

If salt has
lost its saltiness,
how can you
season it?

MARK 9:50



Mount Calvary Lutheran Church

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Sept. 28 & 29, 2024 Lectionary 26

Preparing to Hear Today's Readings

Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Preservice Music

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have lessened the value of others with our tongues.**

In our desire to be first the needs of the poor and the suffering come last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

Draw near to us with grace in time of need,

and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn "Gather Us In"

ELW No. 532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

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

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.

Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'?" ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery."

¹⁶So the Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 19:7-14

⁷The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸**The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²**Who can detect one’s own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart**

**be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

Second Reading: James 5:13-20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Word of the Lord.

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. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

Mark 9:38-50

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

The holy gospel according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸John said to [Jesus], “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

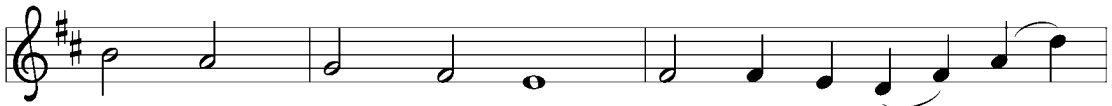
Sermon: “Remembering the Small “c” in church.”

Hymn of the Day “Jesus Shall Reign”

ELW No. 434



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Apostles' Creed

Together with the whole church,
we confess the faith into which we were baptized.

**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.**

A Litany for Blanket Sunday

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.
Amen.

Let us pray for those who will receive the gift of blankets:
displaced families, refugees and victims of disasters

(A Silence is kept for reflection)

We pray for the mothers in our country who cover their children
with a blanket to shield them from the cold.

**May our gifts, O God, help shelter families from the cold
and keep them warm.**

We pray for the homeless living on the streets

**May our gifts, O God, of blankets provide shelter and comfort
to those without homes around the world.**

After the flood, God sent a rainbow of hope and promise.

**May our gifts, O God, of blankets give hope
to the victims of floods, hurricanes and earthquakes.**

We remember the Good Samaritan took a beaten man to a safe place.

**May our gifts, O God, provide warmth to our sisters and brothers
who are seeking a safe place to stay.**

We remember Ruth arrived in Bethlehem – a refugee with nothing

**May our Gifts, O God, provide warmth and shelter
for displaced people throughout the world.**

After Jesus had risen, he instructed his followers to care for his sheep.
**May our gifts, O God, provide warmth and shelter, comfort and privacy,
healing and hope wherever your people need care.**

In Jesus' name, we ask you to bless these special gifts we are privileged to offer
this day.

Amen

We Stand

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering Song Tune: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" **ELW No. 742**

God, you wrap your love around us, like a blanket soft and warm.

You give rest when we are weary, you protect us from the storm.

May each person who finds shelter in these blankets that we share

Also feel the joy and comfort of your love's protecting care.

Jesus, you were once a baby, sought by those who would destroy.

Into Egypt you were carried - far from home, a little boy.

Were you wrapped up warm to travel, safe from terror, free from harm?

Did you feel God's strong protection, snuggle there in Mary's arm?

May the women, men and children fleeing danger every day

Know, through us, your living presence; you walk with them on their way.

Spirit as you give the comfort, teach us here to freely give.

May we blanket this world over with your love, so all may live.

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God,
source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives,
help us to serve one another and all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has one measure. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

Preface

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 Christ;
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 all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has four measures and the second has four measures. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,' and 'heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -'.

san-na. 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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

In every age you have revealed your wisdom
to the humble and insignificant ones;
while the arrogant and violent
never grasped your truth.

In your Son, Jesus, you showed us
that true greatness is known only in servanthood,
and that the way of wisdom is found
in the heart and dependency of a child.

Our Lord's Words of Institution

We remember how our Lord was betrayed
into hostile hands and killed,
and then by your power,
rose from death and called us to follow him,
putting aside selfish ambitions
and walking in the ways of peace, mercy and humility.
Send now your Holy Spirit into our midst,
making us one with you in faith and life,
And joining us to the praise of all your saints.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom
And teach 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.**

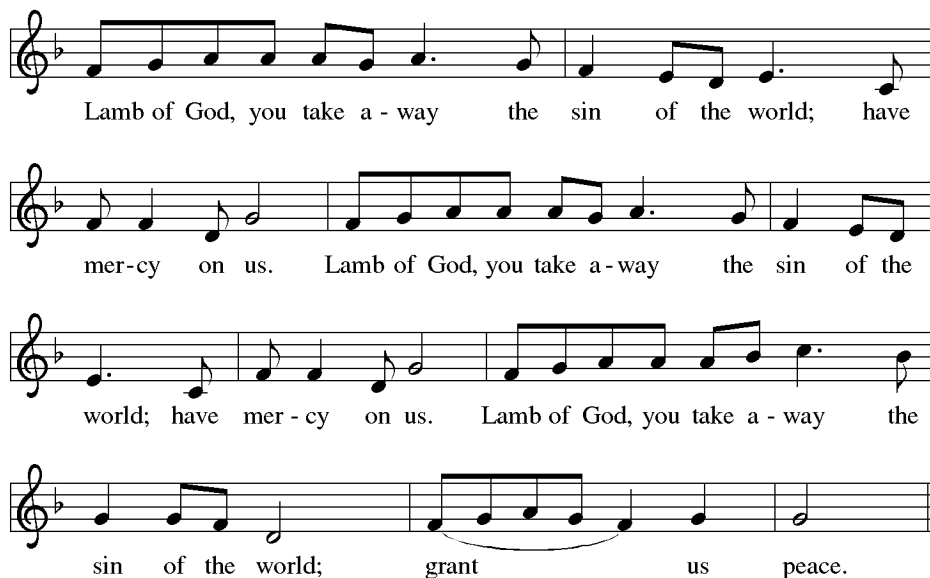
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Jesus welcomes you to his table full of grace. Come!

Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God



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.

Special Music “City of God” Performed by Love & The Outcome

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sending

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

Blessing

God all mighty, God most merciful

✠ bless you, keep you, and fill you with Christ's peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

ELW No. 864



- 1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
- 2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
- 3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
- 4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Dismissal

Go in peace, following Christ Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

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LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

WGMC will be collecting donations for **Blanket Sunday on September 28 & 29.**

You can also donate NEW blankets that are 60 x 80 or standard twin size.

Envelopes will also be available in the narthex.



DONATE TODAY!

Help keep our community warm!



Backyard Ministries Hat/Glove Collection

Mt. Calvary will be collecting hats and gloves for the children of Coopersdale. Please take a labeled bag, fill it, and return it to the bin in the narthex. There is also a donation bin to provide a monetary donation, instead of purchasing items available in the narthex.

Thank you for your continued support!

Clothing



&



Our annual clothing and toy sale will be on **Saturday October 5** from **8am-12pm.**

We are now accepting donations during church office hours.



We are currently looking to form an **Emergency Response Team** here at Mt. Calvary. Members of our new Response Team will be trained church volunteers that will help provide protection and assistance to our congregation in case of any emergency. If you can help volunteer, please contact Ray Leverknight, or the church office.



ONE DAY ONLY - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2024
SHOP 8AM - 11PM

DONATE \$5 AND ENJOY:

- **25% OFF DISCOUNT SHOPPING PASS***
- **REGISTER TO WIN A \$100 BOSCOV'S GIFT CARD**
One Winner at every Boscov's store

100% OF YOUR DONATION GOES TO OUR ORGANIZATION