

WILDERNESS: OFF THE GRID

WEEK FOUR: PAIN IN THE WILDERNESS

The Day of Pentecost
June 8, 2025 – 11:00 AM

AS WE GATHER

Pain comes in many forms...But the pain inflicted by others is sometimes hard to overcome. Today we look at the pain Joseph endured in the wilderness and how it shaped who he was. Joseph one of Jacob's 12 sons, was obviously the favorite. Hated by his brothers for this, Joseph was sold to slave traders only to emerge as an important ruler of all Egypt. Through Joseph, we learn about suffering, forgiveness, and redemption.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE SING

"Chain Breaker"

"Weary Traveler"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalms 139:1-14

¹[David, the psalmist, writes:] O Lord, you have searched me and You know me. ²You know when I sit and when I rise; You perceive my thoughts from afar. ³You discern my going out and my lying down; You are familiar with all my ways. ⁴Before a word is on my tongue You know it completely, O Lord ⁵You hem me in – behind and before; You have laid Your hand upon me. ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.

⁷Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? ⁸If I go up to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, You are there. ⁹If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, ¹⁰even there Your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold me fast. ¹¹If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," ¹²even the darkness will not be dark to You; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to You.

¹³For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 37:2-8

²This is the account of Jacob's family line.

Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them. ³Now Israel (Jacob) loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. ⁴When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him. ^{5J} Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more.

⁶He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: ⁷We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it." ⁸His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:35-38

³⁵love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. ³⁸Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

GOSPEL READING

John 14:25-27

²⁵ "All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

KIDS' TIME

Liz Peters

MESSAGE

"Wisdom in the Wilderness"
(Today's readings)

Pastor Doug Slavens

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Let us confess our sins in humble repentance.

(Silence for meditation and self-examination)

P: Most merciful God,

All: We confess that we have not always honored You with our bodies and our lives. So often we have done those things You do not desire us to do. Our thoughts have been impure. Our words have been unkind. We often have failed to stand up for the helpless; we have not always allowed people's lives matter to us as they matter to You. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

WE CONFESS OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH – APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF PEACE

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

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

WE SING "Come As You Are"
"Enough"

COMMUNION BLESSING

WE PRAY TO OUR LORD

LORD'S PRAYER

THE CLOSING BLESSING

WE SING "Hello, My Name Is"

OUR OFFERINGS

All that we have and all that we are, belong to the Lord. He fills us with what is good! We pray: "Fill us, Lord, to overflowing, that others may receive blessed through the blessings we ourselves have received from You."

You can give online **memoriamlutheran.net** or drop in the offering boxes located throughout the worship center.