GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH, **June 27, 2021**; Pentecost V Lectionary / Selected: Psalm 30; Job 40; II Corinthians 8:1-15; Mark 5:21-43

Sermon Hymn: All Creatures of Our God and King (stz. 1-4, 7)
Anthem:

(LBW 527)

God Teaches about Dinosaurs

'Some tourists in the [Science Museum] are marveling at the dinosaur bones. One of them asks a guard, "Can you tell me how old the dinosaur bones are?" The guard replies, "They are three million, four years, and six months old". "That's an awfully exact number", says the tourist. "How do you know their age so precisely?" The guard answers, "Well, the dinosaur bones were three million years old when I started working here, and that was four and a half years ago".'

If that four and a half years sounds ridiculous, the "scientifically" estimated age of three million years is even more ridiculous! For a plethora of reasons! We've all been taught that the earth is at least hundreds of millions of years old, but more probably a billion or more years old. Because, according to the theory of evolution, it took that amount of time for the first living one-celled entity to "accidentally" come to life in some primordial soup when it was struck by some fortuitous lightning bolt at just the right moment, and, voila!, all life on earth began! For those of you who are Star Trek fans, and saw the episode on The Next Generation when Captain Picard, if I remember correctly, was transported by the demigod character Q back to the origins of life on earth, you can probably still see that image in your mind, as the lightning struck,

or something, and the ooze began to move, and finally coalesce around some primitive animal that crawled up onto the ground, and, voila!, our first ancestor from which we are all descended!

Poppycock! What a great word! Why, we're absolutely surrounded by poppycock these days! So much of it spouting from distant Washington, D.C., and nearby from City Hall downtown, the St. Louis County Council in Clayton, the local city halls, and local districts' school boards. Anyway, before turning to the Encyclopedia of All Truth, let's look at some discoveries in our own day that absolutely destroy the theory of evolution, especially in regards to the alleged vast age of both the earth in general, and the great antiquity of dinosaurs in specific. Perhaps some of you remember hearing about the discovery of identifiable red blood cells in the marrow of a "68-million-year-old" dinosaur bone. First discovered in 2000 in the Hell Creek Formation in far northeastern Montana, this tyrannosaurus rex femur was deliberately broken in half because the 3,000 pound cache of bones was too heavy for the helicopter to lift. Fragments of the broken femur were sent to Mary Schweitzer, paleontologist at North Carolina State University. In microscopic examinations, she and her research assistants were shocked to discover intact tissue fragments, still pliable! It is just mpossible that recognizable and still "moist" tissue could have survived 70 million years! Yet there it was.

It should be obvious that God is revealing these finds just to confound the atheist scientific establishment that all their theories are poppycock! So, in the twenty years since then, the evolutionary scientific "cabal" has been desperately trying to formulate a "rescuing device" which would explain this "incongruity" so they can maintain their evolutionary theory of vast eons of time to explain all of creation, without any need for any kind of intervention from any deity of supreme intelligence or being. For as they all know beyond any shadow of a doubt, there is no such thing as God. He doesn't exist, and never existed, and is just a fairy tale that comforts the souls of humanity who lack proper education and intelligence. Theories to explain how such soft tissue could have survived all these millions of years have now been presented, but the Encyclopedia of All Truth has another, much more plausible and true explanation.

The first book in the Encyclopedia of All Truth, Genesis, contains in its opening chapters a series of chronologies. From these it can be calculated the approximate age of the earth. According to the Encyclopedia of All Truth, known commonly as the Holy Bible, the earth is roughly 7,000-10,000 years old. However, this speaks only of our earth and the universe which we can observe from our earth, immeasurably far-reaching though it seems to be. The array of various heavenly beings mentioned in the Bible predate our earth and creation in which we live. So if the Bible is true, which it is absolutely in every point, word, dot and tittle, then those tyrannosaurus rex dinosaur bones could not possibly be 70 million years old, but rather only a few thousand. And if that's the

case, then mankind was alive at the same time as the dinosaurs were. And if that's the case, then one could expect the Encyclopedia of All Truth to at least mention them. Well, it does. Right here in Job 40. In the original Hebrew, they're called Behemoths. We're unsure if this word was used in a general sense to refer to all massive creatures we now call dinosaurs, or whether it was referring to one specific kind of dinosaur. The way God here chooses to describe it to Job seems to me to refer to one specific kind. And it is crystal clear here that this description can not possibly be referring to any animal currently living on this earth.

Yet because humanity has been so brainwashed by evolutionary thinking for the past couple hundred years that our kneejerk reaction is to dismiss the very idea that man could have lived at the same time as the dinosaurs, or vice versa. And so Bible translators, interpreters and commentators have tried to find other definitions for exactly what Behemoth is. For a creature to have a tail swinging round about like a cedar tree trunk distinguishes it from any creature alive on earth today. Father God is almost certainly here picking out the largest of all animals that has ever lived on the face of the earth. On purpose. Just the massive size of this animal would make any human feel just a bit insignificant. And this is exactly the point God is making to Job and his friends here. As we've noted previously, they presumed they could understand what God was thinking and why He was acting to cause Job to suffer so. As we've seen, they were wrong on all counts,

though in the process they did express some truths about God here and there sprinkled among their otherwise mostly claptrap.

It seems likely that even at this point in time, when Job and his friends were living, dinosaurs were no longer plentiful and on their way to extinction. Their numbers would not have increased greatly after they exited Noah's ark. Their tenuous situation is most easily and reasonably explained by the massive climate change that occurred after the globe-covering waters of the flood of Noah's day receded. As the planet cooled and eventually entered into an ice age, scores of species would go extinct, leaving only their traces in the memories of men and the fossils they have left behind, for us to unearth in our own day. All proving that God is. And that His Word is true and is all that is true.

Though Behemoth is now extinct, God took great pleasure in creating it. But as God said in Job 40:15, "Take a look at Behemoth, which I made, just as I made you", God saved the best for last. His prized creation was mankind. The dinosaurs, mostly called by a generalized term "dragons" prior to the coining of the new word "dinosaur" in 1841 just prior to the Civil War, were created before we were, by just several hours. As great as Behemoth was, we humans are greater still, having been made in God's Own image. As great as Behemoth's strength and stature were, they were as nothing compared to great glory God has bestowed on us as the only creatures both bearing His image and having received His breath to enliven us, making us both physical

and spiritual creatures. We are physical, yet we are also heavenly, destined to inhabit both realms as "native species". As if we were amphibious, able to live in both water and on land, once our bodies at the rapture are reconstituted and reformed into the same incorruptible, imperishable, immortal bodies that Christ Jesus clothed Himself with at His resurrection from the dead, we will live eternally both in Heaven, and on Earth and above the Earth in the New Jerusalem. The glories and bliss of that future time that awaits all of us is beyond our imagining.

For if there's any single thing we can learn from God's speeches here in Job, it's that a God Who can create all that is invisible and that is visible, that is wondrously living and moving, by His very nature, must be good, absolutely good, and unassailably perfect in all ways. For though He allows misfortune to come our way, there is a purpose to every thing. We'll see later that Job suffered great loss, only to blessed twice as much as he had been at first. The woman with the hemorrhage suffered for twelve long years, only to be instantly healed with a rush of Christ's divine power, bringing great glory to His name, and teaching all around them what the "power" of faith in Lord Jesus can and will always accomplish. For even though Jairus' daughter had passed, death is of no consequence to God, for it is He and He alone Who made all life, determining its length and circumstances. For that, we can only be filled with awe, gratitude, with hearts overflowing praising Him. Just put things in His hands, and really trust Him!

