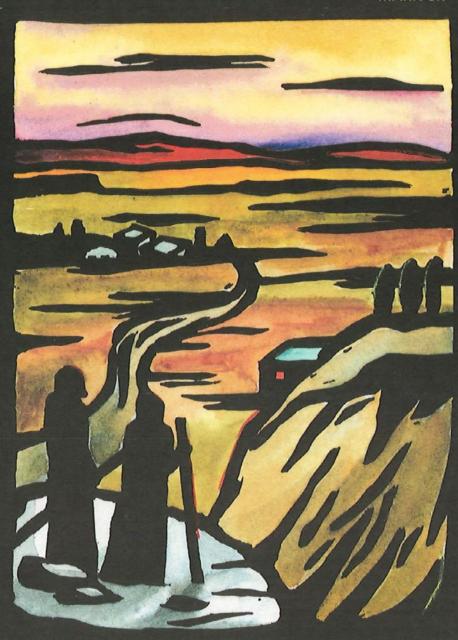
Jesus began to send them out TWO BY TWO

MARK 6:7



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

25 W. Springettsbury Ave., York, PA 17403

Church Office 717-843-8155 www.stpaulsyork.org
Email: st.paulsyork@comcast.net www.stpaulspreschoolyork.com

Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church York PA on Springettsbury & George

WELCOME Thank you for being with us.

We are a Christian church within the Lutheran tradition (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) and we welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith. Christian worship has been offered to God in this congregation for 185 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

Restrooms are available in the Good Shepherd Room (Springettsbury lobby) and the narthex. Baby changing stations are provided in these restrooms.

The 10:30 AM Liturgy is live streamed on YouTube. Search St. Paul's Lutheran Church S. George, York, PA. or use this link to our St. Paul's YouTube home page.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYCfdMzkJo_Xvbdkxn2IYIg. You may also view the service at a later time on YouTube. Please be aware that conversations may be audible to those viewing from home.

We are not relaxing our guidelines at this time. Procedures at St. Paul's are currently being reviewed by our Covid Task Force and by Church Council. Please remain diligent.

Guidelines for Worship during the time of COVID-19

Entering and Leaving the Church:

Face masks are required inside,

Please take your service bulletin with you and dispose of it properly.

Offerings:

Monetary offerings may be placed in the basins provided at the entrances to the nave prior to the service or immediately following the service. You may also donate via our website at www.stpaulsyork.org

While in the Nave:

Please wear your mask. Please sit in designated pews only. You may sit together as a family. We ask that you practice social distancing from one family to the next within the pew. Occasionally an usher may seat a guest in the red zone.

Communion Procedure:

- Ushers will direct you. The pulpit side (left) of the nave communes first followed by the font side (right).
- Wearing your face mask, come to the chancel step taking your place at one of the five positions marked on the chancel floor with a green cross.
- Your entire household may gather at a position marked by the green cross.
- Extend your arms and cup your hands together to receive the host.
- Once the minister has moved to the next group, then remove your mask, receive the host, replace your mask and return to your pew by the closest side aisle. There is no need to hurry.
- We are receiving communion in one kind only (bread/host).

Our COVID-19 task force is assisting us as we remain open. Please thank Dr. Jessica Ericson, Sheridan Palmer, Deacon Harold Sargeant, and Dr. Martha Thomas for their dedication and service.

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, July 4, 2021

Holy Communion 10:30 AM

PRELUDE

Overture to Royal Fireworks Music

George F. Handel

Stand turning towards the font.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us pray. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

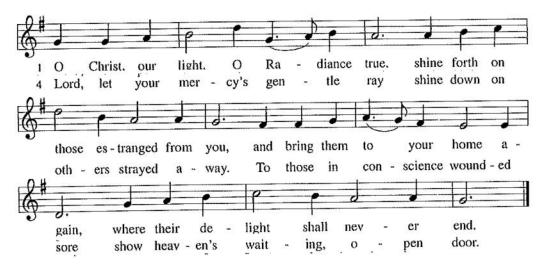
Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

ENTRANCE HYMN O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True (LBW 380) Stanzas 1 & 4

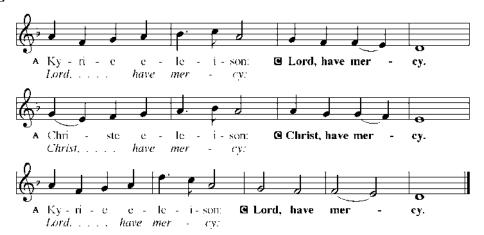


APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

And also with you.

