



# Followers of Christ Are Humble Servants

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021

#### Worship Series: Followers of Christ

We might like to think that once we're brought to faith, following Christ ought to be easy. The truth? The Lord has high standards, and we are in a daily battle against the sinful nature that still clings to us. In six weeks of readings from Mark 9 and 10, we see clearly what our Savior expects of us, his followers. Be prepared to be challenged by what he says. You'll find plenty of opportunities here to confess your sins.

You'll also find all the strength you need to fight against the sins you confess. Don't miss the humility of our Savior Jesus. What undeserved love! Though he is the Son of God and ruler over all, he chooses to follow his Father's will perfectly in our place. In him, every sin is forgiven. Through the message of his forgiveness the Holy Spirit will empower you to fight against your sin every day, and to be the follower of Christ he has called you to be.

### This Week: Followers of Christ Are Humble Servants

The way of this world is to seek recognition and honor. The world sees leadership as a way to wield power. That's not our Savior's way nor is it what he wants for his followers. Leadership is not conforming others to your will but being conformed to the will of Christ and serving those you lead. Followers of Christ, even leaders among them, are humble servants. But that's easier said than done, isn't it? For sinners like us, even our humble service can become a point of pride. Let your Savior's humility be your sin's cure, his example your guide.

#### Welcome to WELS National Hymnal Week!

This week is an opportunity for each of us to reflect on all the good things that happen when God's people gather for worship. Whether or not a congregation has decided to make use of our synod's new *Christian Worship* hymnal, this week also provides everyone an opportunity to become acquainted with it. You can find out more at www.christianworship.com.

### **About the Opening Service**

No special theme has been chosen for this special service. The theme and Scripture readings for today are simply the theme and the readings appointed for September 19th in the new *Christian Worship Lectionary*. This National Hymnal Week church service aims to highlight what is wonderful and glorious about Christ-centered worship on any given Sunday.

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# The Service

**Opening Hymn** 

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

1: Choir 2-3: All



## Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

## Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

#### Lord, Have Mercy

Pastor sings each invitation to pray. Cantor/choir sing responses 1 and 2. All sing responses 3, 4, and the Amen.





#### Gloria in Excelsis

## Glory to God in the Highest

The choir sings the first refrain and verses. The congregation joins on the following refrains.



Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

#### Refrain

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

#### Refrain

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, the Father. Amen.

#### Refrain

## THE WORD

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

#### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### Amen.

### **First Reading**

The primary characteristic in the Kingdom of God is forgiveness. In our Old Testament Lesson, Moses reflected this characteristic. He prayed that God would show mercy to his sister, Miriam, even though she had just tried to undermine his ministry. Miriam's punishment was just, but Moses begged God to heal her.

Christ does the same thing in offering forgiveness to guilty people like us. We, too, want to reflect this forgiveness to everybody – even people who don't deserve it. When we offer forgiveness, we display the grace of God..

#### Numbers 12:1-15

Miriam and Aaron began to talk against Moses because of his Cushite wife, for he had married a Cushite. <sup>2</sup> "Has the LORD spoken only through Moses?" they asked. "Hasn't he also spoken through us?" And the LORD heard this.

<sup>3</sup> (Now Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.)

<sup>4</sup> At once the LORD said to Moses, Aaron and Miriam, "Come out to the tent of meeting, all three of you." So the three of them went out. <sup>5</sup> Then the LORD came down in a pillar of cloud; he stood at the entrance to the tent and summoned Aaron and Miriam. When the two of them stepped forward, <sup>6</sup> he said, "Listen to my words:

"When there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, reveal myself to them in visions, I speak to them in dreams.But this is not true of my servant Moses; he is faithful in all my house.

<sup>8</sup> With him I speak face to face, clearly and not in riddles; he sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?"

<sup>9</sup> The anger of the LORD burned against them, and he left them.

<sup>10</sup> When the cloud lifted from above the tent, Miriam's skin was leprous<sup>[a]</sup>—it became as white as snow. Aaron turned toward her and saw that she had a defiling skin disease, <sup>11</sup> and he said to Moses, "Please, my lord, I ask you not to hold against us the sin we have so foolishly committed. <sup>12</sup> Do not let her be like a stillborn infant coming from its mother's womb with its flesh half eaten away."

