



*Holy
Spirit,
rain
on us...*

*"And He will come to us
like the rain, Like the spring rain
watering the earth."*

Hosea 6:3 NASB

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 Meyersville Rd., Meyersville, Texas 77974
361-277-8653
Pastor John Boor

June 8, 2018
Service for Rain
7:00 p.m.

Prelude

Announcements

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Hymn #635 WOV– “Surely It Is God Who Saves Me”

Opening Litany

Pastor Anne

P For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. The Lord does whatever He please, in heaven and earth, in the seas and all the deeps.

C **You answer us, O God our Savior**

P God brings up rain clouds from the ends of the earth; He sends out lightening with the rain and brings the winds out of His storehouse. Come let us return to the Lord, for it is God who has torn, and God who heals us; God has struck down and God will bind us up.

C **You answer us, O God our Savior**

P God’s appearing is as sure as the dawn, God will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.

C **You answer us, O God our Savior**

Let us pray. O God, most merciful Father,

We beseech you to open the windows of heaven and send a fruitful rain upon us to revive the earth and refresh its fruits, for all things droop and wither. Graciously hear and grant our prayer that we may praise you. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. AMEN.

⁷ It happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there was no rain in the land.

⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, ⁹“Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and stay there; behold, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.” ¹⁰ So he arose and went to Zarephath, and when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks; and he called to her and said, “Please get me a little water in a jar, that I may drink.” ¹¹ As she was going to get *it*, he called to her and said, “Please bring me a piece of bread in your hand.” ¹² But she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have no bread, only a handful of flour in the bowl and a little oil in the jar; and behold, I am gathering a few sticks that I may go in and prepare for me and my son, that we may eat it and die.” ¹³ Then Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go, do as you have said, but make me a little bread cake from it first and bring *it* out to me, and afterward you may make *one* for yourself and for your son. ¹⁴ For thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘The bowl of flour shall not be exhausted, nor shall the jar of oil be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain on the face of the earth.’”

Here ends the Reading

Thanks be to God

Psalm 65

Wilburn Oehlke

To You we owe our hymn of praise, O God on Zion; To You our vows must be fulfilled, You who hear our prayers. To You all flesh must come.

You have visited the land and watered it; greatly have You enriched it!

You answer us with awesome deeds of justice, O God our savior, The hope of all the ends of the earth and of those far off across the sea. You are robed in power, You set up the mountains by Your might. You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of the waves, the tumult of the peoples.

You have visited the land and watered it; greatly have You enriched it!

Distant peoples stand in awe of Your marvels; the places of morning and evening You make resound with you. Your visit the earth and water it, make it abundantly fertile. God’s stream is filled with water; You supply their grain. Thus do You prepare it:

You have visited the land and watered it; greatly have You enriched it!

You drench its plowed furrows and level its ridges. With showers You keep it soft, blessing its young sprouts. You adorn the year with Your bounty; You paths drip with fruitful rain.

You have visited the land and watered it; greatly have You enriched it!

The meadows of the wilderness also drip; the hills are robed with joy. The pastures are clothed with flocks, the valleys blanketed with grain; they cheer and sing for joy.

You have visited the land and watered it; greatly have You enriched it!

Second Reading 1 Kings 18:41-46

Johnny Jank

⁴¹ Now Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of the roar of a *heavy* shower.” ⁴² So Ahab went up to eat and drink. But Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he crouched down on the earth and put his face between his knees. ⁴³ He said to his servant, “Go up now, look toward the sea.” So he went up and looked and said, “There is nothing.” And he said, “Go back” seven times. ⁴⁴ It came about at the seventh *time*, that he said, “Behold, a cloud as small as a man’s hand is coming up from the sea.” And he said, “Go up, say to Ahab, ‘Prepare *your chariot* and go down, so that the *heavy* shower does not stop you.’”⁴⁵ In a little while the sky grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy shower. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel. ⁴⁶ Then the hand of the LORD was on Elijah, and he girded up his loins and outran Ahab to Jezreel.

Psalm 104

Johnny Jank

Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord, my God, You are great indeed! You are clothed with majesty and splendor, robed in light as with a cloak. You spread out the heavens like a tent; setting the beams of Your chambers upon the water. You make the clouds Your chariot; traveling on the wings of the wind.

Send forth Your Spirit and renew the face of the Earth

You made springs flow in wadies that wind among the mountains. They give drink to every beast of the field; here wild asses quench their thirst. Beside them the birds of heaven nest; among the branches they sing. You water the mountains from Your chambers; from the fruit of Your labor the earth abounds.

