SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

What About Jonah?

AS WE GATHER

During the Summer, Pastor is preaching on topics suggested by members of the congregation. Today we hear a story many people have said must be an allegory—not a true story about a man swallowed by a great fish. Is it true and what is its meaning for us? It is a story of SECOND CHANCES…for Jonah, for the Ninevites and especially, for you and me!
PRELUDE  “Festival Alleluia on ‘A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing’”  Dan Miller

PASTORAL GREETING

TOLLING OF THE BELL

HYMN  “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”  LSB 493

INVOCATION

Pastor:  In the name of the Father and of the * Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People:  Amen.


Pastor:  Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!
          God has crowned Him with glory and honor!
People:  The river of the water of life, bright as crystal,
           flows from the throne of God
           and of the Lamb in the midst of the city.
Pastor:  Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!
          God has crowned Him with glory and honor!
People:  The tree of life produces twelve kinds of fruit
           and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of nations.
Pastor:  Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!
          God has crowned Him with glory and honor!
People:  The LORD God is our light,
           and in Him we will reign forever and ever.
Pastor:  Alleluia! Christ is risen from the dead!
          God has crowned Him with glory and honor!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor:  Gracious Father, You daily bless us with mercy, yet we still go astray. So we confess our sin to You.

A time of silence is observed.

People:  We have sinned against You, mighty God, in thought, word, and deed.
Pastor:  We have acted in selfish ways that betray the love for our neighbors You desire.
People:  We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.
Pastor: We have spoken hurtful words that betray the life and healing that You freely give us in Christ.

People: We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

Pastor: We have said and done things that betray the oneness in Christ that You have given to Your people as a gift.


Pastor: Jesus prayed that the love with which the Father has loved Him would be in us and that we would dwell under the shadow of His wings. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✡ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✡

Kyrie (spoken)

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE  "Glory to God, We Give You Thanks and Praise”  LSB 946

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You prayed that we who follow You may all be one.

People: By the power of Your Holy Spirit, make us one, so that the world may believe that You are Lord and come to You;
Pastor: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Nahum 1:11-15

From you, O Nineveh, has one come forth who plots evil against the Lord and counsels wickedness.
This is what the Lord says:
“Although they have allies and are numerous, they will be cut off and pass away. Although I have afflicted you, O Judah, I will afflict you no more. Now I will break their yoke from your neck and tear your shackles away.”
The Lord has given a command concerning you, Nineveh:
“You will have no descendants to bear your name. I will destroy the carved images and cast idols that are in the temple of your gods. I will prepare your grave, for you are vile.”
Look, there on the mountains, the feet of one who brings good news, who proclaims peace! Celebrate your festivals, O Judah, and fulfill your vows. No more will the wicked invade you; they will be completely destroyed.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle: Acts 11:1-10

The apostles and the brothers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him and said, “You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.”
Peter began and explained everything to them precisely as it had happened: “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds of the air. Then I heard a voice telling me, ‘Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.’
“I replied, ‘Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’
“The voice spoke from heaven a second time, ‘Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.’ This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Congregation, please rise for the Alleluia verse and the Holy Gospel.

VERSE Romans 6:9; John 14:18

Pastor: Alleluia! Alleluia!
People: We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia!
Pastor: I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Alleluia!
People: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:1-4

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

The Pharisees and Sadducees came to Jesus and tested him by asking him to show them a sign from heaven.

He replied, “When evening comes, you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red,’ and in the morning, ‘Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.’ You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times. A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a miraculous sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah.” Jesus then left them and went away.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.
HYMN OF THE DAY  “All the Earth with Joy is Sounding”  
VERSE ONE: SOLO
VERSE 1-4: All

SERMON  “Jonah: One Whale of a Tale”  
Rev. John Larson  
Text: The Book of Jonah

APOSTLES’ CREED  
Text found in the back of the Hymnal.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: As the Body of the risen Christ and devoting ourselves to prayer, let us bring before the Lord the prayers of our minds and hearts.

For Christians throughout the world, that our divisions decrease and our sense of oneness in Christ increase, O Lord,

People: make us one.

Pastor: For our Synod—our president, district president, pastors, teachers, and all servants of the church, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we focus on demonstrating our oneness in Christ as a witness to the world of Your love for us in Christ, O Lord,

People: make us one.

Pastor: For the president and the congress, for our governor and local elected officials, that all work for the common good, O Lord,

People: make us one.

Pastor: That this nation so divided along political lines would repent of our hatred of those who differ from us, and, based on our one common humanity, discuss our differences with reason and kindness, O Lord,

People: make us one.

Pastor: For those in need in our community—the sick, those facing surgery, those with terminal illness—that with one voice we speak God’s ever-present love for them with our visits and prayers, O Lord,

People: make us one.

Pastor: [Additional intercessions may be added here…] O Lord,

People: make us one.

Pastor: O Lord,

People: make us one.

Pastor: For the families of our congregation—husbands and wives, children, grandparents, singles, aunts and uncles—that their love for one another be a sign to the world of God’s never-ending love for us in Christ, O Lord,

People: make us one.

Pastor: As You blessed the disciples gathered in Jerusalem awaiting the promised Spirit, so bless us by hearing our prayers as we await the coming of the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with “Amen!”, a word of affirmation and belief.
PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
People: And also with you.  
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.  
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who sacrificed His life for us on the cross, thereby overcoming our worst and greatest enemies—sin, death, and hell—and showing us the way to life abundant with the mercy and forgiveness of God. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the
company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (Divine Service, Setting Three)

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My *body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My *blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

LORD’S PRAYER Matthew 6:9–13 Text found in the back of the Hymnal.
Agnus Dei (Divine Service, Setting Three)

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”  
“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”  
“The Gifts Christ Freely Gives”  
“The Gifts Christ Freely Gives”  
“Crown Him with Many Crowns”  
“Crown Him with Many Crowns”  

GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION  John 17:20–21

Pastor: Jesus prayed: “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word, that they may all be one, just as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You have sent Me.”

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Numbers 6:24–26

People: Amen.

HYMN  “The Church’s One Foundation”  LSB 644
Therefore in order to forestall this,
I fled to Tarshish,
for I knew that
you are a gracious and compassionate God,
slow to anger,
and abundant in lovingkindness.
And one who concerning relents calamity.
# Serving in Worship

**OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT**
- Pastor John Larson

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES**
- Michael Zehnder

**ORGAN ASSISTANT**
- Gwen Geisler

**YOUTH BAND**
- Ashley Boeding, Brooke Boeding, Larry Boeding, Lilly Brinkman, Kayden Erling, Will Kopriva

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<tr>
<td><strong>ELDER</strong></td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Scott Luethy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Scott Luethy</td>
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<td><strong>LECTOR</strong></td>
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<td>Holly Schmitt</td>
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<td><strong>USHERS</strong></td>
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<td>Larry Nisbet, Members of the Congregation</td>
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<td>Jason Dierking, Members of the Congregation</td>
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<td>Jude Donovan</td>
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<td><strong>ALTAR GUILD</strong></td>
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<td>Sally Atchison, Gloria Gaudreault, Judy Peterson, Deb Shiflet</td>
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<td><strong>FLOWERS</strong></td>
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<td>Bob and Linda Olsen, In joyous celebration of their 50th anniversary</td>
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