

A scenic landscape featuring a wooden roof in the foreground, lush green trees on the left, and a body of water reflecting the sky on the right. The sun is shining through the trees, creating a bright, dappled light effect. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

For the
*Lord
God*

is a sun
and shield:
the LORD
will give

*Grace &
Glory.*

PSALM 84:11

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 5th / July 6th 2020

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

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Welcome to Trinity!

We're glad you're here to worship!

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Tesch (715-587-8521) or Principal Danell (715-732-2956). They will be happy to hear from you.

Hymn: 431 vv. 1,3,5,6

(I Walk in Danger All the Way)

1. I walk in danger all the way;
The thought shall never leave me
That Satan, who has marked his prey,
Is plotting to deceive me.
This foe with hidden snares
May seize me unawares
If e'er I fail to watch and pray;
I walk in danger all the way

2. I pass through trials all the way,
With sin and ills contending;
In patience I must bear each day
The cross of God's own sending.
Oft in adversity
I know not where to flee
When storms of woe my soul dismay;
I pass through trials all the way.

5. I walk with Jesus all the way;
His guidance never fails me.
He takes my ev'ry fear away
When Satan's pow'r assails me,
And, by his footsteps led,
My path I safely tread.
In spite of ills that threaten may,
I walk with Jesus all the way.

6. My walk is heav'nward all the way;
Await, my soul, the morrow,
When you farewell can gladly say
To all your sin and sorrow.
All worldly pomp, begone!
To heav'n I now press on.
For all the world I would not stay;
My walk is heav'nward all the way.

Confessions of Sins

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

C: Amen

Assurance of Forgiveness

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray

O Lord, our God, govern the nations on earth and direct the affairs of this world so that your Church may worship you in peace and joy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Old Testament Lesson

Thousands of lives could have been saved. But people didn't listen. The prophet Jeremiah tried to warn people against rebellion and sin. But they didn't want to hear it.

They attacked Jeremiah instead. They beat him and put him into the stocks.

Attacking the messenger is not an uncommon response to God's Law. Sinners generally don't want to hear that sin is wrong, so they attack the church, or the pastor, or the Bible, or Christianity. You might have already noticed that.

Notice two vital things that God is showing us in the life of the prophet Jeremiah.

First, attacking the messenger didn't stop God's punishment. When people refused to listen to Jeremiah, it wasn't Jeremiah's voice they ignored. When they refused to repent, it wasn't Jeremiah's commands they broke. When they beat and imprisoned Jeremiah, it wasn't Jeremiah's judgment they would face.

God was warning them. God had been patient with them. But time had run out. Judgment was coming. The only thing that could save them was God's grace and forgiveness.

They chose sin instead. And Jerusalem burned to the ground.

Second, persecution didn't stop Jeremiah from preaching God's Word. Jeremiah was God's faithful servant and he obeyed God even when it hurt.

The world hasn't changed that much. People still choose sin and still ignore God's voice. God is still patient. And judgment is still coming.

The only thing that can save people is God's grace and forgiveness. God's faithful people still preach the Law and the Gospel. Sinful people still ignore it. Sometimes they attack the messenger. Sometimes it hurts. But Christians cannot remain quiet.

It's God's voice. We have to share it.

Jeremiah 19:14-20:6 (EHV)

¹⁴ Then Jeremiah came back from Topheth, where the LORD had sent him to prophesy, and he stood in the courtyard of the House of the LORD and said to all the people: ¹⁵“This is what the LORD of Armies, the God of Israel, says. I will certainly bring on this city and on all its towns every disaster that I have proclaimed against it, because they have become stiff-necked, refusing to hear my words.”

When Pashhur the priest, the son of Immer, who served as the chief officer in the House of the LORD, heard Jeremiah prophesying about these things, ² Pashhur ordered them to beat Jeremiah the prophet, and he put him in the stocks at the Upper Benjamin Gate in the House of the LORD.

³ The next day, when Pashhur released him from the stocks, Jeremiah said to him, “The LORD does not call you Pashhur, but Magor Missabib, ⁴ for this is what the LORD says: I will certainly make you a terror to yourself and to all your friends. They will fall by the sword of their enemies before your very eyes. I will hand Judah over to the king of Babylon. He will carry the people captive to Babylon, and he will strike them with the sword. ⁵ Also, the riches of this city, all its property, and all the treasures of the kings of Judah—I will give it all away into the hands of their enemies. They will plunder them, seize them, and carry them off to Babylon. ⁶ As for you, Pashhur, and all who live in your house, you will go into captivity. You will go to Babylon! You will die there, and you will be buried there, you and all your friends to whom you have prophesied falsely.”

Epistle Lesson

Did you ever try to share your faith and have everything go wrong?

What would you think about being dragged into a hostile court, then being hit in the mouth as soon as you start to talk. Then having to apologize for objecting to getting hit in the mouth. Then, when you do finally get to say something, a riot breaks out and the uproar is so extreme that soldiers have to haul you out. And then they throw you into prison.

It can happen. It happened to the apostle Paul in Acts 23.

Jesus warned us that we would face persecution. Every one of the apostles was persecuted. Every one of them was arrested. So, we can expect that things will not always go well for us. We might not experience the level of catastrophe that Paul did, but we can expect rejection, arguments, and being unwelcome.

We can also expect that Jesus will be with us. Jesus went out of his way to encourage Paul with his promises. Nothing would stand in the way of Paul's service to God.

Jesus is with us, too. He commands us to bring life and reconciliation to hurting and lost people. And he promises that his word will accomplish what he desires, regardless of Satan's attempts to stop us. Grant us courage to testify, O Lord!

