

THE TWELFTH WEEK AFTER TRINITY

Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 29:17–24*

Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel. For the ruthless shall come to nothing and the scoffer cease, and all who watch to do evil shall be cut off, who by a word make a man out to be an offender, and lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate, and with an empty plea turn aside him who is in the right. Therefore thus says the LORD, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob: "Jacob shall no more be ashamed, no more shall his face grow pale. For when he sees his children, the work of my hands, in his midst, they will sanctify my name; they will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob and will stand in awe of the God of Israel. And those who go astray in spirit will come to understanding, and those who murmur will accept instruction."

Epistle: *Romans 10:9–17*

because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear

without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?" So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Holy Gospel: *Mark 7:31–37*

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

✠ ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ✠

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✠ Faith Comes from Hearing ✠

A man who was deaf and therefore also had an impediment in his speech was brought to Jesus (Mark 7:31–37). In the same way, all are by nature deaf toward God and therefore also unable to confess the faith rightly. For "faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ" (Rom. 10:9–17). Jesus put His fingers into the man's ears, and He spat and touched His tongue. Even so in Holy Baptism, water sanctified by the words of Jesus' mouth is applied to us; and the finger of God, that is, the life-giving Holy Spirit (2 Cor. 3:4–11) is put into our ears in the hearing of the baptismal Gospel. Jesus' sighing "Ephphatha" opened the man's ears, and his tongue was loosed to speak plainly as Isaiah prophesied of the Messiah, "In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book" (Is. 29:18–24) So also, He who sighed and breathed His last on the cross for us has given us to hear and believe in Him and has opened our lips that our mouths may declare His praise.

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

August 26 & August 30, Year of Our ✠ Lord 2020

COMMUNION ANNOUNCEMENT: Communion is offered today for those who: (1) repent of their sins, (2) believe in Jesus as their Savior, (3) believe that with the bread and the wine Christ gives us His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, and (4) desire to amend their sinful ways with the help of the Holy Spirit. We also believe that Holy Communion is a fellowship meal with those of the same confession of faith: therefore, we ask that those **NOT** of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the American Association of Lutheran Churches, or Lutheran Church Canada **please speak with the Pastor before communing.**

Introit (*Sing to the Tune of C*)

**G Make haste, O God, to de- | liver me!
O Lord, make haste to | help me!**

**Let them be put to shame and con- | fusion
who | seek my life!**

**Let them be | turned back
and brought to dishonor who de- | sire my hurt!**

**May all who seek | you rejoice
and be | glad in you!**

**You are my help and my de- | liverer;
O Lord, do | not delay!**

**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.**

**Make haste, O God, to de- | liver me!
O Lord, make haste to | help me!**

**Let them be put to shame and con- | fusion
who | seek my life!**

Prayers of the Church

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

P For all the baptized, and especially for the saints here at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, that our ears would be opened by the Spirit to the Gospel of peace and salvation, and that our lips would show forth our thanks and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

P For good stewardship of God's creation, that we would seek to provide clean air, water and land to all peoples, praying always for God's providential care of the planet He has given us, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

P For all in authority by whose service God provides for us the gift of order, including parents and family, our government, our police and firemen, our military and our schools, that God would give them strength and endurance to carry out their duties for the good of those entrusted to their care, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick, the frail and the dying, especially..., that God would focus them upon Christ and His love and restore them to health, according to His will; and for doctors, nurses, therapists and all who tend to our brothers and sisters in need, that God would bless them as they put the talents He has given them to good use, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

P For the saints who have gone before us and now rest from their labors, let us give thanks to the Lord; that we would, by God's grace, be kept in their holy communion unto eternal life in Christ's kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:

G Lord, have mercy.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G Amen.

Divine Service

Setting Four



Preparation

Pastor's Welcome

Announcements

Hymn of Invocation #908

Invocation/Absolution p.203

Word

Introit *Bulletin*

Kyrie/Gloria in Excelsis p.204

Collect of the Day

Old Testament *Reverse*

Epistle *Reverse*

Alleluia P. 205

Holy Gospel *Reverse*

Apostles' Creed p.207

Hymn of the Day #545

Sermon

Prayers *Bulletin*

Offering p.207

(In back of the Sanctuary)

Sacrament

Communion Announcement

Preface p.208

Distribution #619, #629,
#628, #617, #636

Nunc Dimittis p.211

Benediction

Departing Hymn #673