



*We are
unto God
a sweet
savour*

*of
Christ.*

2 CORINTHIANS 2:15

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2nd – August 3rd 2020

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

1501 Thomas Street
Marinette, WI 54143
(715) 732-9868

Trinity Ev. Lutheran School

1216 Colfax Street
Marinette, WI 54143
(715) 732-2956



www.trinitymarinette.com

WORSHIP SERVICES: Sundays at 8 AM&10AM & Mondays at 6:00 PM



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: 221 vv. 1,2

1. Blessed Jesus, at your Word
We are gathered all to hear you.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
Now to seek and love and fear you,
By your teachings, sweet and holy,
Drawn from earth to love you solely.

(Blessed Jesus at Your Word)

Please rise

2. All our knowledge, sense, and sight
Lie in deepest darkness shrouded
Till your Spirit breaks our night
With the beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us;
You must work all good within us.

Please rise

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

Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, you Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: (sung) Amen

Please be seated

Old Testament Lesson

Does it ever seem to you that most sins just aren't that big of a deal? People commit sins all the time and God doesn't seem to do anything about it. In fact, we're so used to being surrounded by sin, many sins don't bother us anymore. Think of how often we witness people ignoring or despising God? We hear language that dishonors God, or behavior that mocks the sanctity of marriage. It is becoming more and more common to ignore God's command to gather in worship.

How much of it still bothers us? Could part of the problem be that we get used to sin? Could it be that there are things that are just more important to us than our Creator and our Savior? Maybe we see sins either as big and horrible (murder, rape, or something done against us), or as small and insignificant (white lies, thoughts, or our own sins)? That would make us the judge instead of God.

God warns us through the prophet Joel that there will be a reckoning. Every nation—every person—will have to account for their sins when God comes in judgment. Consider the power and the finality of the language God uses: swing sickle, trample the grapes, stars are snuffed out. Heaven and earth will tremble and everyone will stand under God's irrevocable and eternal judgment.

“But the LORD will be a refuge for his people.” Jesus Christ, our Savior, is indispensable. With him, we have forgiveness and life. Without him, we are lost. Let's stay close; the Day is coming.

Joel 3:12-16 (EHV)

¹²Let the nations be roused.

Let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat,
for there I will be seated to judge all the nations.

¹³Swing the sickle,
for the harvest is ripe.

Come, trample the grapes,
for the winepress is full and the vats overflow,
because the nations' wickedness is so great!

¹⁴Multitudes, multitudes in the Valley of Decision!
For the Day of the LORD is near in the Valley of Decision.

¹⁵The sun and moon will be darkened,
and the stars will stop shining.

¹⁶The LORD will roar from Zion
and shout from Jerusalem.
The sky and the earth will tremble.

But the LORD will be a refuge for his people,
a stronghold for the people of Israel.

Gospel Lesson

When you read the parable of the Weeds and the Wheat, do you see yourself as a weed or as wheat? Nobody wants to see themselves as a weed. We like to see ourselves as good people.

Notice how Jesus describes the weeds in verse 41: "everything that causes sin and those who continue to break the law." That's a pretty good description of you and me—of everyone. The scary part of living the field is that wheat can turn into weeds. The breathtaking part is that God can turn weeds into wheat. It's a matter of faith. The wheat grows in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18). The weeds keep breaking the law and encourage others to do the same. Which best describes you on any given day?

Jesus is the only one who can make wheat, sustain it, and make it grow. The enemy is sowing weeds to try to destroy that.

Jesus is warning anyone who will listen that there will be an accounting. A day is coming when Jesus will send out his angels to pull out the weeds. They will be thrown into the fiery furnace. Do you know of anyone who will face judgment without Jesus?

