

Trinity Lutheran Church, LCMS

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Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Christ Changes Bad
Circumstances

September 8, 2024

**Creative Worship
Modified**



Pre-Service Announcements Servant Processional

AS WE GATHER

The three Scripture readings for today tell us that God can and will change people's circumstances. The Old Testament Reading lists those who are blind, deaf, lame, and mute. Instead of advising them simply to pray, Isaiah promises that God will take action, like water in the desert. Among the ways God will help is through His people - namely, you and me!

According to the advice given to us by James the Apostle, we, who have been given the gift of faith, are called to be fair in court, to try to keep the

entire Law of God, and to see that the people around us are clothed and fed. Jesus casts out demons and heals a deaf man in the Gospel. Jesus is doing exactly that when we become His caring instruments. Today we let the Word come into us so that we might be part of God's healing answer to prayer. That is how we know that our faith is not ... "dead".

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN "Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing" *LSB* 584

- 1 Faith and truth and life bestowing,
Open now the Scriptures, Lord,
Seed to life eternal sowing,
Scattered on the wind abroad.
Let not hearts, Your Word receiving,
Like a barren field be found,
Choked with thorns and unbelieving,
Shallow earth or stony ground.

- 2 May the Spirit's pow'r unceasing
Bring to life the hidden grain,
Daily in our hearts increasing,
Bearing fruit that shall remain.
So in Scripture, song, and story,
Savior, may Your voice be heard.
Till our eyes behold Your glory
Give us ears to hear Your Word.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926–2024

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INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the
 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 146:7b–8; James 2:17–18

P The LORD sets the prisoners free;

C the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

P The LORD lifts up those who are bowed
 down;

C the LORD loves the righteous.

P So also Faith by itself,

C if it does not have works, is dead.

P But someone will say, “You have faith
 and I have works.”

C Show me your Faith apart from your
 works, and I will show you my Faith by
 my works.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us then confess our sins to God our
 Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that
 we are by nature sinful and unclean.
 We have sinned against You in
 thought, word, and deed, by what we
 have done and by what we have left
 undone. We have not loved You with
 our whole heart; we have not loved
 our neighbors as ourselves. We justly
 deserve Your present and eternal
 punishment. For the sake of Your Son,
 Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
 Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so
 that we may delight in Your will and
 walk in Your ways to the glory of Your
 holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

☩ WORD ☩

INTROIT *Psalm 28:1–2, 6–7; antiphon:*
v. 8

P The LORD is the strength of His people;
He is the saving refuge of His
anointed.

C **To You, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not
deaf to me,
lest, if You be silent to me, I become
like those who go down | to the pit.**

P Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy,
when I cry to | You for help, when I lift
up my
hands toward Your most holy
sanctuary.

C **Blessèd | be the LORD! For He has
heard the voice of my pleas for |
mercy.**

P The LORD is my strength and my shield;
in Him my heart trusts, and | I am
helped; my heart exults, and with my
song I give thanks to Him.

C **Glory be to the Father and | to the
Son*
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the be- ginning,
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

P The LORD is the strength of His people;
He is the saving refuge of His
anointed.

KYRIE

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy and help us reflect
our Faith in all we do.**

P For the peace from above and for
our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy and help us show
our confidence in all Your promises.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for
the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to
the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy and help us be
active parts of Your church.**

P For this holy house and for all who
offer here their worship and praise, let
us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy and strengthen the
Faith of all who hear Your Word with
us.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us,
gracious Lord.

C **Amen**

HYMN OF PRAISE “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness” *LSB* 849

1 Praise the One who breaks the
darkness

With a liberating light;

Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
Turning blindness into sight.

Praise the One who preached the

Gospel,

Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding
thousands

With the very Bread of peace.

2 Praise the One who blessed the
children

With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out
demons

With the piercing, two-edged
sword.

Praise the One who brings cool water
To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water,
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place.

Jesus died and rose victorious

That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,

Seeing what our God has done;

Let us praise the true Redeemer,

Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

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SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Grant us strength that
comes from vibrant Faith, O Lord.

C **By Your power and guidance, move
us to show forth our Faith with words
and deeds of loving service;**

P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

RESPONSIVE OLD TESTAMENT READING

God will come; His people be saved.

Isaiah 35:4–7a

L Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God.

C He will come and save you.”

L Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

C and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

L then shall the lame man leap like a deer,

C and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

L For waters break forth in the wilderness,

C and streams in the desert;

L the burning sand shall become a pool,

C and the thirsty ground springs of water.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Love your neighbor as yourself. Faith without works is dead.

