

Do not be anxious about your life.



Consider the birds of the air...

Are you not of more value than they?



NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
“A BETTER COUNTRY”

REV. TIMOTHY D. SMITH

7:30AM & 9AM SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2022 IN THE SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
WAUSAU, WISCONSIN

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FOCUS Today’s Epistle is from Hebrews 11, the “by faith” chapter. It lists heroes of faith, people who trusted in God’s promises, assured of what they hoped for (the definition of faith). The Reading from Genesis singles out Abram believing God, for which God counted it to him as righteousness. Now we can look back, knowing that in one descendant of Abraham, Jesus, all God’s promises were kept. His calming words in the Gospel give us the assurance we need to rely on God’s care and concern when we don’t have all we think we need. “Seek [God’s] kingdom, and these things will be added to you,” He promises (Luke 12:31). Our faith-filled response echoes today’s Psalm: “Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You” (Psalm 33:22).

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN “From All that Dwell Below the Skies”

LSB 816

1. From all that dwell below the skies Let the Creator’s praise arise;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung Through ev’ry land by ev’ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
2. Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord; Eternal truth attends Thy Word.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- △ 3. All praise to God the Father be, All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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INVOCATION

L In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Luke 12:32

- L** Let us go to our gracious God, confessing our sins, trusting Him for grace and forgiveness.
- C** **We confess, heavenly Father, that 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. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, strengthen our faith, and focus our hearts on Your kingdom, the inheritance He won for us in His death and resurrection. Amen.**
- L** "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." 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.

SONG of RESPONSE

7:30am— "Have No Fear Little Flock" *LSB 735*
9am— "Sovereign" *Tomlin/Ingram/Myrin/Chalk/Redman*

SALUTATION and PRAYER of the DAY

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- L** Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, it is by Your grace that we live as Your people who offer acceptable service.
- C** **Grant that we may walk by faith, and not by sight, in the way that leads to eternal life;**
- L** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Service of the Word

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 15:1-6

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."² But Abram said,

“O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”³ And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.”⁴ And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.”⁵ And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”⁶ And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 33

“Let Your Mercy Be on Us”

Haugen

Soloist: Let your mercy be on us, O God, as we place our trust in you.

Refrain (ALL):



Let your mer-cy be on us, O God, as we place our trust in you.

Soloist:

1. *Your words, O God, are truth indeed, and all your works are ever faithful; you love justice and right, your compassion fills all creation. REFRAIN*
2. *See how the eye of God is watching, ever guarding all who wait in hope To deliver them from death and sustain them in time of famine. REFRAIN*
3. *Exult, you just, and rejoice! For praise is the song of the righteous! How happy your people, O God, the ones whom you have chosen. REFRAIN*
4. *Our soul is waiting for God, for God is our help and our shield; May your kindness and love be on us, who place our hope in you. REFRAIN*

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EPISTLE

Hebrews 11:1-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

² For by it the people of old received their commendation.³ By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commanding him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks.

⁵ By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. ⁷ By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. ⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.

¹¹ By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore. ¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. ¹⁴ For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 12:22-34

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

And [Jesus] said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on.” ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? ²⁷ Consider the lilies,

how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith!²⁹ And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried.³⁰ For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them.³¹ Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.³² “Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.³³ Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.³⁴ For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

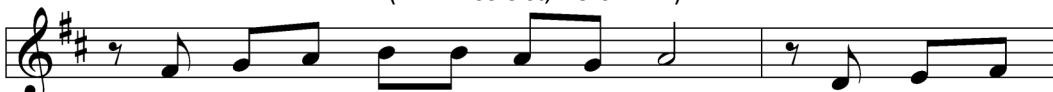
C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN of the DAY

“Consider How the Birds Above”

LSB 736

(v.1-2—soloist; v.3-6—ALL)



Soloist: 1 Con - sid - er how the birds a - bove Feed day by
Soloist: 2 The lil - ies grow, they do not toil; How fair is
ALL: 3 Set not your heart on food or drink, Nor be weighed
ALL: 4 Be on your guard a - gainst all greed, For life is



day with care - free ease— Does God not keep them
 their fra - cil - i - ty— If God clothes these, which
 down by world - ly care; A - bout such things the
 more than what we own. Our Fa - ther knows our



in His love? Are we not worth much more than these?
 quick - ly spoil, Will He not clothe both you and me?
 god - less think, Yet nev - er thank the Lord in prayer.
 ev - 'ry need Be - fore our needs to us are known.

ALL: 5. Be not afraid to suffer loss Of all the things for which you pray,
 For He who faced for you the cross Will give you strength to live each day.

ALL: 6. Seek first God's reign, His boundless grace, His holy name in all you do:
Christ first and last in ev'ry place; All else will then be given you.

