



With God all things are possible

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
“THE SERVANT’S VINDICATION”

REV. TIMOTHY D. SMITH

8AM & 9:30AM SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
WAUSAU, WISCONSIN

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“THE SERVANT’S VINDICATION”

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FOCUS In today’s Readings, Jesus encounters another person possessed by an unclean spirit. The young man’s father is distraught and desperate. The father utters these words: “I believe; help my unbelief!” Jesus does help the man’s unbelief by healing his son. Jesus helps our unbelief as well in all that He does. In His miracles and teaching, suffering and death, resurrection and ascension, Jesus calls us to faith. And He calls us to be His witnesses.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING of the BELLS

WELCOME

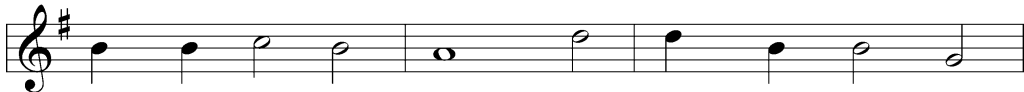
OPENING HYMN

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

LSB 528



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter God, As -
3 Je - sus! The name that charms our fears, That
4 He breaks the pow’r of can - celed sin; He
5 Look un - to Him, ye na - tions; own Your



great Re - deem - er’s praise, The glo - ries of my
sist me to pro - claim, To spread through all the
bids our sor - rows cease; ’Tis mu - sic in the
sets the pris - ’ner free. His blood can make the
God, ye fall - en race. Look and be saved through



God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!
earth a - broad, The hon - ors of Thy name.
sin - ner’s ears, ’Tis life and health and peace.
foul - est clean; His blood a - vails for me.
faith a - lone, Be jus - ti - fied by grace.

6. See all your sins on Jesus laid; The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once an off'ring made For ev'ry soul of man.
7. 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.

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INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES

(from Psalm 116 and Mark 9)

- L** I called on the name of the LORD:
C **O LORD, I believe. Help my unbelief!**
L Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.
C **The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.**
L What shall I render o the LORD for all his benefits to me?
C **I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.**

Confession and Declaration of Grace

- L** Despite all of God's actions on our behalf, we still struggle with sin in our lives. Our tongues still curse. Our feet still stumble. Our ears still listen to lies and vicious gossip. But our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him for restoration, renewal, and forgiveness. Heavenly Father,
C **we have sinned against You and our neighbors in what we have said and what we have left unsaid. We have neglected opportunities to love our neighbors. We have stumbled and fallen again and again. We ask that You restore us, renew us, and forgive us on account of Jesus. Amen.**
L In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
C **Amen.**

HYMN of PRAISE

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

LSB 803



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash-ing sea,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

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SALUTATION and PRAYER of the DAY

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- L** Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your Church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Service of the Word

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 50:4-10

The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. ⁵ The Lord God has opened

my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶ I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. ⁷ But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. ⁸ He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. ⁹ Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. ¹⁰ Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ² For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³ If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴ Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵ So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:14-29

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵ And immediately all the crowd, when they saw [Jesus], were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. ¹⁶ And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" ¹⁷ And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸ And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." ¹⁹ And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." ²⁰ And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. ²² And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." ²³ And Jesus said to him, "'If you can't! All things are possible for one who believes.'" ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" ²⁵ And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." ²⁶ And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸ And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" ²⁹ And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE for the CHILDREN

HYMN of the DAY "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"



1. Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at-ing light.
2. Praise the One who blessed the chil-dren with a strong yet gen-tle word.
3. Let us praise the Word In - car-nate: Christ, who suf-fered in our place.



Praise the One who frees the pris-oners, turn-ing blind-ness in - to sight.
Praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing two-edged word.
Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal-ing ev - ery dread dis-ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des-ert's burn-ing sand.
Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done.



Calm-ing storms and feed-ing thou-sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
From this well comes liv-ing wa - ter quench-ing thirst in ev - ery land.
Let us praise the true Re-deem - er, praise the One who makes us one.

SERMON

“The Servant’s Vindication”

Rev. Timothy D. Smith

APOSTLES’ CREED

C 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.

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

“III. Litany”

Callahan

PRAYER of the CHURCH

L Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord of learning, we pray for Mrs. Graff, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. Ginny, Mrs. Jodi, and the students in 4K. Fill them with strength as they teach and minister to the needs of the students. Bless the students as they learn about You and grow in them a strong faith in You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Lord of compassion, we pray for all those who mourn the death of loved ones. Comfort them in the face of grief, [*especially* . . .]. Grant that all those who mourn find hope in the resurrection to eternal life with Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Lord of the nations, we pray for peace in our time. Especially as we remember the events of September 11th, 2001. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil course of action. Grant that we, who came from many nations with many different languages, may become a united people. Support us in defending our liberties, bless first responders in their work, and give those to whom we have entrusted the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there may be justice and peace in our land. When times are prosperous, may our hearts be thankful, and in troubled times do not let our trust in You fail. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Lord of healing, hear us as we pray for all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. (*Today we especially remember...*) Grant healing, relief, and peace according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy

C **hear our prayer.**

L Lord of the Church, strengthen and protect Your Church around the world and bless all who bring the good news of salvation to the people they meet. Today we pray for our congregation as we begin the process to call a senior pastor. Fill us with wisdom and discernment as a call committee is formed and candidates are evaluated. By Your Holy Spirit, move among us all so that we may serve as Jesus served and be powerful witnesses to Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Lord, we offer all these prayers, knowing that You hear us and bless us with what we need.


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.

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  give you peace.

C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN

"Rise, Shine, You People"

LSB 825



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how He sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent His Son to save us.



Our hu - man sto - ry; God in Him is cen - tered.
He brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.
Your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark-ness hurl - ing.
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -
All men and wom - en, who by guilt are
To all the world go out and tell the
Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



round - ed, With grace un - bound - ed.
driv - en, Now are for - giv - en.
sto - ry Of Je - sus' glo - ry.
na - tion His new cre - a - tion.

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POSTLUDE

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

LITURGIST: *Mr. Rick Stengl, DCE*

SCRIPTURE READERS: *8am—Troy Pagel; 9:30am—Skyler Lynn*

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

ELDERS: *8am—Troy Pagel; 9:30am—Skyler Lynn*

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 WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

8am & 9:30am Sunday

BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

5pm Saturday & 11am Sunday

- **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**—Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of the month in the Upper Sanctuary. 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 Narthex 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 Narthex.
- **NURSERY**—for children ages 3 & under. The upper level nursery is located near the Church Lounge on Sundays. *Please Note: The upper level nursery will be unstaffed unless volunteers are available.*
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**—Sunday School is available for children 4 years old through 6th Grade at 9:30am on Sunday mornings during the school year. Christian Education courses for adults and young adults are held at 9:30am 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.
- **ELEVATOR**—is located next to the nursery on the upper level. On the lower level the elevator is located across from Classroom #101, which is past the offices. Use as needed.
- **RESTROOMS**—Narthex level across from the Library, lower level next to the elevator.
- **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.