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

God of glory, Father of love, peace comes from you alone. Send us as peacemakers and witnesses to your kingdom, and fill our hearts with joy in your promises of salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Ezekiel 2:1-5

(back cover)

PSALM Psalm 123 Spoken responsively by half verse.

¹ To you I lift | up my eyes,*

to you enthroned | in the heavens.

² As the eyes of servants look to the hand | of their masters,* and the eyes of a maid to the hand | of her mistress,

³ so our eyes look to the | LORD our God,*

until he show | us his mercy.

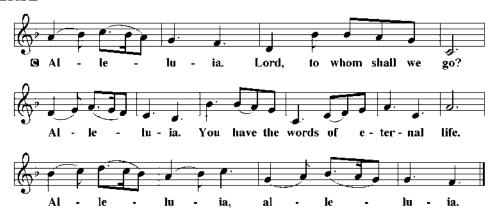
⁴ Have mercy upon us, O | LORD, have mercy,*

for we have had more than enough | of contempt,

5 too much of the scorn of the in- | dolent rich,*
and of the derision | of the proud.

Stand

VERSE



Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:1-13

(back cover)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the conclusion of the Gospel.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Reep

Stand

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray. A brief silence.

Lord God, through the waters of baptism you claim us as your beloved children. Sustain the baptized and increase their faith, that your gospel may be proclaimed throughout the earth. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Your creating Spirit animates the universe. We give you thanks for the moon and stars, for the planets and the Milky Way Galaxy, and for all of the mysteries of the cosmos that remain unknown to us. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You liberate us from sin and death. Defend us from tyrants in our midst and deliver us from all forms of slavery or corruption. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Strengthen those who feel faint, give courage to those who fear, and bring wholeness to those in need (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Send us out into the world to proclaim your love. Equip us as we leave this place to witness and serve our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give you thanks that in every time and place you call forth prophets who move us towards freedom. Thank you for those who work for human rights, community organizers, and all who strive for liberty for all. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

Amen.

PEACE

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

The ministers and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.

OFFERTORY As the pastor prepares the altar the people sing.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heav'nly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight.

He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb.

He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This is my blood poured out for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

And we ask you:

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church both now and forever. Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

THE 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,

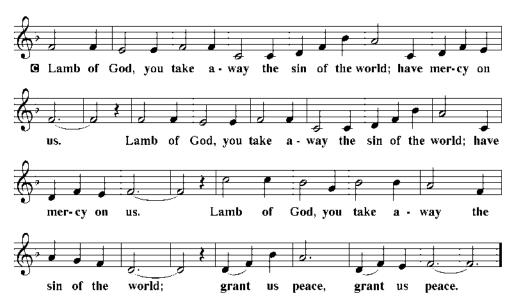
as we forgive those who trespass against us;

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

FRACTION RITE *The bread is broken. A brief silence is kept.*

AGNUS DEI sung by all



Sit The pastor cleanses hands and prepares for the distribution of Holy Communion.

COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

Instructions for receiving the sacrament are on the inside front cover of the bulletin.

Stand

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

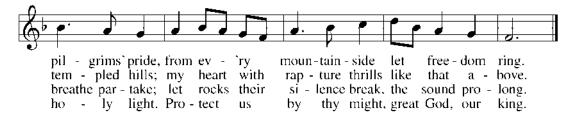
Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. **Amen**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, Bless you now and forever. Amen

HYMN My Country Tis of Thee (LBW 566) Stanzas 1 & 4





Text: Samuel F. Smith, 1808-1895

Music: NATIONAL ANTHEM. Thesaurus Musicus, London. 1744

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sit

POSTLUDE

America the Beautiful

Rex Koury

Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies

Please join in fellowship outside on the South lawn.

Please...be respectful of distancing and personal space as you leave. ...feel free to gather outside for conversation. ...take your service bulletin with you and dispose of it properly.

In our prayers we remember...

Jim Gilbert, Roland Craig, Julie Stephan, Elaine Mummert, Orven Cook, Martha Spillman, Ron Stiffler, Ann DeMille, Terry Kaczor, Barbara Ruppert, Chuck Oelsner, Chas Ebling, Morgan Lanzalotti, Courtney Snell, Jessica Armold, Betty Mehring, Drew Herdson, Kristine Gross, Porter Stacey.