Send forth Your Spirit and renew the face of the Earth

You make the grass grow for the cattle and plants for people's work to bring forth food from the earth, wine to gladden their hearts, oil to make their faces shine, and bread to sustain the human heart.

Send forth Your Spirit and renew the face of the Earth

How varied are Your works, Lord! In wisdom You have made the all; the earth is full of Your creatures. All of these look to You to give them food in due time. When You give it to them, they gather; when You open Your hand, they are well filled.

Send forth Your Spirit and renew the face of the Earth

Send forth Your spirit, they are created and You renew the face of the earth. May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord be glad in His works! I will sing praise to my God while I live. May my meditation be pleasing to Him; I will rejoice in the Lord.

Send forth Your Spirit and renew the face of the Earth

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:25-34

Pastor John

²⁵“For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, *as to* what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, *as to* what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and *yet* your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? ²⁷And who of you by being worried can add a *single* hour to his life? ²⁸And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, ²⁹yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is *alive* today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, *will He* not much more *clothe* you? You of little faith! ³¹Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ ³²For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

³⁴“So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn #731 WOV *“Precious Lord Take My Hand”*

The peace of the Lord be with you always
And also with You

Offering: To benefit C.A.M.A.L. House in Cuero

Prayer for Rain Litany

P Brothers and sisters in Christ, Holy Scriptures tell us that in times of need we should turn to the Lord, bring our petitions and concerns, ask forgiveness for our sins, and place our needs into God’s loving hands. So we now draw near to God with our prayers.

P Gracious and loving Father: look down with mercy upon Your people. Fill us with faith as we wait on Your generous gifts from heaven. Hear our prayer for this much needed rain, may it quench the thirst of our people in distress, our industries that suffer, and all who are affected...we pray to the Lord.

C Open the windows of heaven and send us the blessing of rain.

P Lord of the sun and the rains our fields languish, our animals grow weary and faint, and our spirits yearn for Your tender mercy, as You answered the prayers of Elijah in the day of old, now turn Your ear toward us and bring forth Your healing waters upon this You land...we pray to the Lord.

C Open the windows of heaven and send us the blessing of rain.

P Lord Jesus Christ You are the living God who promises to give us life-giving water that will cause us to thirst no longer. As we wait for rain may we grow in our dependence on You and trust in the promise You have made, that You will be with us always until the end of the age...we pray to the Lord.

C Open the windows of heaven and send us the blessing of rain.

P Gracious God we give our sincere thanks for the rain that You have sent In Your divine providence and Your fatherly care, we humbly ask You continue to bestow Your generosity upon our land so that our rivers and streams may once again flow abundantly, and fields and animals will rejoice in Your goodness...we pray to the Lord.

C Open the windows of heaven and send us the blessing of rain.

P Blessed are You, life giving Trinity. Praise glory, and honor belong to You alone. We ask You hear our humble plea, show Your face toward us, send us the rain we ask so that we may continually seek to give You praise with the life we have received...we pray to the Lord.

C **Open the windows of heaven and send us the blessing of rain.**

We now unite our hearts and voices in the Words that Jesus has taught us:

**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**

Closing Prayer

Pastor Anne

Blessed are You God, king of the Universe. You made the whole earth for Your glory and You nurture it with the sun and rain and the passing seasons. We lift our voices in praise and sing with all creation Your glory. Bless now our dry earth. Open Your heavens wide and send forth the beneficial rays, we implore you. With Your blessing the earth hale break forth in abundance, so that the harvest of the lands, blessed by the goodness of Your hand, shall enrich our lives and enable us to sing forth Your greatness. Bless all who experience distress because of the drought, may this time of distress deepen our faith and enable us more and more to readily serve You and love You and thus honor Your name with the life we have received. Amen.

Benediction

Pastor John

Dismissal

Hymn: Showers of Blessings (loose)

PRAYER FOR RAIN

God of life, all good gifts come
from you:
the breath of life that creates
us,
the fellow creatures that ac-
company us,
the saving waters that renew and refresh us.
We look to you in our time of need.
Give to the earth the water of life,
water to bring forth food for your creatures.
Send us rain to heal the earth and to cleanse
its face,
water to quench your thirsty land.
Let faith be born from our doubts,
hope from our despair,
compassion from our troubles,
Let the rains come,
so we may know once more your care for all
creatures.
Then we will bless your great name
and declare your faithful love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