Acts 23:1-11 (EHV)

Paul looked straight at the Sanhedrin and said,

“Gentlemen, brothers, I have lived my life before God with a completely clear conscience to this very day.”

² But the high priest Ananias ordered those who were standing near Paul to strike him on the mouth. ³ Then Paul said to him, “God is going to strike you, you whitewashed wall! You sit there judging me according to the law, and then you order them to strike me contrary to the law!”

⁴ Those who were standing nearby said, “Do you dare to insult God's high priest?”

⁵ Paul replied, “I did not know, brothers, that he is the high priest. Indeed, it is written, ‘You shall not speak evil about a ruler of your people.’”

⁶ When Paul realized that some of them were Sadducees and the others were Pharisees, he shouted out in the Sanhedrin, “Gentlemen, brothers, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees. I am on trial concerning the hope for the resurrection of the dead!”

⁷ When he said this, a dispute broke out between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the assembly was divided. ⁸ (For the Sadducees say there is no resurrection or angel or spirit, but the Pharisees believe in them all.) ⁹ Then there was a great uproar, and some of the experts in the law who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and protested strongly: “We find nothing wrong with this man. What if a spirit or an angel spoke to him?”

¹⁰ The uproar became so great that the commander was afraid Paul would be torn to pieces by them. He commanded the soldiers to go down, take him away from them by force, and bring him into the barracks.

¹¹ The following night the Lord stood next to Paul and said, “Take courage! As you have solemnly testified about me in Jerusalem, so you must also testify in Rome.”

Gospel Lesson/Sermon

The more we read the Gospels—the more we learn about Jesus’ life and ministry—the more awestricken we become. Jesus changed lives. He changed history. He changed everything!

Jesus went head to head with the prince of evil. He descended into darkness to demolish the dungeons of the devil and to free the captives who languished there.

The darkness fought back. Satan tried to suborn him. Sinners tried to defame him. Jesus was under constant attack until the day he died. His victory for us was hard-fought, hard-won, and beyond price.

And now it is ours. It is ours to cherish, ours to celebrate, and ours to proclaim from the housetops!

Jesus warns us to expect the darkness to fight against us, too. They went after Jesus; of course they will come after us. But we don’t have to be afraid. Three times in six verses Jesus says, “Do not fear!” We don’t have to be afraid because God sees everything. We don’t have to be afraid because they cannot touch our soul. We don’t have to be afraid because our heavenly Father watches over us.

When we look forward, we know that we will be walking into the darkness. That’s where the work is. That’s where people are trapped in sin. We see hardship. We see persecution. And, we see the opportunity to confess Jesus. We see the power of the Holy Spirit working through us to rescue people who are languishing in sin. When we look further, we see Jesus standing with us at his Father’s throne in heaven.

Let’s walk together in faith to carry the name of Jesus to souls who are dying without him!

Matthew 10:24-33 (EHV)

²⁴ “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor is a servant above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher and the servant like his master. If the master of the house was called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

²⁶ “So do not be afraid of them, because there is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, and nothing hidden that will not be made known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, fear the one who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

²⁹ “Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground without the knowledge and consent of your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So do not be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows.

³² “Everyone who confesses me before others, I will also confess before my Father who is in heaven. ³³ But whoever denies me before others, I will also deny before my Father who is in heaven.

Special Prayer regarding Coronavirus

Jesus Christ, our Great Physician,

We come before you in great need. We ask that you would end this plague on our world. We do not ask because we are worthy, but because you are gracious and merciful. If it is your will, heal those who are afflicted. Comfort those who are suffering. Grant wisdom and success to those who are treating and researching this disease.

Teach us to celebrate your blessings and your love. Help us not to take for granted our health or the connections we have among family and friends. In your name we come to you. Amen.

Prayers for Our family and Friends

Milferd Behnke, Ashleigh Bourdelais, Gladys Constine, Geri Garbrecht, Dorothy Johnson, and Lisa Schmitt.

Prayers for those called to protect

Military: Jesse Adams (Sue Connor’s son), **Greg Carow** (Dennis Carow’s godson/nephew), **Aeron Forsberg** (Linda and Gene Erickson’s grandson), **Dayton Godfrey** (Dave & Cindy Schacht’s great-nephew), **Joshua Jansen** (Isaac Jansen’s cousin), **Jesse Johnston** (Jim & Laurie Johnston’s son), **Patrick Noppenberg** (Denis & Deb Vieth’s son), **Aaron Stocker Jr.** (Martina (Dura) Stocker’s husband), **Dylan Vanko,**

(Roy and Grace Chmela's grandson), and **Thomas Weirich** (Mary Bush's nephew).

Firefighter: Steve Campbell.

Police: Greg Haemker Raymond Cashaw (Pastor Sonnemann's niece's husband) and **David Peterson** (Jamie Tesch's uncle). Ask the Lord to bless them, strengthen them, and keep them safe.

The Lord's Prayer:

*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.

The Benediction:

*The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.*

Amen.

Hymn: 474

(Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus)

1. Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Ye soldiers of the cross!
Lift high his royal banner;
It must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry
His army shall he lead
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished
And Christ is Lord indeed.
2. Stand up, stand up for Jesus!
The trumpet call obey;
Forth to the mighty conflict
In this his glorious day!
Ye that are brave, now serve him
Against unnumbered foes;
Let courage rise with danger
And strength to strength oppose.
3. Stand up, stand up for Jesus!
Stand in his strength alone.
The arm of flesh will fail you;
Ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the gospel armor;
Each piece put on with prayer;
Where duty calls or danger,
Be never wanting there.
4. Stand up, stand up for Jesus!
The strife will not be long;
This day the noise of battle,
The next, the victor's song.
To him that overcometh
A crown of life shall be;
He with the King of glory
Shall reign eternally.