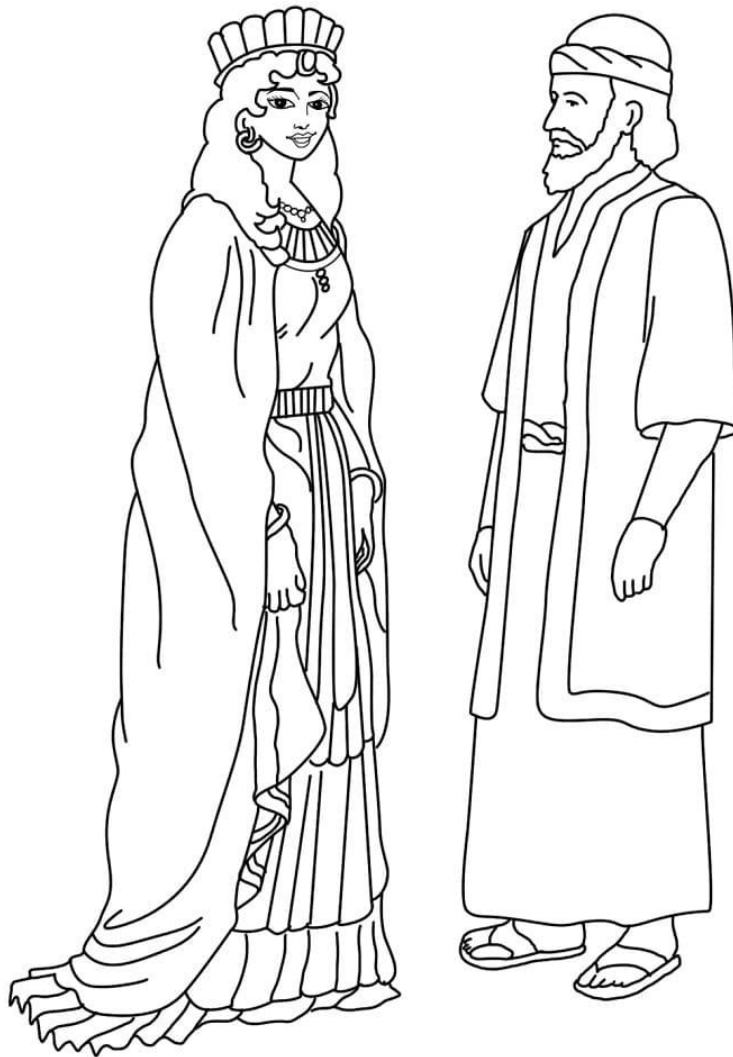


Our Saviour

Lutheran Church



Saturday Worship + 5:30pm + 8 June 2024
"Hidden Stories of the Bible" Summer Series

6194 Dumfries Rd. Warrenton, VA 20187 + 540.347.3224 + www.oslc-warrenton.org

❧ GATHERING ❧

Gathering Song

Lord, My Strength

W&P93

Lord, my strength, Lord, my rock, lead me through the dark;
Lord, my strength, Lord, my rock, heal this wand'ring heart.
Be my eyes, be my ears, be the only voice I hear;
Guide my soul, give me sight, help me walk within your light.

Lord, my strength, Lord, my rock, you and you alone:
Lord, my strength, Lord, my rock, lead me safely home:
Ev'ry step that I make, be the road I will take;
Be the thoughts that I keep and in ev'ry word I speak.

Lord, my strength, Lord, my rock, lead me through the dark;
Lord, my strength, Lord, my rock, heal this wand'ring heart.
Lord, my strength, Lord, my rock, you and you alone:
Lord, my strength, Lord, my rock, lead me safely home.

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C Amen.

P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God, our provider,

C help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

- P Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God’s mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
- C Amen.

Sharing the Peace

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- L Let us pray.
All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

❧ WORD ❧

Children’s Message

Children come forward as we sing “This Little Light of Mine”.

