

Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

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15th Sunday after Pentecost; Lectionary 23

September 5, 2021

Live streaming on Facebook and YouTube (Trinity Lutheran Sparta)

**Our worship service will also be recorded
and will be available on our website www.tlcsparta.org**



Order of Worship

Prelude
Welcome

Hymn: *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.

The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life and health and peace.

He speaks, and list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

Look unto him, your Savior own, O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone, be justified by grace!

To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. **Amen.**

Reading: Isaiah 35

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and
rushes.

⁸A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall
not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall
go astray.

⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not
be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Gospel: Mark 7.24-37

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did
not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵but a
woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him,
and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of
Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her
daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take
the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even
the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For
saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home,
found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards
the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf
man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand
on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers
into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven,

he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

Sermon

Prayers

Made children and heirs of God’s promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy One, you bring your people together in worship. Enliven your church. Guide all evangelists, preachers, prophets, and missionaries who seek to share your love through word and deed. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You provide water for thirsty ground and sunshine to feed hungry plants. Bless all who advocate for healthy forests, unpolluted air, and clean waterways. Inspire all people to show care for the world you have made.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You show no partiality. Increase justice in all nations. Encourage leaders and governments to work with one another for the good of our common world. Especially as we celebrate Labor Day, unite us in seeking the health, safety, and dignity of all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You accompany those who are most in need. Shelter all fleeing violence or persecution, protect any who are in danger, and sustain them through uncertain and unstable times. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You support the work of your disciples. Continue to nurture the leadership and ministries of this congregation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You embrace all who have died in the faith and brought them into your glorious presence. We thank you for their example and rejoice in their lives.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Thanksgiving for the Word

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn: God, Whose Almighty Word

God, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

Christ, who once came to bring, on your redeeming wing, healing and sight;
health to the troubled mind, sight where illusions blind;
oh, now to humankind let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy dove, speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

Holy and blessed three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might:
boundless as ocean's tide, rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide, let there be light.

Sending

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God!

For August 22nd:

General fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$7547.50

Designated fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$287.00