¹ Then the LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is passing by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains and shattered rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind.

After the wind came an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake.

¹² After the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire.

After the fire there was a soft, whispering voice.

¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak, and he went out and stood at the entrance to the cave. Then a voice came to him and said, "Why are you here, Elijah?"

¹⁴He said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of Armies, but the people of Israel have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking to take my life."

¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came and go to the Wilderness of Damascus. When you get there, you are to anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ You will also anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel and Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill, and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill. ¹⁸ But I have preserved in Israel seven thousand whose knees have not bent to Baal and whose lips have not kissed him."

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 103

Praise the LORD. He does not give us what we deserve. His compassion and forgiveness sustain us.





Praise the LORD, <u>O</u> my soul;* all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

He forgives <u>all</u> your sins* and heals all your dis<u>eas</u>es;

he redeems your life <u>from</u> the grave* and crowns you with love and com<u>passion</u>.

Refrain

The LORD is compassionate and <u>gracious</u>,* slow to anger, abound<u>ing</u> in love.

He does not treat us as our <u>sins</u> deserve* or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,* so great is his love for those who fear him;

as far as the east is <u>from</u> the west,* so far has he removed our transgressions <u>from</u> us.

Refrain

As a father has compassion on his <u>chil</u>dren,* so the LORD has compassion on those who <u>fear</u> him;

for he knows how we are formed,* he remembers that we are dust.

Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;* the wind blows over it and it is gone.

But the LORD's love is with those who <u>fear</u> him* from everlasting to ever<u>lasting</u>.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beginning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain Tune: From *The Psalmody for the Day, Series C.* © 1976 Fortress Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-712488.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON Acts 11:27 – 12:3a EHV

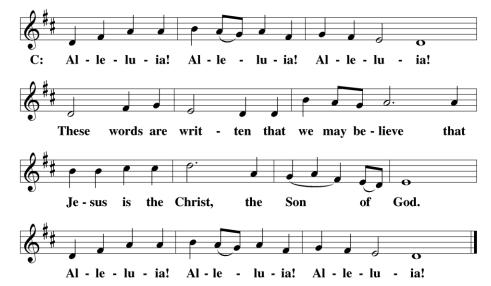
God used persecution to bring the gospel to Antioch. Look how these Gentile brothers reacted to news of a severe famine. They thought of others and eagerly served in Jesus' name. So did James.

- ²⁷ In those days some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. ²⁸ One of them, named Agabus, stood up and indicated by the Spirit that there was going to be a severe famine all over the known world. This took place during the time of Claudius. ²⁹ Each of the disciples, according to his ability, decided to send relief to the brothers who lived in Judea. ³⁰ They did this, sending it to the elders by means of Barnabas and Saul.
- ^{2:1} At about that time, King Herod laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church, in order to mistreat them. ² He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. ³ When he saw that this pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter...
- **M:** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Matthew 5:10

M: Alleluia. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.



GOSPEL Mark 10:35-45 EHV

Was this a grab for glory or deep desire to serve or both? God's servants turn away from a self-serving life, counting it an honor and blessing to serve in his name.

M: The Gospel, Mark Chapter 10

- ³⁵ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached him and said, "Teacher, we wish that you would do for us whatever we ask."
- ³⁶He said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?"
- ³⁷ They said to him, "Promise that we may sit, one at your right and one at your left, in your glory."
- ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am going to be baptized with?"
- ³⁹ "We can," they replied.

Jesus told them, "You will drink the cup that I am going to drink and be baptized with the baptism that I am going to be baptized with. ⁴⁰ But to sit at my right or at my left is not for me to give; rather, these places belong to those for whom they have been prepared."

- ⁴¹ When the ten heard this, they were angry with James and John.
- ⁴² Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³ But that is not the way it is to be among you. Instead, whoever wants to be great among you will be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first among you will be a slave of all. ⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

M: This is the Gospel.



HYMN OF THE DAY



Tune st. 1-4, 6-27: From *The Hymnal* 1982 © The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-712488.

SERMON – See the separate sheet for the Sermon Road Map

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

OFFERING – The mail at church is being collected. Offerings may be mailed to:

Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, 200 E. Beidler Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR PENTECOST

M: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: We praise you for every grace and blessing.

- **M:** Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.
- C: Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.
- **M:** We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.
- C: Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.
- **M:** Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.
- C: Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.
- **M:** Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.
- C: Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.
- **M:** Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.
- C: Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

- **M:** ... Lord, in your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.
- **M:** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

- **M:** Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.
- C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and **†** give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN For All the Saints | 551:6-8

6 The golden evening brightens in the west; Soon, soon, to faithful warriors comes their rest. Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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- 7 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day: The saints triumphant rise in bright array; The King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 8 From earth's wide bounds to ocean's farthest coast Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Silent prayer

Announcements after the close of Service

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