

Second Sunday after Pentecost



The Faith of An Officer

Good Morning!

We live in a rather interesting political world these days in our country. People seem to have definite opinions about the government and all it is doing and/or not doing. It is always the same thing, or so it would seem. It is not the place anyone would consider God to be at work.

Yet isn't that just like God? Is it me or does it seem like God shows up big time when and where we least expect it? That was what was going on in the Gospel today from Luke. Jesus is amazed at the faith of the officer, especially to the degree the man was living that faith as well as his political position.

Come on, everyone knows that the Romans were oppressive to the people of Israel. They really seemed to have difficulty with these subjects and they did not at all care for the Israelites, and we know from Scripture that the feeling was most mutual! There was no love lost between the two sides.

Yet we find a believer-this Centurion-who can knock the socks off of our understanding how God is at work in the most unexpected places. And this officer believed so well, that he told Jesus all he needed to do was utter the word. Wow!

Jesus was astonished, and I am sure the readers of Luke were as well. Here, the lead officer of 100 men of Rome, had a better handle on faith and believing in the power of Jesus than most disciples did! And we can be sure the readers of Luke picked up on this as well!

Perhaps our assumptions that God is no where to be found in the government might be a bit in error. God can do marvelous works in the most unexpected people along the way, even someone who works in the government. Not the first person we would think of, but a faith we most certainly can envy!

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME

Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements

CONFESSIONAL PRAYER

In this Pentecost Season, we confess to You, O Lord – our division, for we are not gathered together as Your people in one place; our fear of the rush of your Spirit in our lives and what it might call us to do or to be; our desire for a monolingual society, even when you allowed the early church to transcend all language, not favoring one over another; our actions that can be like the crowds that taunt and torment, mocking those who are filled with your Spirit that burns like fire and rushes like wind. For the times we have done this, we know we need to offer our confession to Almighty God:

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things 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

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In this Pentecost season, Lord – help us to let down our barriers to your Spirit; guide us over to live lives filled with joy, abandon, and faithfulness; and create in us new hearts to be new people who worship only You. As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Go and sin no more, that the rest of your life might be pure and holy and modeled after our Lord Jesus in all we say and all we do, we pray and celebrate this Easter joy in His Holy Name, **Amen**.

HYMN 600 Eternal Father Strong to save 1+4

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): **Lord God of all nations, you have revealed your will to your people and promised your help to us all. Help us to hear and do what you command, that the darkness could be overcome by the power of your light, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Alleluia! Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Alleluia!

Hymn 599 My Country Tis of Thee 1-4

FIRST LESSON : 1 Kings 18:20-39

New Living Translation (NLT)

So Ahab summoned all the people of Israel and the prophets to Mount Carmel. Then Elijah stood in front of them and said, "How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him! But if Baal is God, then follow him!" But the people were completely silent.

Then Elijah said to them, "I am the only prophet of the Lord who is left, but Baal has 450 prophets. Now bring two bulls. The prophets of Baal may choose whichever one they wish and cut it into pieces and lay it on the wood of their altar, but without setting fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood on the altar, but not set fire to it. Then call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers by setting fire to the wood is the true God!" And all the people agreed.

Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "You go first, for there are many of you. Choose one of the bulls, and prepare it and call on the name of your god. But do not set fire to the wood."

So they prepared one of the bulls and placed it on the altar. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning until noontime, shouting, "O Baal, answer us!" But there was no reply of any kind. Then they danced, hobbling around the altar they had made.

About noontime Elijah began mocking them. "You'll have to shout louder," he scoffed, "for surely he is a god! Perhaps he is daydreaming, or is relieving himself. Or maybe he is away on a trip, or is asleep and needs to be awakened!"

So they shouted louder, and following their normal custom, they cut themselves with knives and swords until the blood gushed out. They raved all afternoon until the time of the evening sacrifice, but still there was no sound, no reply, no response. Then Elijah called to the people, "Come over here!" They all crowded around him as he repaired the altar of the Lord that had been torn down. ³ He took twelve stones, one to represent each of the tribes of Israel, and he used the stones to rebuild the altar in the name of the Lord. Then he dug a trench around the altar large enough to hold about three gallons. He piled wood on the altar, cut the bull into pieces, and laid the pieces on the wood.

