

# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE: God's Promise for All Peoples

Led by Jim Boyce, Roseville Lutheran Church

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The Gospel of Luke tells the story of Jesus in a unique and captivating way. As Luke tells the story faith is not so much a possession as a journey of discovery and discipleship. Touched by God's grace, the lives of God's people, and our lives, intersect with others and the world in which we live in surprising ways. As we explore the special themes of Luke's narrative we will see the way each of our faith stories is continually shaped by our hearing of this story within a community of faith and within an expectant world.

## Session 2: "Salvation: The Keyword of Promise"—Jesus' Ministry in Galilee, Chapters 3-9:50 Follows the Gospel of Mark, with key Lukan Touches

### A. The Ministry of John – Preparing the Way (3:1-4:13)

**A Lukan Touch:** "All flesh shall see the salvation of God..." 3:6

Salvation in Luke: 7 times, Chap. 1 & 2; 9 times, Chap. 3-9

3.6	And all flesh shall see the <u>salvation</u> of God
6.9	Is it lawful to <u>save</u> life or destroy it on the sabbath?
7.3	Centurion asks Jesus: Come and <u>save</u> my slave.
7.50	To the woman with ointment: Your faith has <u>saved</u> you; go in peace
8.12	Explanation to Parable of Sower; Luke alone reads: "...that they may believe and be <u>saved</u> ."
8.36	Story of demoniac reports that though possessed by demons he was now " <u>saved</u> "
8.48	To woman with flow of blood: Your faith has <u>saved</u> you; go in peace
8.50	Regarding ruler's dead daughter: Only believe and she shall be <u>saved</u>
9.24	Whoever wishes to <u>save</u> life will lose it and whoever loses life for my sake will <u>save</u> it

**A Lukan Touch:** "What shall we do?" "Share, act justly..." 3:10-14

### B. The Ministry of Jesus – Preaching Good News of the Kingdom of God 4:14-6:49

**A Lukan Touch:** Day One: Preaching at Nazareth 4:14-30

**A Lukan Touch:** Calls Simon Peter: Fishers of People 5:1-11

Heals a Leper, Heals a Paralytic, Calls Tax Collector, Healing on Sabbath, Teaches the Crowds: Blessed are you poor

"I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance" 5:32

### C. Jesus, the Prophet of God 7:1-9:50

**A Lukan Touch:** Raises Son of Widow at Nain 7:11-17 "A great prophet...God has looked with favor"

**A Lukan Touch:** Woman Anoints Jesus in house of Pharisee Simon 7:36-50

"Your faith has saved you; go in peace"

Heals Centurion's slave, Parables of the Kingdom: A sower; Stills the storm; Foretells the Coming Passion and death

"Follow me, Those who lose their life for my sake will save it" Transfiguration on Mountain

### D. Jesus Foretells Coming Passion and Death: "The Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be killed" 9: 18-27 (Follows Mark's narrative)

#### The Gospel of Luke - Selections: Part 2

#### III. Preparation for Ministry-John the Baptist

3:10 And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?"

11 In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." 12 Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" 13 He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." 14 Soldiers also asked him, "And we,

what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." ...

21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

#### **IV. Ministry in Galilee**

**4:14** Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country.<sup>15</sup> He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

**16** When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,<sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

**18** "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,

**19** to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

**20** And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.<sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

**5:1** Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, **2** he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. **3** He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. **4** When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." **5** Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." **6** When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. **7** So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. **8** But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" **9** For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; **10** and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." **11** When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

**5:17** One day, while he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting near by (they had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem); and the power of the Lord was with him to heal.<sup>18</sup> Just then some men came, carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus;<sup>19</sup> but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus.<sup>20</sup> When he saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are

forgiven you."<sup>21</sup> Then the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, "Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"<sup>22</sup> When Jesus perceived their questionings, he answered them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts?<sup>23</sup> Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'?"<sup>24</sup> But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the one who was paralyzed—"I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home."<sup>25</sup> Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God.<sup>26</sup> Amazement seized all of them, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen strange things today."

**27** After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me."<sup>28</sup> And he got up, left everything, and followed him.

**29** Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house; and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and others sitting at the table with them.<sup>30</sup> The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"<sup>31</sup> Jesus answered, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick;<sup>32</sup> I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance."

**6:17** He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. **18** They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. **19** And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. **20** Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. **21** "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. **22** "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. **23** Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. **24** "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. **25** "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. **26** "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

**7:11** Soon afterwards he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him.<sup>12</sup> As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town.<sup>13</sup> When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, "Do not weep."<sup>14</sup> Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!"<sup>15</sup> The dead man sat

up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother.<sup>16</sup> Fear seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has looked favorably on his people!"<sup>17</sup> This word about him spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.

<sup>18</sup> The disciples of John reported all these things to him. So John summoned two of his disciples<sup>19</sup> and sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"<sup>20</sup> When the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?'"<sup>21</sup> Jesus had just then cured many people of diseases, plagues, and evil spirits, and had given sight to many who were blind.<sup>22</sup> And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them.<sup>23</sup> And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

**7:** <sup>36</sup> One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table.<sup>37</sup> And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment.<sup>38</sup> She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment.<sup>39</sup> Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner."<sup>40</sup> Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak."<sup>41</sup> "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.<sup>42</sup> When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?"<sup>43</sup> Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly."<sup>44</sup> Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with

her hair.<sup>45</sup> You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet.<sup>46</sup> You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment.<sup>47</sup> Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little."<sup>48</sup> Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."<sup>49</sup> But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"<sup>50</sup> And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

**8:** <sup>1</sup> Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, <sup>2</sup> as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, <sup>3</sup> and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

**9:** <sup>18</sup> Once when Jesus was praying alone, with only the disciples near him, he asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" <sup>19</sup> They answered, "John the Baptist; but others, Elijah; and still others, that one of the ancient prophets has arisen." <sup>20</sup> He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered, "The Messiah of God." <sup>21</sup> He sternly ordered and commanded them not to tell anyone, <sup>22</sup> saying, "The Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised." <sup>23</sup> Then he said to them all, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. <sup>24</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it. <sup>25</sup> What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves? <sup>26</sup> Those who are ashamed of me and of my words, of them the Son of Man will be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. <sup>27</sup> But truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God."