James 2:1–10, 14–18

The Sin of Partiality

¹My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ²For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You ~~sit~~ ^{sit} here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” ⁴have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. . . .

Faith Without Works Is Dead

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them

the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Psalm 147:2–3*

P Alleluia. The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts of Israel.

G **He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL Jesus exorcises a demon and heals a blind man. *Mark 7:24–37*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Syrophenician Woman’s Faith

²⁴From there [Jesus] arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. ²⁵But immediately a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷And he said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁸But

she answered him, “Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” ²⁹And he said to her, “For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter.” ³⁰And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

Jesus Heals a Deaf Man

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Praise the Almighty”

LSB 797

1 Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him!

Yes, I will laud Him until death;
With songs and anthems I come
before Him

As long as He allows me breath,
 From Him my life and all things came;
 Bless, O my soul, His holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

2 Trust not in rulers; they are but mortal;
 Earthborn they are and soon
 decay.
 Vain are their counsels at life's last
 portal,
 When the dark grave engulfs its
 prey.
 Since mortals can no help afford,
 Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

3 Blessèd, oh, blessèd are they forever
 Whose help is from the Lord Most
 High,
 Whom from salvation can nothing
 sever,
 And who in hope to Christ draw
 nigh.
 To all who trust in Him, our Lord
 Will aid and counsel now afford.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

4 Penitent sinners, for mercy crying,
 Pardon and peace from Him
 obtain;
 Ever the wants of the poor supplying,
 Their faithful God He will remain.
 He helps His children in distress,
 The widows and the fatherless.
 Alleluia, alleluia!

△ 5 Praise, all you people, the name so
 holy
 Of Him who does such wondrous
 things!
 All that has being, to praise Him solely,
 With happy heart its amen sings.
 Children of God, with angel host

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Johann Daniel Herrnschmidt, 1675–1723; tr. Alfred E. R. Brauer, 1866–1949, alt.
Text: Public domain

SERMON “Demons and Ear-Drums”
Mark 7:24-37

CREED *Apostles’ Creed*

**☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the
dead.**

**He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.**

**INSTALLATION OF
CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

☐ We pray for Your guidance and
encouragement to use our gifts and

even ourselves in service to the needs of those around us and people in other parts of the world. Use us to meet the physical and spiritual needs of these people, for whom You offered Yourself as sacrifice for sin.

C Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P We pray for Your healing, comfort, freedom, and sustenance to each person in need of compassionate care and basic necessities. We especially include those near and dear to us, [*including . . .*].

C Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P We pray for Your protection and opportunity for ourselves here and for the church around the world as we bring the Gospel to bear on many circumstances. We ask You to be with all who work with us, protecting them and our nation, offering goods and services from our bounty, and attracting many to hear about, believe in, and grow closer to our Savior, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

C Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

P Lord God, we bring these petitions to You in the strong name of our victorious Lord and

Savior, Jesus the Christ, who has taught us to pray together ...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;**

give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

GATHERING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY HYMN “Almighty God,
Your Word Is Cast”
LSB 577, Stanzas 1 and 3

- 1 Almighty God, Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.

- 3 Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.

Text: Public domain

BENEDICTION

P The mercy, strength, and peace of
God Almighty—the Father, the ✠ Son,
and the Holy Spirit—go with you, now
and forever.

C Amen.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

HYMN: “Son of God, Eternal Savior” *LSB* 842

- 1 Son of God, eternal Savior,
 Source of life and truth and grace,
 Word made flesh, whose birth among
 us
 Hallows all our human race,
 You our Head, who, throned in glory,
 For Your own will ever plead:
 Fill us with Your love and pity,
 Heal our wrongs, and help our
 need.

- 2 As You, Lord, have lived for others,
 So may we for others live.
 Freely have Your gifts been granted;
 Freely may Your servants give.
 Yours the gold and Yours the silver,
 Yours the wealth of land and sea;
 We but stewards of Your bounty
 Held in solemn trust will be.

- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us,
 King of love and Prince of Peace;
 Hush the storm of strife and passion,
 Bid its cruel discords cease.
 By Your patient years of toiling,
 By Your silent hours of pain,
 Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,
 Stem our selfish greed of gain.

- 4 Son of God, eternal Savior,
 Source of life and truth and grace,
 Word made flesh, whose birth among
 us
 Hallows all our human race:
 By Your praying, by Your willing
 That Your people should be one,
 Grant, O grant our hope's fruition:
 Here on earth Your will be done.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B,
Quarter 4.

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**Help is needed for Pre-school/Kindergarten
 And 7-12. Please Prayerfully consider helping. The
 Lesson plans are easy to read and use.**