**SERMON: Get up and walk! *9/ 4/ 2022***

**John 5: 1-9**

This event happened when Jesus walked with the disciples in different places and towns—preaching the good news of the kingdom of God. They came near a pool called Bethsaida. It was the large pool where people of all tribes of Israel and towns around Jerusalem came to wait for the stirring of the water by an Angel of God from heaven. The people who suffered from different illnesses, lame, blind, paralyzed, and all kinds of issues, came and stayed around the pool. When an Angel stirs the water, the one who first jumps into the water will be healed of whatever disease they had.

Can you imagine those people had to deal with the problematic situation and the attention they needed to pay to wait for the Angel? First, they did not know precisely when an Angel would come. Whether night or morning. All kinds of people were around the pool waiting for the Angel; the blind, lame, paralyzed, deaf, and leprosy. Everyone was looking to be healed because it was occasionally when an Angel came. The people lived without distraction. We also need to pay attention and approach God without distractions. 1 Corinthians 7: 35.

A man had been lying down beside the pool for 38 years. We do not know his issue, but he couldn’t jump into the pool when the Angel stirred the water. He was looking for someone to help him because it was impossible to jump by himself. No one was able to help him. It is written in eth bible that God cannot forsake his beloved. As your mother and father cannot abandon you, Jesus knows you. Psalm 27: 10. God knows us even when we are still in the mother’s womb. He knows us. Jeremiah 1: 1—10. When we look for people to help us, sometimes they are also busy and looking for support. But there is one who knows us and has made a plan for us before we were born. Jeremiah 29: 11 “Jesus Christ”

As the man was wondering about people to help him, Jesus also was looking for him. Today you are looking for someone to support or answer your question. Jesus also is looking for you to support and help you. Ask him your question, and whatever you need, he will answer you. Jesus is the solution to your situation. No matter what position you are in, ask him. Mark 11: 24 and Matthew 21: 22. Sometimes, when any problem arises in your life or some of your family members, your faith falls, and you forget to ask God. It is suitable for us to follow Marie’s example. “When the wine had gone, Marie went to ask Jesus” John 2: 1-11. Jesus is always there to support us as mothers support their children. Isaiah 49: 15-16.

***Jesus came near the man and asked him do you want to be made well?*** The question Jesus is asking us today. I want to be made well to one of your family members, even for our church members and activities. Get up and walk. It is time for us to take action through faith. Get up and walk. After praying and fasting for seven days, it is time for us to move forward. From today do not see things negatively; instead, do positively.

As we approach God’s table. I want you to know that through this sacrament, we are taking to renew our relationship with God and Christian life. My prayer to God is for you to stand firm in faith and become strong. Today I present Jesus Christ as the best person who can help you and lead your journey. May God bless you.

Rev. Sedar