Then he said, "Fill four large jars with water, and pour the water over the offering and the wood."

After they had done this, he said, "Do the same thing again!" And when they were finished, he said, "Now do it a third time!" So they did as he said, and the water ran around the altar and even filled the trench.

At the usual time for offering the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet walked up to the altar and prayed, "O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, prove today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant. Prove that I have done all this at your command. O Lord, answer me! Answer me so these people will know that you, O Lord, are God and that you have brought them back to yourself."

Immediately the fire of the Lord flashed down from heaven and burned up the young bull, the wood, the stones, and the dust. It even licked up all the water in the trench! And when all the people saw it, they fell face down on the ground and cried out, "The Lord—he is God! Yes, the Lord is God!"

THE SECOND LESSON: Galatians 1:1-12

New Living Translation (NLT)

This letter is from Paul, an apostle. I was not appointed by any group of people or any human authority, but by Jesus Christ himself and by God the Father, who raised Jesus from the dead. All the brothers and sisters here join me in sending this letter to the churches of Galatia.

May God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. Jesus gave his life for our sins, just as God our Father planned, in order to rescue us from this evil world in which we live. All glory to God forever and ever! Amen.

I am shocked that you are turning away so soon from God, who called you to himself through the loving mercy of Christ. You are following a different way that pretends to be the Good News but is not the Good News at all. You are being fooled by those who deliberately twist the truth concerning Christ.

Let God's curse fall on anyone, including us or even an angel from heaven, who preaches a different kind of Good News than the one we preached to you. I say again what we have said before: If anyone preaches any other Good News than the one you welcomed, let that person be cursed.

Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant.

Dear brothers and sisters, I want you to understand that the gospel message I preach is not based on mere human reasoning. I received my message from no human source, and no one taught me. Instead, I received it by direct revelation from Jesus Christ.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 7:1-10

New Living Translation (NLT)

When Jesus had finished saying all this to the people, he returned to Capernaum. At that time the highly valued slave of a Roman officer[a] was sick and near death. When the officer heard about Jesus, he sent some respected Jewish elders to ask him to come and heal his slave. So they earnestly begged Jesus to help the man. "If anyone deserves your help, he does," they say "for he loves the Jewish people and even built a synagogue for us."

So Jesus went with them. But just before they arrived at the house, the officer sent some friends to say, "Lord, don't trouble yourself by coming to my home, for I am not worthy of such an honor. I am not even worthy to come and meet you. Just say the word from where you are, and my servant will be healed. I know this because I am under the authority of my superior officers, and I have authority over my soldiers. I only need to say, 'Go,' and they go, or 'Come,' and they come. And if I say to my slaves, 'Do this,' they do it."

When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. Turning to the crowd that was following him, he said, "I tell you, I haven't seen faith like this in all Israel!" And when the officer's friends returned to his house, they found the slave completely healed.

The Gospel of our Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

SERMON "Completely Healed!" Pastor Jonathon Kosec

SERMON HYMN: 601 America the Beautiful 1,3,4

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed (C)

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 into hell. 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE OFFERING:

After the consecration of the Offering, we will sing the Doxology:

There's New Life Here!

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

-PRAYERS OF PRAISE, WORDS OF INSTITUTION, LORD'S PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

HYMN 604 God Bless our Native Land

THE BENEDICTION & THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. **Thanks be to God**

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WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, ***please place your cell phones on muted*** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

SUMMER NEWSLETTER COMING SOON! If you have items you'd like included in the next newsletter, by all means please forward them to Jeanne Keyser, who is our newsletter editor. We are thinking it would be published later in June but now would be a good time to get those articles started!

HAVE A BLESSED MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND. We give God thanks as we remember the countless number of people who laid down their lives so that the gift of freedom could be passed along yet one more generation. For those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, we remember them and keep their families in our prayers.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Please us a prayer request card if you have a specific prayer request this morning. It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

Our Savior Lutheran Church

May 29th, 2016

Our Savior Lutheran Church, LCMC

14344 Jamison Way Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Website: <http://www.oslc-lcmc.com>

Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M.

Bible Study Twice Monthly, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

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There's New Life Here!