



June 12, 2020

## God's Story, Our Story: Job

Job is a strange yet powerful book of the Bible, but it doesn't get much consideration in the traditional lectionary. It is most often encountered in personal reading and study groups and often raises more questions than provides guidance. We will be spending the next 6 weeks with Job. While there is no way that we can cover everything, I would encourage you to read the entire book over the next 6 weeks and send in questions that we can explore, either in our sermons, or in the Coffee Talk.

Job is a book where a perfectly righteous man is subjected to a divine wager. To satisfy The Accuser ( *ha-satan* in Hebrew) that Job's faith is genuine and not "purchased" by God through material blessings, he is allowed to take it all away. If you have heard the saying, "the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh," that comes from Job. His wife invites him to "Curse God and die," in the midst of this. Then his friends arrive to sit with him for seven days and then accuse him of sin as evidenced by the apparent punishment. All the while Job laments his condition and maintains his innocence. Until God comes in a whirlwind and responds to Job, but not in the way Job wants.

If this book is sounding as convoluted and backwards as things seem in the world right now? If it feels like the way things seemed to work are not the way they appear to work? If there is a question of why good people suffer? If there is a fog over our lives that hides anything that would help us navigate our way through the world right now? Then this is the book to read.

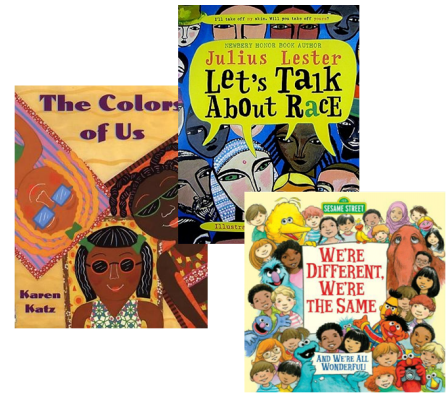
Ultimately, Job is the story of a world falling apart for no reason and looking for God in the midst of it. It is the story of how a simplistic view of God does not always fit with our lived experience. It is the story of what is on the other side of this seeming randomness. It is a story whose conclusion will not restore simplicity but help us live with complexity.

*Pr. Justin*

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## SALC Library Books on Racism Available

Saint Andrew's library has many books on racism for a variety of ages. The books listed below are currently available for check-out in a plastic bin outside the north (Chapel) entrance. A sample of book descriptions are listed below. To read all the book descriptions, please [click here](#) or on the book title.



### **WE'RE DIFFERENT, WE'RE THE SAME** (Kates) - C 305.8 KAT (ages 3-7)

Who better than Sesame Street to teach us that we may all look different on the outside - but it's important to remember that deep down, we are all very much alike. We all have the same needs, desires and feelings. Elmo and Sesame Street friends help teach toddlers and the adults in their lives that everyone is the same on the inside, and it's our differences that make this wonderful world, which is home to us all, an interesting - and special - place. This book offers an easy, enjoyable way to learn about differences - and what truly matters.

### **LET'S TALK ABOUT RACE** (Lester) - C 305.8 LES (ages 4-8)

This stunning picture book introduces race as just one of many chapters in a person's story. Mr. Lester shares his own story as he explores what makes each of us special. This picture book helps children learn, grow, discuss, and begin to see that our lives are the same story - the differences are merely in the details.

### **THE COLORS OF US** (Katz) - C FIC KAT (ages 4-8)

Seven-year-old Lena is going to paint a picture of herself. She wants to use brown paint for her skin. But when she and her mother take a walk through the neighborhood, Lena learns that brown comes in many different shades. Through the eyes of a little girl who begins to see her familiar world in a new way, this book celebrates the differences and similarities that connect all people.

GOD'S DREAM (Tutu) - C FIC TUT (preschool).

WHOEVER YOU ARE (Fox) - C 305.8 KAT (ages 4-7).

ALL THE COLORS OF THE EARTH (Hmanaha) - C FIC HAM (ages 4-8).

THE COLORS OF US (Katz) - C FIC KAT (ages 4-8)

THE JACKET (Clements) - Y FIC CLE (ages 8-88)

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## SALC Communication Coordinator Position Available

The role of the Communication Coordinator is to use written words and various multimedia formats to express ideas and tell a story. In collaboration with the pastors, staff, and lay leadership of the congregation, create content that can be viewed on screen, listened to, or read that will advance the mission of Saint Andrew Lutheran Church.

This is a part-time position - up to 20 hours per week. Please email [personnel@salc-wausau.org](mailto:personnel@salc-wausau.org) if interested in this position and a job description will be emailed to you. ***The deadline to submit applications/resumes is 6-19-2020.***

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## Family Faith Formation



The Faith Formation ministry would like to offer opportunities to connect with children and families this summer in a safe and fun way and your input can help us develop some unique summer program options. The Vacation Bible School team would appreciate hearing what activities you and your family would be interested in and would love to hear your ideas! If you would like to offer feedback to help us plan the program, please fill out [this survey](#).

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Contact Us

### Saint Andrew Lutheran Church

150202 County Road NN | Wausau, WI 54401

(715) 842-3333

[office@salc-wausau.org](mailto:office@salc-wausau.org)

[www.salc-wausau.org](http://www.salc-wausau.org)