First Reading: Esther 4:1-17

- L A reading from the book of Esther.

The congregation remains seated during the multi-voice presentation of the lesson.

Narrator: *4 Mordecai mourned when he found out what had happened. He ripped his clothes, put on sackcloth, and wiped ash onto his body. Then he went through the city, weeping loudly in anguish. ² When he came to the king’s gate, not far from the palace, he stopped since those*

wearing sackcloth were not permitted to enter it *and disrupt the mood of the court.*

³ *In the meantime*, as word of the king's decree began to spread throughout all of the provinces, terrible distress grew among the Jews. They fasted, wept, and screamed out *in misery*. Like Mordecai, many put on sackcloth and ashes.

⁴ *Back in Susa*, Esther's maids and eunuchs *witnessed Mordecai mourning outside of the king's gate*. They went and reported to the queen *all that they saw*.

Esther: What is wrong? Why is he doing this? It breaks my heart to think of him like this. Take these clothes to Mordecai so he can put them on instead of wearing sackcloth.

Narrator: But *when the servants arrived*, Mordecai refused to wear the clothes *Queen Esther had sent*. ⁵ So Esther sent for Hathach, who was one of the king's eunuchs assigned to serve her.

Esther: Hathach, go to Mordecai *at once*. Find out why he is mourning, *and report back to me all that he says*.

Narrator: ⁶ Hathach went to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate. ⁷ Mordecai told the queen's servant everything that had happened and how much money Haman had pledged to place into the royal treasury in exchange for the destruction of the Jews. ⁸ Then he gave Hathach a copy of the order for mass murder of the Jews, the same order issued in the city of Susa.

Mordecai: Show it to Esther. Tell her *everything I have told you*. Convince her to go before her king and plead for his favor, *not only for her life, but also for the lives of her people*.

- Narrator:** ⁹ Hathach returned to Esther and told her everything Mordecai had said. ¹⁰ Esther ordered Hathach to *return to the city gate and* reply to Mordecai.
- Esther:** ¹¹ *How am I supposed to see the king?* It's known *throughout the land*, from *the greatest of* the king's officials to the common folk who live in the provinces, that any person who approaches the king in the inner chamber without being invited is sentenced to death. That's the law! There's only one exception, and that's if the king were to hold out the gold scepter to that person and spare his or her life. It's been 30 days since the king last summoned me!
- Narrator:** ¹² Hathach *and the other servants* took Esther's response to Mordecai.
- Mordecai:** ¹³ Tell Esther, "Don't be fooled. Just because you are living inside the king's palace doesn't mean that you out of all of the Jews will escape *the carnage*. *You must go before your king*. ¹⁴ If you stay silent during this time, deliverance for the Jews will come from somewhere, but you, *my child*, and all of your father's family will die. And who knows? Perhaps you have been made queen for such a time as this."
- Narrator:** ¹⁵ *Once again, Hathach returned to Queen Esther with Mordecai's message*. In turn she sent a reply back to Mordecai.
- Esther:** Tell Mordecai, ¹⁶ "*In preparation for my audience with the king*, do this: gather together all the Jews in Susa, and fast *and pray* for me. *Intercede for me*. For three days and nights, abstain from all food and drink. My maids and I will join you in this time. And after *the three days*, I will go in to the king *and plead my people's case*, even though it means breaking the law. And if I die, then I die!"

Narrator: ¹⁷ Mordecai left *the king's gate* and put all of Esther's instructions into action.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Mark 13:9-11

P The holy gospel according to Mark.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

[Jesus said] ⁹“As for yourselves, beware; for they will hand you over to councils; and you will be beaten in synagogues; and you will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them. ¹⁰And the good news must first be proclaimed to all nations. ¹¹When they bring you to trial and hand you over, do not worry beforehand about what you are to say; but say whatever is given you at that time, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song of the Day

***When Peace Like a River
(It Is Well With My Soul)***

ELW785

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain:

It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
and has shed his own blood for my soul.

