

Our Saviour

Lutheran Church



Saturday Worship + 5:30pm + 6 July 2024
"Hidden Stories of the Bible" Summer Series

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

❧ GATHERING ❧

Gathering Song

I Love to Tell the Story

ELW 661

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

Refrain:

**I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy word. *(Refrain)*

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. *(Refrain)*

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.

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of 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: Joshua 2:1-21

L A reading from the book of Joshua.

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

Narrator: Then Joshua, the son of Nun, secretly sent two spies from Shittim *to the western side of the Jordan.*

Joshua: Go in, and see what you can find out about *the people in that area.* Pay special attention to *the city of Jericho.*

Narrator: *The men crossed the river, and when they entered Jericho, they stayed at the home of a prostitute named Rahab.*

²⁻³ Somehow word reached the king of Jericho that Israelite spies had slipped into the area and might be visiting Rahab. That night the king sent soldiers to Rahab's house with a message.

Messengers: *The king commands you to turn over the Israelite men who are staying with you because they are here to spy on all the land and its defenses.*

Narrator: *⁴ But Rahab had already hidden the two spies before she received the king's messengers.*

Rahab: It's true that two men have been to see me. But I didn't take the time to ask them where they came from. *⁵ All I know is that when it was getting dark outside and the gate was about to close, they got up and left. I don't know where they went from here. If you hurry, you might still catch up to them.*

Narrator: *⁶ She was lying, because the two men lay where she had hidden them beneath the stalks of flax laid out on her roof.*

⁷ The soldiers ordered the gate opened long enough for them to pass through; then the gate was closed. They took the road that went straight toward the narrowest parts of the Jordan, which would be the easiest place for the spies to cross.

⁸ But the two spies were still on Rahab's roof. She came up and found them awake.

Rahab: ⁹ I know the Eternal has given your people this land. Your coming has paralyzed us all with fear. ¹⁰ We have heard how the Eternal held back the Red Sea so you could escape from Egypt on dry land and how you completely destroyed the Amorite kings, Sihon and Og—*and their kingdoms*—on the far side of the Jordan. ¹¹ As soon as this news reached us, our hearts melted *like wax* and none of us had an ounce of courage left. The Eternal One, your God, is truly God of the heavens above and the earth below.

¹² Because I know all these things, *this is my request*: Since I have treated you kindly *and have protected you*, please promise me by the Eternal that you will do the same for my family. Give me some sign of good faith ¹³ that *when you destroy this city* you will spare my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and their families from death.

Spies: ¹⁴ *You had the power to turn us in, but you saved us*. Now we will do the same for you. If you will promise not to tell anyone what we were doing here, *then you have our word*: we will treat you with kindness and faithfulness when the Eternal One gives us the land.

Narrator: ¹⁵ Since the rear wall of her house was actually part of the *great* city wall, she helped the men escape by simply lowering a rope for them from her window. ¹⁶ *Before they climbed down*, she advised them to go into the mountains.

Rahab: That way you won't be where the soldiers expect you to be. If you'll hide there for three days, the pursuers should have returned here by then and you can go back safely.

Spies: ¹⁷ We will keep the oath we have sworn to you, but ¹⁸ only if you will follow these instructions: Gather all of your family here in this house, and tie this scarlet cord in the window where you let us down. ¹⁹ If anyone goes out of the house and into the streets, then we can't be responsible for what happens to them. *They will be killed*, and their blood will be on their hands, not on ours. We will be responsible if anything should happen to anyone you gather

in here. ²⁰ But remember—*all of this depends on you keeping your word*. If you tell anyone our business, you will free us from our oath.

Rahab: ²¹ Agreed.

Narrator: The men climbed down and escaped *into the night*, and she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

Gospel: John 10:22-30

P The holy gospel according to John.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, ‘How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.’

²⁵Jesus answered, ‘I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one.’

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Sometimes our only song is weeping;
Our only sound is gasping breath.
Sometimes it seems that God is sleeping
While our brief lives are bound in death.
Who hears the song our sorrows swallow
And offers hope to calm our fears?
When all our words seem frail and hollow,
God heeds the prayers within our tears.

Sometimes we catch the faintest humming,
A far-off tune our hearts know well.
Sometimes we sense the Spirit coming.
Our song returns; our voices swell.
The Spirit sings though we are shaken,
And Christ has shared our heartfelt cries.
Restored, our weary souls awaken
To join God's song that never dies.

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 *You Are My Hiding Place* **W&P160**

You are my hiding place;
you always fill my heart with songs of deliverance.
Whenever I am afraid I will trust in you,
I will trust in you.
Let the weak say, "I am strong in the strength of the Lord."

The prayers conclude with:

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.

You are my hiding place;
you always fill my heart with songs of deliverance.
Whenever I am afraid I will trust in you,
I will trust in you.
Let the weak say, "I am strong in the strength of the Lord,
I will trust in you."

❧ 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

For Your Glory

(Chorus)

This is our offering to You, this is our offering.
Ev'rything I am is for Your glory, ev'rything I am for You, Lord,
Ev'rything I am is for Your glory, ev'rything I am for You, Lord.

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 *God Above God Below (Rehab's Lullaby)*

I will tell it like it is.
I was hanging by a thread, pushed out to the furthest edge,
And I wasn't proud of it.
From my house within the wall, always face to face with dark,
Oh, I wondered if I knew the light at all.

I was sure my heart would melt with fear,
But there was One who held me even there.

Chorus:

He is God above, He is God below,
He is God of everything between.
There's no place you'll be where He cannot go.
Look at my face, these eyes have seen:
I know the Lord.

So, tell me what it is.
Are you hanging by a thread? Are you pushed out on the edge,
Are you ashamed of it?
Tell me where you are. Are you face to face with dark?
Do you wonder if the light will ever shine again?

Oh, my son, your heart may melt with fear,
But I know One who holds you even here.
(Chorus)

You belong to me, and I belong to Him.
Hold this scarlet cord and breathe;
Hope is on the other end.
(Chorus)

Look at my face, these eyes have seen.
Look at my face, these eyes have seen:
I know the Lord.

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.

God bless our native land; firm may it ever stand
 Through storm and night.
 When the wild tempests rave, ruler of wind and wave,
 Do thou our country save by thy great might.

So shall our prayers arise to God above the skies,
 On whom we wait.
 Thou who art ever nigh, guarding with watchful eye,
 To thee aloud we cry: God save the state!

Dismissal

L Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
 C Thanks be to God.

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God Bless Our Native Land: Public Domain

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Thanksgiving at the Table: *With One Voice*