St. Paul's Food Pantry – Volunteer Opportunity on Sunday Morning and Tuesday Distribution

Thankfully, the St. Paul's Food Pantry has been able to remain open, with modifications, throughout the pandemic. In March 2020, pantry volunteers moved quickly to prepackaging food for clients and meeting them outside with groceries. Our highest numbers were up to 80 families per week. Now we are closer to 40 which is in the high range of pre-pandemic times. Every family receives 3-4 four frozen meats, 1-2 dozen eggs, milk, cheese, and often a fresh fruit along with cereal, pastas, soups, canned fruits, beans, and vegetables.

While some volunteers were unable to continue serving, some stepped forward and began serving weekly instead of monthly. At least 8 new volunteers have participated as well. For those wishing to help, but unable to participate due to jobs or school during the week, there is a new volunteer opportunity. Twice a month volunteers work between Sunday services at 9:00 AM to stock the shelves. Contact Patty Snyder if you are willing to help in this ministry.

We can once again safely bring clients into the building to select their own groceries. With this return comes the need for additional helpers on Tuesday mornings. Please help if you can.

Food Pantry—July

Items needed: Pancake mix, 4 pks of toilet paper, canned or boxed potatoes, stuffing mix, jelly, boxed rice. We also need paper grocery bags with handles.

Anyone able to help can contact Teresa Rohrbaugh, Patty Snyder, or Janet and Larry Moore. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a "special" envelope marked "Pantry".

This Week at St. Paul's July 4—July 11

Church office open 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Mon—Thurs, 7:30 a.m.—12 noon Fri

Sunday, July 4

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist—Outside
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist - live streamed.
6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm

Monday, July 5 OFFICE CLOSED

6:30 PM Scout Leaders Mtg—ZOOM 7:00 PM Boy Scout Meeting—ZOOM Tuesday, July 6

9:30 AM Pantry

4:30 PM Bible Adventure-Rudy Park/Blue

Spruce Pavillion

Thursday July 8

7:00 PMN Preschool Committee ZOOM

Sunday, July 11

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist—Outside

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist - live streamed. 6:30 PM AA meeting Community Rm

Serving the Lord with Gladness

DATE	TIME	Prayers	Lector	Ushers		-up Crew	Communion	Altar Clean-up Communion 10:30AM
7/4	Early Outside	Larry- Moore	Janet Moore	Larry Moore Sheridan Palmer		Ulrich	Comocaci	
		Carol Woodbury		•	Technician Needed			Sandy Dicken- sheets Tonya Cave



The altar flowers are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Henry Anstadt by Ann Anstadt.

Altar Flowers

The Springettsbury Hallway bulletin board has the sign-up sheet to sponsor flowers for available dates for the year. Many Sundays are still available!

Cost is \$30 per vase.

STAFF

Pastor Reverend Stanley Reep prreep.stpaulsyork@comcast.net Youth Director Kelly Moore-Spencer kmoorespencer.stpaulsyork@comcast.net Victor Fields Organist, Choir Director vfields.stpaulsyork@comcast.net dzeiger.stpaulsvork@comcast.net Bookkeeper Dale Zeiger Patee Pizzirusso st.paulsyork@comcast.net Secretary Sexton Ted Weikert st.paulsyork@comcast.net Preschool Director Deb Becker director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com

Proper 9 B, 2021 Ezekiel 2:1-5 Mark 6:1-13

The day pack hadn't been used since trick or treating last Halloween. It had served as the collection bag for the accumulation of pounds of candy. This is every child's delight and every parent's distress at Halloween; too much candy! But imagine the surprise to find on the Fourth of July weekend tucked away in the bottom of the sack, an unopened pack of peanut M&Ms. How sweet and how delicious the find!

The pack of M&Ms may well be 10 months old but when consumed by a middle school child, they remain sweet and delicious. You may well be thinking that a ten month old chocolate treat from Halloween isn't all that desirable. But the reality is that there are many things that when aged become more palatable. Age actually will improve and enhance flavor. Cheese, wine, scotch, beef, cabbage, fruitcake, just to name a few; each of them can have age as their friend.

This morning it is the word of the Lord that is sweet as honey. It is the scroll of the Lord with words of lamentation and mourning and woe written on it that the prophet Ezekiel consumes. He eats the word that God has written against his people. While the words are directed to a rebellious people, to people who have forgotten the promise of God, and who have broken covenant with him. The words of the Lord will be difficult to hear for the people have a hard forehead and a stubborn heart. And yet God's word to them when consumed, digested, processed, is sweet as honey. But the words when spoken will convict, judge, point out the error of their ways.

