

## January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 Sermon Bible Study (Epiphany 3)

### Sermon: Luke 4:16-30

<sup>16</sup> He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. As was his custom, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and stood up to read. <sup>17</sup> The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: <sup>18</sup> The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, <sup>19</sup> and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor <sup>20</sup> He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. <sup>21</sup> He began to tell them, "Today, this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup> They all spoke well of him and were impressed by the words of grace that came from his mouth. And they kept saying, "Isn't this Joseph's son?" <sup>23</sup> He told them, "Certainly you will quote this proverb to me, 'Physician, heal yourself!' Do here in your hometown everything we heard you did in Capernaum." <sup>24</sup> And he said, "Amen I tell you: No prophet is accepted in his hometown. <sup>25</sup> But truly I tell you: There were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the sky was shut for three years and six months, while a great famine came over all the land. <sup>26</sup> Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow of Zarephath, in Sidon. <sup>27</sup> And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was healed except Naaman the Syrian." <sup>28</sup> All those who were in the synagogue were filled with rage when they heard these things. <sup>29</sup> They got up and drove him out of the town. They led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup> But he passed through the middle of them and went on his way.

**Theme: Rejection Is Not the Exception, but the Rule**

#### Link to Audio Sermon:

<http://www.christlutheranwestsalem.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Sermon-1.23.22.mp3>

#### Sermon Study Guide

*Contemplate these questions during the sermon and feel free to write your thoughts in the blank spaces.*

1. **The portion of Isaiah that Jesus read in the synagogue was our First Lesson from Isaiah 61:1-2. What was Jesus proclaiming when he said, "Today this reading is fulfilled in your hearing"? (Hint: This is considered the fifth servant song of Isaiah. See Isaiah 42:1-4, 49:1-6, 50:4-7 and 52:13-53:12 for the others)**
2. **What was the reaction of the people in Nazareth to their home town boy?**
3. **Jesus could read their hearts. He knew what they were thinking. Yet, his ministry was much bigger than impressing those back home. What was he going to do?**
4. **Angered by his words, Jesus' own people intended to kill him. They had rejected him when he didn't conform to their way of thinking. Does that still happen today? If so, how do people react to Jesus when he doesn't look the way they think he should?**