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SERMON

"A Better Country"

Rev. Timothy D. Smith

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us, under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER of the CHURCH *Genesis 15:1; Psalm 33:22; Hebrews 11:1; Luke 12:22, 32*

L Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various circumstances. God said, "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield." Let us pray for everyone who faces this day in fear. We join our prayers with everyone imprisoned unjustly, terrorized in lawless areas on earth, or trapped in painful illnesses. Gracious God, strengthen the faith they have or open their hearts to receive the Gospel; give them courage to act where it is wise and to know Your peace and protection amid unchanging circumstances. Lord, hear our prayer.

C Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You.

L Jesus said, “Do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on.” Let us pray for all people who do not have adequate food, clothing, or shelter. Guide governments, expand relief agencies, and inspire caring individuals of our communities, nation, and world so they may be Your instruments, O God, to provide what their citizens and neighbors need for life. Through their actions, provide relief and calm the anxiety of the poor, dispossessed, and lonely; grant that they give You the glory. [We pray especially for . . .]. Meet their needs as fits Your gracious plans for them. Lord, hear our prayer.

C **Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You.**

L Jesus asserted, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” Let us pray for the Church here and around the world. Grant us growth in faith, Lord Jesus, as we gather to hear Your Word, celebrate the Sacraments, and love the people around us. Wherever the Church is found on earth, raise up leaders to proclaim the Gospel and faithful people to exhibit their faith in Your promises and the inheritance You have promised. We pray for Pastor Bass as he considers our call to serve among us here at Trinity. Fill him with peace and grant him wisdom and discernment. Bless the members of Hosanna Lutheran Church and us, as we all continue to seek Your will. Lord, hear our prayer.

C **Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You.**

L These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

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 TITHES and OFFERINGS

MISSION STATEMENT: *To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.*

VISION STATEMENT: *To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

MUSICAL OFFERING

Service of the Sacrament

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- L** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- L** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

- L** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS HYMN

(to the tune of "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing")



Ho- ly, ho - ly God Al - might - y, ho - ly, ho - ly God our Lord.



In the high - est saints and an - gels sing,"Ho - san - na to the Lord."



Blessed is_ He who comes a - mong us; our sal - va - tion has be - gun.



Sing,"Ho - san - na," earth and heav - en, to the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.

WORDS of INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

L The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI HYMN “Unto the Lamb Sing Praise”

(to the tune of "The God of Abraham Praise")

Un - to the Lamb sing praise, Whom God Him - self sup - plied,
 God's Lamb, for us You came to earth, For us You died.

O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take a - way all sin,-

Grant mer - cy un - to us, we_ pray, Bring peace with - in.

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COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Gluten Free Wafers are available upon request.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

7:30am -

“How Great Thou Art” “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

LSB 801
LSB 809

9am -

“How Great Thou Art”
“Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)”
Tomlin/Excell/Newton/Rees/Giallo

ISBN 801

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

L Let us pray. You have fed us, Lord, and we are grateful. Allow us to respond this day, and in the days to come, with hearts made ready, eyes made open, hands made strong, and feet made willing to do Your will in this place, and in all the places to which You call us. In Your holy and precious name we pray,

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

L The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and \ddagger give you peace.

C Amen.

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
C Thanks be to God!

CLOSING SONG

7:30am— “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer” *LSB 918*
9am— “Your Grace is Enough” *Maher*

POSTLUDE

PRESIDING MINISTER: *Rev. Timothy D. Smith, Associate Pastor*

KEYBOARDIST: *Mr. Matthew Hoehne, Director of Music*

PRAISE TEAM: *Brett Schwantes, lead*

ELDERS: *7:30am—Bob Zimmerman; 9am—Michael Hase, Craig Singkofer*

WELCOME TO TRINITY!

Your presence is very special to us. May your faith be strengthened and your life enriched as you join us in worship to God!

TRADITIONAL/BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER—

7:30am & 9am Sunday

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE IN THE SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER—

5pm Saturday

- **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**—Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of the month in the SLC. We invite those who have been instructed in the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Others are asked to speak with a pastor before receiving the Sacrament. *Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*
- **LARGE PRINT**—large print copies of the bulletin are available on the table in the SLC or you may ask the usher for one.
- **CHILDREN'S BULLETINS**—for ages 3-6 & 7-12 years, are available on the table in the SLC.
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**—Sunday School is available for children 4 years old through 6th Grade at 10:15am on Sunday mornings during the school year. Christian Education courses for adults and young adults are held at 10:15am on Sunday mornings & various times throughout the week during the school year. Trinity is committed to Christian Education through the 4K-8th grade School, our Childcare (infant through 13 years), and through our association with Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School.
- **RESTROOMS**—Are located on the right, just as you enter the building from the courtyard. Handicapped restrooms are located straight in from the courtyard, just outside the Trinity Childcare classroom.
- **JOINING TRINITY**—We invite you to become part of this Christian community! If interested in membership, please speak with an elder or pastor, and we will contact you.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.

VISION STATEMENT:

To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.