



Joshua
September 1

Time Period Conquest of Canaan

Who was he?
The son of Nun, of the tribe of Ephraim, and a leader of the Israelites.

Did you know?

- He was appointed by God to succeed Moses as Israel's commander-in-chief.
- He led the Israelites across the Jordan River into the Promised Land and directed the capture of Jericho in seven days.
- He is remembered especially for his final address to the Israelites, in which he challenged them to serve God faithfully (Joshua 24:1-27).

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A Member of
Lutheran Church Canada



2025 THEME FOR BEREA & ZION

COME AND SEE!

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1

Come and experience the faith that ties us together and keeps us at Berea and Zion. In a world of increasing uncertainty, you and I are encouraged to live and share the basics of our faith that keeps us here. It is vital, life and eternal life changing, to know Jesus, our Saviour who lived, suffered, died, and rose, for us, to set us free from the control of evil.

Our faith is grounded in the Good News that Jesus lives... the victory is won. Living the victorious life means that Jesus is an ever-present source of peace, comfort and hope in our lives. This year let's open doors for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts and minds of our families, friends and community by warmly inviting them to... "COME AND SEE"!

BEREA & ZION GUESTS

At the end of worship we would like to invite you to please take a moment to sign our guest book in the foyer.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome! It's great to have you with us today! If you're here because you're looking for a church family, we're always excited to unite brothers and sisters in Christ.

Talk to Pastor John for more info.



But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher." Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. Luke 14:10-11

Pentecost 12 ~ August 31, 2025

As We Gather

Entering the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, the traditional site of the birth of Jesus, is one of the most memorable experiences for any Christian pilgrim visiting the Holy Land. First constructed at the commission of Roman Emperor Constantine the Great in AD 326, the church is on the oldest site continually used for worship by Christians anywhere in the world. Although the basilica initially had a grand arched entrance in its first thousand years, it came into a period of disuse and neglect after the conquest of the Holy Land by the Islamic rulers of the Ottoman Empire in AD 1516. In an effort to prevent people from entering the church with horses and cattle, the Christians caring for the building at that time walled up the main entrance, leaving only a very small door. This opening has ever since been known as the "Door of Humility." It makes a most fitting way for those who come to worship at the site of the manger of the Christ Child to enter that sacred space. Where we worship here and now is also a sacred space. Although we may not have needed to bow down to enter the front door today, bringing an attitude of humility to our worship of our gracious Lord is truly fitting for us.

+ WELCOME & SHARING OF PEACE +

Opening Hymn

908 Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear

***1 Lord, open now my heart to hear,
And through Your Word to me draw near;
Let me Your Word e'er pure retain;
Let me Your child and heir remain.***

***2 Your Word inspires my heart within;
Your Word grants healing from my sin;
Your Word has pow'r to guide and bless;
Your Word brings peace and happiness.***

***^ 3 To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Shall glory, praise, and honour be
Now and throughout eternity.***

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Invocation and Opening Sentences Psalm 149:1-4

P: We come together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

P: Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,

C: His praise in the assembly of the godly!

P: Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

C: let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

P: Let them praise His name with dancing, making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre!

C: For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation.

Confession and Absolution

P: It is good and right that we should confession our sins. The section on confession in Luther's catechism says: "*Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.*" We therefore humble ourselves before God, confess our sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.

P: As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant 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.

C: AMEN

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 131

P: O Lord, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high;

C: I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me.

P: But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother;

C: like a weaned child is my soul within me.

P: O Israel, hope in the Lord

C: from this time forth and forevermore.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. AMEN

Prayer of the Day

P: *We pray.* Lord, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; in Jesus name.

C: AMEN

+ WORD +

Old Testament

Proverbs 25:2-10

(Guidelines for a blessed life.)

It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out. As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth, so the heart of kings is unsearchable. Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith has material for a vessel; take away the wicked from the presence of the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness. Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbour puts you to shame? Argue your case with your neighbour himself, and do not reveal another's secret, lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill reputation have no end.

Epistle

Hebrews 13:1-17

(Living in God-pleasing ways.)

Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. Let marriage be held in honour among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefitted those devoted to them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Holy Gospel

Luke 14:1-14

(Jesus teaches about humble living.)

One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?" But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not

immediately pull him out?" And they could not reply to these things. Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

P: These are the Word of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Profession of 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

Hymn of the Day 844 Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace

*1 Lord of all nations, grant me grace
To love all people, ev'ry race;
And in each person may I see
My kindred, loved, redeemed by Thee.*

*2 Break down the wall that would divide
Thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side.
My neighbor's good let me pursue;
Let Christian love bind warm and true.*

*3 Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred
By loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do
Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.*

*4 Give me Thy courage, Lord, to speak
Whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I myself the victim be,
Help me forgive, rememb'ring Thee.*

*5 With Thine own love may I be filled
And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where'er I be,
May be divinely touched by Thee.*

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Sermon

The Offerings Are Gathered

(The Offertory Prayer is sung as the offerings are brought forward)

*We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.*

*May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!*

Prayers of the Church

P: Lord, remove the pride that would cut us off from Your grace.
Teach us humility that reflects our faith so that we serve You and live in peace and love with all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Father, guard Your Church against pride, and raise up able and humble leaders. Give us faithful leaders who speak Your Word, faithful servants who accomplish Your mission, and faithful support to provide the resources needed. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Ruler of the universe, give to the leaders here and around the world hearts that care for people, a desire for justice, and a passion for service. Give special strength, wisdom, and all needed gifts to our firefighters, police, first responders, ambulance drivers, patient transport workers, nurses and doctors, and all others who serve us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Holy Spirit guide our lives by God's Word so that we would know the truth, keep it, and share it in love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Jesus, healer of all, give to the suffering relief, grant healing to the sick and those recuperating, and guard the dying in Your

peace. We especially lift up... and all in our hearts. May all be healed according to Your will, sustained in their hour of need by Your grace, and kept to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, be with those celebrating birthdays, baptismal birthdays, and anniversaries this week. Thank you for the past, and we look forward to the future. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: AMEN

Lord's Prayer

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

Benediction

P: The blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: AMEN

Closing Hymn

813 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng

***1 Rejoice, O pilgrim throng!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
Your festal banner wave on high,
The cross of Christ your king. Refrain***

ref. Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

***2 With voice as full and strong
As ocean's surging praise,
Send forth the sturdy hymns of old,
The psalms of ancient days. Refrain***

***3 With all the angel choirs,
With all the saints on earth
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss,
True rapture, noblest mirth. Refrain***

***4 Yet on and onward still,
With hymn and chant and song,
Through gate and porch and columned aisle
The hallowed pathways throng. Refrain***

***5 Still lift your standard high,
Still march in firm array,
As pilgrims through the darkness wend
Till dawns the golden day. Refrain***

***6 At last the march shall end;
The wearied ones shall rest;
The pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. Refrain***

***^ 7 Praise Him who reigns on high,
The Lord whom we adore:
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
One God forevermore. Refrain***

Announcements and Dismissal

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

SERVANTS IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

BEREA

Organist: Bill Irwin
Altar Guild: Kevin & Heather Ball
Elders: Kevin Ball, Chuck Becker
For Prayer: Lilo 226 421-2436, Elizabeth 237-3622

ZION

Organist: Joanne Maguire
Altar Guild: K. Keller / M. Walper
Elders: Ken Rader, Lorne Koch, Tom Hayter,
Randy Bowers, Jeff Miller
For Prayer: Nancy 237-3653, Brenda 237-3789