God is sending Ezekiel to the people of Israel. At this point in their history they have fallen away from God. They have associated themselves with other deities, abandoned worship, jettisoned the commandments, and have adopted ways that are not the ways of the Lord God, the one who brought them out of captivity, slavery, bondage, and provided them a place to reside that was flowing with milk and honey. It seems as though all may be lost. But God calls Ezekiel, a human agent of the Lord, to proclaim God's message to the people.

First it is a message announcing of the destruction of Jerusalem. Everything that God's people held near and dear would be taken from them when the capital city would fall prey to destruction by a foreign power. They would be scattered. Their king and religious scholars and teachers would be taken from them and placed under house arrest by a foreign leader, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon.

Then it is a message predicting the downfall of their neighbors. Those that may have helped them are not in a position to lend assistance or give aide. Those in whom they had put their trust are not in any position to help out now. Things for them are simply dire.

And then it is a message of a great future. God's desire is that his people know him. Ezekiel announces the sweetness that God wants to live with them, make his home with them, wants to be the center of their lives. God's will is for them to come back into his embrace, his realm. And yet they are a stubborn, impudent, rebellious people. Ezekiel has his work cut out for him. The only seeming consolation that Ezekiel has is the word of the Lord to him "Whether they hear of refuse to hear, they shall know that there has been a prophet among them."

Hearing and refusing to hear is a situation that is still with us. "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear! It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, and drives away all fear." John Newton. But do we listen? Do we hear? Will we heed God's messenger?

Hearing and refusing to hear was the situation in Nazareth. Jesus is in his hometown. The local folks think that they know him so well that he can't bring about any meaningful changes for them. After all, he is a carpenter. We know his mom Mary and those brothers of his and the things that they are up to; and as for his sisters? Well their preconceived notions don't leave much room for expecting anything much to happen. They can't even consider the possibility that Jesus could totally transform their lives, bring healing, allow for new beginnings, and truly save them from the very things that are killing them. Jesus is amazed at their unbelief.

In scripture study this week we latched on to that fact that our unbelief manages to amaze Jesus! It is not our good works, our prayers, our love of neighbor, our working for justice systems and government, but our unbelief that amazes him. You would think that he has seen it all heard it all and that there wouldn't be too many surprises for God's Son (kind of like one of those Farmers Insurance commercials) and yet here the gospel writer Mark records that Jesus is amazed at their unbelief and at ours.

What is it that we expect from God? Is it the word of lamentation, mourning, woe, judgement and unbelief that punctuates the readings assigned for this day? Or do we expect something more? Are we open to the sweetness of his word, the possibilities that abound when we are freed up from what holds us captive, released from what is suffocating us, raised up from what is killing us? Are we dismissive of saving grace because like those in Nazareth we think we know Jesus so well?

Stop amazing Jesus by your unbelief! Start amazing Jesus and your family and friends and neighbors by believing his amazing grace for you and for all people. The prophet Ezekiel announces words of hope amidst disastrous times and among rebellious people. The situation then and the situation today aren't all that different. This is a message of a great future. God's desire is that all people know him. Ezekiel announces the sweetness that God wants to live with us, make his home with us, wants to be the center of our lives. God's will is for us to live in his loving embrace opening up a realm of new possibilities for all of us.

Expecting such transformation amid disastrous times and among rebellious people is not easy. But it is sweet. It is sweet like the name of Jesus. It is sweet like his willingness to suffer and die so that all may have new life. It is the sweetness of his word taking us by surprise when we least expect it. His extraordinary love is with us all the time. That pack of M&Ms was in the day pack for months on end but for whatever reason it was revealed at a particular time. A time when the chocolate Santa's and valentine hearts and jelly bean eggs had all been consumed low and behold, who would have expected something from All Hallows Eve to be revealed on the Fourth of July! God's messengers announce the sweetness of his word even when people don't want to hear it. "Whether they hear of refuse to hear, they shall know that there has been a prophet among them." Amen.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 2:1-5

[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. ²And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. ⁴The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord God." ⁵Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

Psalm 123

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven-whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows-4 was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. 5On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. 6But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, 7even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. 8Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, 9but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly

of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

GOSPEL: Mark 6:1-13

[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. 2On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! 3Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. 4Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." 5And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. 6And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. 7He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. 8He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; 9but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. 10He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. 11If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. 13 They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.