We want to live as wheat and we pray that God will protect our faith and make us grow. We also pray that God will miraculously change more and more weeds into wheat, so that our friends, our neighbors, and every soul on earth can be saved on the great day of Judgment.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (EHV)

²⁴He presented another parable to them: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while people were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶When the plants sprouted and produced heads of grain, the weeds also appeared. ²⁷The servants of the owner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where did the weeds come from?’ ²⁸He said to them, ‘An enemy did this.’ The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and gather up the weeds?’ ²⁹‘No,’ he answered, ‘because when you gather up the weeds, you might pull up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “First, gather up the weeds, bind them in bundles, and burn them. Then, gather the wheat into my barn.”’”

³⁶Then Jesus sent the people away and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

³⁷He answered them, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world. The good seeds are the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the Evil One. ³⁹The enemy who sowed them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the world. The reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Therefore, just as the weeds are gathered up and burned with fire, so it will be at the end of the world. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will pull out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and those who continue to break the law. ⁴²The angels will throw them into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.

Hymn: 462

(Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways)

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| 1. Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
To keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace
To know and do his will! | 2. Order my footsteps by your Word,
And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
But keep my conscience clear. |
| 3. Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
A stricter watch to keep;
And should I e'er forget your way,
Restore your wand'ring sheep. | 4. Make me to walk in your commands —
Tis a delightful road —
Nor let my head or heart or hands
Offend against my God. |

Sermon - Christians Walk Away from Sin

People are confusing. You'd think that, after experiencing the consequences of sin, we'd be done with it. So why do we go back?

I think part of it is that sin does provide a temporary, immediate gratification. We can't see tomorrow, so it's difficult to see the big picture. We don't always know what's best for us, so we can be tempted by the empty promises of sin. When we look at the list of sins in verse 3, we can see how familiar and how treacherous those behaviors are.

That's why Jesus tells us to arm ourselves with his mindset—so we don't get lost in sinful desires. Jesus suffered to free us from slavery to sin. He died so that we can live for God's will instead. Sin brings pain and addiction and death. God's will brings healing and freedom and life.

People are surprised when we don't join them in sin. Sin is so familiar, so common, and so defended, that to many people it seems normal—even good. When we reject sin, we take the very real chance that sinners will reject us. God tells us through Peter that we can expect people to insult us and to vilify us for rejecting the sins they have chosen.

But we know the big picture. We know that sin is polluting this world and destroying lives. We know that Jesus paid with his life to bring freedom and forgiveness. And we know that everyone will have to give an account to the Judge of the living and the dead.

So, we preach the Gospel, both in words and in actions. We bring the only hope this sinful world has. It's our nature to keep going back to sin. It's God's nature to keep offering forgiveness. By faith, we strive to live according to God's will. By grace, we're forgiven when we fall. Through the scriptures we grow in faith and offer life to a world trapped in sin.

1st Peter 4:1-8

¹Therefore, because Christ suffered in flesh, arm yourselves with the same mindset, because the one who has suffered in flesh is done with sin. ²Do this so that you no longer live the rest of your time in the flesh for human desires but for God's will. ³Indeed, you have already spent enough time in the past doing what the Gentiles want to do: living in unbridled immorality, lusts, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and disgusting idolatry.

⁴For this reason, they are surprised that you do not plunge into the same overflowing river of filth with them, and they slander you. ⁵They will have to give an account to the one who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶In fact, it was for this reason that the gospel was preached also to those who are dead, so that they might be judged the way people are judged in flesh and that they might live the way God lives in spirit.

⁷The end of all things is near. So have sound judgment and be self-controlled for the sake of your prayers. ⁸Above all, love each other constantly, because love covers a multitude of sins.

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, Helen Johnson, Sally Kamps, Rose Karr, Kristin & Noah Olson, Dave Schacht, 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: 433 v.1

(Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me)

1. Jesus, Savior, pilot me
Over life's tempestuous sea;
Unknown waves before me roll,
Hiding rock and treach'rous shoal.
Chart and compass come from thee:
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.



⁸ *Above all, love each other constantly, because love covers a multitude of sins.*

~1 Peter 4:8~

TRINITY'S CORE MISSION

Shining the Light of the Gospel in our community.

John 8:12 - *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

Matthew 5:16 - *"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*