(Refrain)

He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

(Refrain)

Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
even so it is well with my soul.

(Refrain)

Prayers of the People

P Beloved, let us lift prayers to our friend, Jesus, either out loud or in silence. Before and after we pray, we sing together.

Prayer Song

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

ELW742

Verse 1

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; Oh, what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer.

Ideas for prayers to share: What do you thank God for?

Who needs the healing touch of Jesus?

How can the Spirit help you/us discover God's call to act?

P Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

The Prayer Song is repeated at the conclusion of our prayers.

❧ MEAL ❧

Sharing Our Gifts

L Let us offer back to God what God has first given us: ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of his gracious love.

Our offerings support the work of the church here and around the world. Please pass the baskets from front to back. You may also make an offering online at www.oslc-warrenton.org by clicking the "DONATE" tab on the homepage. Thank you!

Offertory

Come to the Table

ELW481

Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread.
All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed.
Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail-scarred hand.
East of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Offering Prayer

L Let us pray together.

C **Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the
feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and
strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
Amen.**

Dialogue

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C Amen

Lord's Prayer

P Let us pray as our Savior taught us.

C 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.

Sharing Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are invited to share Christ's Body. If you wish to receive Holy Communion, please come forward and stand or kneel around the altar.

Communion Song

These Days

These days my heart's always on the run,
These days the world's spinning out of control. Oh.

These days are fast and they're furious,
Feels like the worst is ahead of us. Oh, oh.
Sometimes it's hard to feel at home. But,

Chorus:

I believe that you and I
Are in the right place at the right time.

God called us by name

And He doesn't make mistakes.

I know we were born to shine bright
In a dark world that needed some light.

Don't have to be afraid,

Maybe we were made for these days.

Maybe we were made for these days.

What if the beauty isn't crushed,
It just needs the hope that's inside of us. Oh, oh.

What if it's more than a destiny?

What if we're part of a masterpiece? Oh, oh.

Until our Father brings us home.

(Chorus)

To stand when it gets hard,

To love with open arms.

It's something to embrace:

Maybe we were made for these days.

(Chorus)

Prayer After Communion

L Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C Amen.

🌀 SENDING 🌀

Blessing

L The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

C Amen.

Sending Song *Go My Children with My Blessing* **ELW543**

“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”

“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him,
saw his glory.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”

“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

Dismissal

L Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C Thanks be to God.

Copyright Acknowledgements

Cover Art

<https://coloringonly.com/images/imgcolor/Queen-Esther-And-Mordecai-coloring-page.jpg>

Music

Lord, My Strength: Dean Krippaehne © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

When Peace Like a River: Public Domain

These Days: Emily Weisband, Jeremy Camp, Jordan Sapp, Paul Duncan © 2024 Capitol CMG Paragon; Centricity Songs; Publishing By JTC Music; Shi-Lily Songs; Songs By JSapp; Remaining portion is unaffiliated | For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com | CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 7223282 | |Musicnotes © 2024 Only In Publishing, Capitol CMG Amplifier, Centric Music Publishing, Capitol CMG Genesis, Shi- Lily Songs, Sonys by Jsapp, Universal Music Publishing International Ltd, Universal Music Publishing Ltd, Weisowl, Sony/ATV Cross Keys Publishing, Sony Cross Keys Publishing Co Inc, Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC and Sony/ATV Music Publishing (UK) Ltd, Universal Music Publishing. All Rights Reserved.

Go My Children with My Blessing: Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House, Tune: Public Domain| Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906

Bible Readings

Esther Reading from *The Voice Bible* © 2012 Thomas Nelson, Inc. The Voice™ translation © 2012 Ecclesia Bible Society All rights reserved.

Liturgical Elements

sundaysandseasons.com © 2002 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Some liturgical material © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009239

Thanksgiving at the Table: *With One Voice*