

✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

28171 West Highway 64 PO Box 851

Canton, Texas 75103

www.holycrosscanton.com

Pastor Mark Huston

903-603-5071

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021

Morning Prayer LSB 235

As We Gather

In today's Readings, James draws our attention to the tongue. Our tongues might be small but, like the rudder of a ship, the tongue is vitally important to us for staying on the right course. If the rudder is broken, the ship is adrift. If the tongue is filled with evil, so will the rest of our lives. But the tongue also boasts of great things, speaking God's good word of forgiveness and life. Remember that Jesus has restored all things, including our tongues to no longer speak evil, but to speak His Word.

521 Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken



1 Christ, the Lord of hosts, un - shak - en By the dev - il's
2 Mi - chael fought the heav'n - ly bat - tle, God - ly an - gels
3 Long on earth the bat - tle ra - ges, Since the ser - pent's
4 Je - sus came, this word ful - fill - ing, Tram - pled Sa - tan,



seeth - ing rage, Thwarts the plan of Sa - tan's min - ions;
by his side; Warred a - gainst the an - cient ser - pent,
first de - ceit; Twist - ed God's com - mand to Ad - am,
death de - fied; Bore the brunt of our temp - ta - tion,



Wins the strife from age to age; Con - quers sin and
Foiled the beast, so full of pride, Cast him earth - bound
Made for - bid - den fruit look sweet. Then the curse of
On the wretch - ed tree He died. Yet to life was



death for - ev - er; Slams them in their steel - y cage.
with his an - gels; Now he prowls, un - sat - is - fied.
God was spo - ken: "You'll lie crushed be - neath His feet!"
raised vic - to - rious; By His life our life sup - plied.

5 Swift as lightning falls the tyrant
From his heav'nly perch on high,
As the word of Jesus' vict'ry
Floods the earth and fills the sky.
Wounded by a wound eternal
Now his judgment has drawn nigh!

6 Jesus, send Your angel legions
When the foe would us enslave.
Hold us fast when sin assaults us;
Come, then, Lord, Your people save.
Overthrow at last the dragon;
Send him to his fiery grave.

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Stand

Versicles

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
- C** and my mouth shall declare Your praise.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- C** Alleluia, alleluia.

LSB 235

Psalmody

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C O come, let us worship Him.

Venite

LSB 236

C O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

L Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.

C For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods.

L In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also.

C The sea is His, for He made it; and His hand formed the dry land.

L O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.

C For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

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

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C O come, let us worship Him.

Sit

849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -

2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet

3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,

gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons

in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the

With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool

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



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing

wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this

glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.

Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.

praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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Readings

Reading

Isaiah 50:4–10

⁴The 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.
⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.
⁶I 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.
⁷But 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.
⁸He 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.
⁹Behold, 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.
¹⁰Who 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.

Reading

James 3:1–12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For 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. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴Look 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. ⁵So 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! ⁶And 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. ⁷For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

Reading

Mark 9:14–29

¹⁴When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to [Jesus] and greeted him. ¹⁶And he asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” ¹⁷And someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked you

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! 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.”

P In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Sermon

Help My Unbelief

Canticle

Stand

940 Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

sts. 1–5



1 Ho - ly God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn An - gel choirs a -
 3 Lo, the a - pos - tles' ho - ly train Join Thy sa - cred
 4 Thou art King of Glo - ry, Christ; Son of God, yet
 5 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore Thee. All on earth Thy scep - ter claim,
 bow are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name to hal - low; Proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 born of Mar - y. For us sin - ners sac - ri - ficed,
 three we name Thee; Though in es - sence on - ly one,



All in heav'n a - bove a - dore Thee. In - fi - nite Thy
 In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, Fill the heav'ns with
 And the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low, And from morn to
 As to death a Trib - u - tar - y, First to break the
 Un - di - vid - ed God we claim Thee And, a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is Thy reign.
 sweet ac - cord: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!
 set of sun Through the Church the song goes on.
 bars of death, Thou hast o - pened heav'n to faith.
 bend the knee While we own the mys - ter - y.

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Prayer

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

P 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.

Prayer of the Church

P Lord God, we believe; help our unbelief! Sustain us through the many troubles and trials of this world. When unclean spirits afflict us and those that we love, revive our trust in You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Gracious Lord, knowing that those who teach in the Church will be judged with greater strictness, bless the teachers of our Synod's schools, colleges and seminaries. Preserve them faithful to Your Word, that they may not stumble in what they say. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord and Father, tame our tongues so that they are not a restless evil, full of deadly poison. Turn them by Your Spirit from cursing the people made in Your likeness to instead blessing You, and keep us from stumbling in what we say. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, guard the tongues of our governing authorities, that they may not stumble in what they say, but speak wisely, leading in accord with Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord God, You have promised that "all things are possible for one who believes." In such faith, we bring before You _____ and all others in need, asking You to grant them health and healing. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C Amen.

Collect for Grace

P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 241

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.

Benedicamus

LSB 241

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 242

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C Amen.

690 Hope of the World



1 Hope of the world, Thou Christ of great com - pas - sion;
2 Hope of the world, God's gift from high - est heav - en,
3 Hope of the world, a - foot on dust - y high - ways,
4 Hope of the world, who by Thy cross didst save us
5 Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death vic - to - rious,



Speak to our fear - ful hearts by con - flict rent.
Bring - ing to hun - gry souls the bread of life,
Show - ing to wan - d'ring souls the path of light,
From death and dark de - spair, from sin and guilt,
Who by this sign didst con - quer grief and pain,



Save us, Thy peo - ple, from con - sum - ing pas - sion,
Still let Thy Spir - it un - to us be giv - en
Walk Thou be - side us lest the tempt - ing by - ways
We ren - der back the love Thy mer - cy gave us;
We would be faith - ful to Thy Gos - pel glo - rious.



Who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.
To heal earth's wounds and end our bit - ter strife.
Lure us a - way from Thee to end - less night.
Take Thou our lives and use them as Thou wilt.
Thou art our Lord! Thou dost for - ev - er reign!

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Announcements

The **Lutheran Witness** subscription update is in the Narthex. Please ensure your address is up to date.

Adult Sunday School is studying Genesis at 9am on Sunday mornings.

The **Ladies Bible Study** is studying Leviticus on Wednesday morning at 10am.

Church Council next meeting is **TBD**.

Acknowledgments

Morning Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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