# Third Sunday after Pentecost



# The Widow at Nain

Good Morning!

No one likes a funeral. It is not a happy time. The Gospel for today shares the moment of a widow who loses her only son. We simply cannot know the depth of the pain she was feeling.

For an unexplained reason, she had already lost her husband, and was a widow. Now, her only son, and also her hope for any type of

economic survival, was now dead. It must have been the bleakest of moments.

It did not escape the eye of Jesus. Luke tells us He was deeply moved with compassion. Compassion for the loss, compassion for her situation, compassion for the world who must face these kind of no-win situations. Yet the King of Kings was not content to simply feel bad about it. He acted.

His raising of this dead son was amazing. Those who had observed it were fearful. They missed the impact that the Kingdom of God's presence was having on the situation. Instead, caught up in the moment, perhaps they were not thinking straight at all.

Jesus comes to the world to proclaim the Kingdom of God is at hand. Things will not be the same. To that end, Jesus disrupts the "normal" human experience of death itself and transforms the moment.

Imagine for a moment you had been there. "God has visited His people today" were the words being tossed about. There was so much energy-fear, amazement, and resurrection-which could only make it an incredible moment.

Jesus comes to announce the Kingdom is at hand. His heart, laden with grief from the moment, leads Him to act and redeem a no-win situation for the widow. Amazing!

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 11 Praise to the Lord 1+4**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): O God, the strength of those who hope in you; Be present and hear our prayers; and because in the weakness of our mortal nature we can do nothing good without you, give us the help of your grace, so that in keeping your commandments we may please you in will and deed, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Alleluia! God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and entrusting us with the message. Alleluia!

## FIRST LESSON 1 Kings 17:8-16

New Living Translation (NLT)

Then the Lord said to Elijah, "Go and live in the village of Zarephath, near the city of Sidon. I have instructed a widow there to feed you."

So he went to Zarephath. As he arrived at the gates of the village, he saw a widow gathering sticks, and he asked her, "Would you please bring me a little water in a cup?" As she was going to get it, he called to her, "Bring me a bite of bread, too."

But she said, "I swear by the Lord your God that I don't have a single piece of bread in the house. And I have only a handful of flour left in the jar and a little cooking oil in the bottom of the jug. I was just gathering a few sticks to cook this last meal, and then my son and I will die."

But Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid! Go ahead and do just what you've said, but make a little bread for me first. Then use what's left to prepare a meal for yourself and your son. For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: There will always be flour and olive oil left in your containers until the time when the Lord sends rain and the crops grow again!"

So she did as Elijah said, and she and Elijah and her family continued to eat for many days. There was always enough flour and olive oil left in the containers, just as the Lord had promised through Elijah.

## THE SECOND LESSON: Galatians 1:11-24 New Living Translation (NLT)

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.

You know what I was like when I followed the Jewish religion—how I violently persecuted God's church. I did my best to destroy it. I was far ahead of my fellow Jews in my zeal for the traditions of my ancestors.

But even before I was born, God chose me and called me by his marvelous grace. Then it pleased him to reveal his Son to me so that I would proclaim the Good News about Jesus to the Gentiles.

When this happened, I did not rush out to consult with any human being. Nor did I go up to Jerusalem to consult with those who were apostles before I was. Instead, I went away into Arabia, and later I returned to the city of Damascus.

Then three years later I went to Jerusalem to get to know Peter, and I stayed with him for fifteen days. The only other apostle I met at that time was James, the Lord's brother. I declare before God that what I am writing to you is not a lie.

After that visit I went north into the provinces of Syria and Cilicia. And still the churches in Christ that are in Judea didn't know me personally. All they knew was that people were saying, "The one who used to persecute us is now preaching the very faith he tried to destroy!" And they praised God because of me.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 7:11-17 New Living Translation (NLT)

Soon afterward Jesus went with his disciples to the village of Nain, and a large crowd followed him. A funeral procession was coming out as he approached the village gate. The young man who had died was a widow's only son, and a large crowd from the village was with her. When the Lord saw her, his heart overflowed with compassion. "Don't cry!" he said. Then he walked over to the coffin and touched it, and the bearers stopped. "Young man," he said, "I tell you, get up." Then the dead boy sat up and began to talk! And Jesus gave him back to his mother.

Great fear swept the crowd, and they praised God, saying, "A mighty prophet has risen among us," and "God has visited his people today." And the news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding countryside.

The Gospel of our Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

SERMON Pastor Tony Alonzo

SERMON HYMN: 231 Break Thou the Bread of Life 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:

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 265 Jesus Paid it All 1,2,3,4

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!

**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, LCMC

14344 Jamison Way Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Website: <a href="http://www.oslc-lcmc.com">http://www.oslc-lcmc.com</a> Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M.

Bible Study Twice Monthly, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

## Rev. Jonathon Kosec, Lead Pastor

Pastor's email: jonathonkosec@gmail.com Church Office: (941) 249-5108

Phone: (941) 916-7300