Mark 2:1-22

1 When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. 2 So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. 3 Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. 4 And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." 6 Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, 7 "Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" 8 At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? 9 Which is easier, to say, to the paralytic, "Your sins are forgiven," or to say, "Stand up and take your mat and walk'? 10 But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" — he said to the paralytic — 11 "I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home." 12 And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

13 Jesus went out again beside the sea; the whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them. 14 As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. 15 And as he sat at dinner in Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were also sitting with Jesus and his disciples—for there were many who followed him. 16 When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" 17 When Jesus heard this, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

18 Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and people came and said to him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" 19 Jesus said to them, "The wedding guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. 20 The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day. 21 "No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak; otherwise, the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. 22 And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into old wineskins, 23 because new wine needs new wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and so are the skins; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins.

Welcome to worship! If you are visiting, thank you so much for joining us in worship! If this is your first time here or if you have been here before and would like to know more about this church, please fill out a Visitor Information Card (located in the card racks in front of you on the pew) and place it in the offering plate. Please feel free to join us after service for conversation and fellowship. Thank you for visiting and experiencing the power of God and hearing the promise of His Word with us!
Gathering
Welcome & Announcements
Worship Songs
Children’s Message

Lesson of the Day  Mark 2:1-22  P: Word of God, Word of life  C: Thanks be to God
Message Pastor Karsten Nelson
Response Song/Offering

Prayers & Lord’s Prayer

Response Song/Offering

Apostle’s Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he descended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Worship Songs

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering

As is our custom there will be a budget forum between services on Sunday, January 24th to understand the 2016 proposed budget and address concerns or questions people may have. Please join us in the fireside room for the information and good conversation.

Annual Meeting—Sunday January 31st following our combined 5th Sunday worship at 10:00am. We will have a time of reviewing 2015, looking ahead into 2016 plans, approve a budget and formally elect a few new Board members. The nominating team is in the midst of visiting with potential new Board members— if you might be interested, or if you think of someone to nominate please contact Pastor Karsten, Holly Forsberg, Jessica Morgan or Dean Erfseld.

Second Harvest Sign up for 2016—Come join us on January 21st, 2016 from 5:30-7:30 and Second Harvest Heartland. Registration is due by January 12th. Please let Amy Krohn know you are interested early at 651-779-7945 or ajkrohn@hotmail.com. Sign up sheets will be at the info desk. We are an all ORLC crew again so we need at least 20 spots filled.

Youth Retreat—ORLC youth will be going on a much anticipated winter retreat to the Nelson Family Cabin! This retreat will be January 16th-18th, Martin Luther King Day weekend. We will be leaving on Saturday morning, for a weekend of faith building, sledding, playing in the snow (if there is any), board games and other fun activities. Talk with Eric for more information.

Missions Update—A recent deposit of the Hunger boxes and jars was made in the amount of $148.00. Thank you to all who continue to support this wonderful way to help stop world hunger. Look for empty boxes or jars to fill with change in the large basket in the Narthex. When full, return to church and it will be added to our next hunger deposit.

We have received a wonderful letter from Frayluis, the student ORLC supports at Doulos Discovery School in the Dominican Republic. He is currently in 6th grade and our congregation has been supporting his schooling since he was in preschool. Stop by the bulletin board in the hallway leading to the Sunday School rooms to read his letter.

January Study of Islam Offered—Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota has a basic informative study entitled “My Neighbor Is Muslim: A Small Group Study Exploring the Muslim Faith”. It is our hope that by increasing our understanding of Islam some of the fear generated by recent terrorist events in our country and worldwide will be reduced for us. The material for the four week study is free and is available on line. We will meet in Fellowship Hall on four consecutive Mondays beginning January 18th at 7:00pm. The last session will be on February 1, 2016. Please contact Joan Paulson at 651-777-0490 or Kathi Kirchoff at 651-770-3514 for further information or to sign up for the study.

Property Group—A group of people will be coming to the church on Tuesday at 9:30am to do some light cleaning and building maintenance. Please join us if you are able.

OWLS Events—Lunch and Entertainment at First Lutheran Church (Maria & Seventh Street, St Paul) Thursday, January 14th from noon – 2 pm
A light lunch and presentation by Lucy Bishop, author of “I’m New at Being Old” is sponsored by the Dayton’s Bluff Senior Organization. The event is free to seniors 65+ and a free-don will donation from those younger. Car pool from church leaving at 11:30. Signup deadline is Tuesday, January 12th.

Crafting STAY retreat is happening again—A two-day event is planned for Friday January 15 and Saturday January 16. Bring your own craft projects to work on. This can be anything from sewing, knitting, to scrapbooking. All are welcome. To sign up please see or contact Amy Krohn (651-779-7945 or ajkrohn@hotmail.com) Fellowship Hall Our Redeemer Luther Church (1390 East Larpentuer Ave) Friday January 15: 5pm - 9pm Suggested: Meals/Beverages on your own. Saturday January 16: 10am - 6pm (in the gym, light cleaning and building maintenance). Please bring a snack to share if you want. 1/2 of a round table space and let Amy know if you need electricity.

Knitting & Crocheting—God’s Hands Knitting & Crocheting meets on the third Thursday of each month from 6:30 P.M. until 8:00. This month, we will be meeting at Caribou Coffee on White Bear Avenue and County Road D, (by Maplewood Mall). We bring our works “in progress”, be they a scarf, prayer shawl, or a pattern that we might need some help in following. Most of the handicraft work is done elsewhere but it is great fun to see current projects. Besides donated items, we work on various personal projects. We share patterns, ideas and sometimes we also share yarn. The Prayer Shawl Ministry continues at ORLC as needs are made known. A number of baby blankets and hats were given to Solid Ground. A number of hats and scarfs were donated by ORLC’s Giving Tree this fall. Some of us have a non-profit organization that has touched our hearts. Bundles of Love, Al- ley Shoppe 109, St. John’s Hospital Infant Unit, and Global Health Ministries are a few of these. Jack’s Basket, (based in Shoreview), has received 14 knit hats and 5 pairs of knit booties for newborns. Please consider joining us for fun and good conversation. Hope to see you on January 21, February 18, March 17, April 21 and May 19.

Upcoming Readings
January 17: Parables in Mark—Mark 4:1-34
January 24: Jairus’ Daughter Healed—Mark 5:21-43

Mission Statement—the language of our sending is being changed to help lift up our mission statement and to live this out in our daily life.

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