<sup>13</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD, "Please, God, heal her!"

<sup>14</sup> The LORD replied to Moses, "If her father had spit in her face, would she not have been in disgrace for seven days? Confine her outside the camp for seven days; after that she can be brought back." <sup>15</sup> So Miriam was confined outside the camp for seven days, and the people did not move on till she was brought back.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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#### Psalm of the Day

The choir sings first refrain. All repeat the refrain and sing the following refrains. The congregation sings the verses responsively with the choir.



#### Refrain

Why do the nations say, "Where / is their God?" Our God is in heaven; he does whatever / pleases him. The Lord remembers us and will / bless us: He will bless his people / Israel, he will bless those who / fear the LORDsmall and / great alike. Refrain All you Israelites, trust / in the LORDhe is there / help and shield. House of Aaron, trust / in the LORDhe is their / help and shield. You who fear him, trust / in the LORDhe is their / help and shield. 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. Refrain

## Second Reading

Gentleness and unselfish service are characteristics of faith. Selfish ambition and jealousy are from the devil; they not only add to the suffering of the people around us, they add to our own suffering and hinder the proclamation of the gospel. So, let's resist the temptations of, "Me first!" and "It's not fair!" Instead, let God handle justice while we serve in humility. That's what Jesus did for us!

We reflect divine wisdom when we reject envy and ambition. Instead, we live by faith. We reflect the love and the grace of God as we live in purity, peace, and righteousness.

#### James 3:13-18

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. <sup>14</sup> But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. <sup>15</sup> Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

<sup>17</sup> But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peaceloving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup> Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. <u>Please rise</u>

## **Gospel Acclamation**

The choir sings the refrain and verse. The congregation joins to sing the final refrain



for his love and faithfulness.

#### Refrain

## Gospel

When Jesus talks about his impending suffering, all the Twelve can think and talk about is the glory they expect to get out of it. They even worry about whether someone else might be getting more! Jesus is talking about the greatest sacrifice, the greatest victory, the greatest act of grace in the history of the universe and their attention is on themselves. Contrast the self-absorption of the disciples with the love of Jesus. Jesus doesn't reject the disciples for their self-involvement. He shows them what love looks like and patiently teaches them. He teaches them about service and sacrifice. He brings a child and teaches them to welcome them in his name.

Jesus doesn't cast us off either. He demonstrated ultimate love in his sacrifice on the cross. Now he teaches us to imitate his love as his dear children.

#### Mark 9:30-37

They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, <sup>31</sup> because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise." <sup>32</sup> But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it.

<sup>33</sup> They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" <sup>34</sup> But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

<sup>35</sup> Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."

<sup>36</sup> He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup> "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise be to you, O Christ!

<u>Please be Seated</u>

Hymn of the Day

Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way



#### Sermon

Servant of All

Mark 9:30-37

## **Confession of Faith**

**Apostles' Creed** 

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Please be Seated

## **Prayer of the Church**

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us. **Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.** 

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people. **Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.** 

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

## Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves. Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven. **Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.** 

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. *Pour out your special blessing on* . . .

#### A.J. Betters, Ashleigh Bourdelais, Gladys Constine, Geri Garbrecht, Jean Harper, Anita Hemminger, Dorothy Johnson, Rose Karr, Angie Salewsky, Lisa Schmitt, Michael Stollenwerk, Shirley Truit, and Rosealie Wolff. The Friends and Families of Gary & Joanne Vieth and Tina Vollmer

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), Dacien Konell (Linda and Gene Erickson's grandson), Brock Miller (Jenna Miller's brother), Patrick Noppenberg (Denis & Deb Vieth's son) Thomas Weirich (Mary Bush's nephew) and Aaron Wood (Hope Wood's brother). Firefighter: Steve Campbell. Police: Greg Haemker and Raymond Cashaw (Pastor Sonnemann's niece's husband).

Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying. Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

#### Silent prayer

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace. **In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.** 

#### **Offering and Musical Offering**

Sanctus and Agnus Dei



Hymn

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



## Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

### Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## Blessing

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.**  **Closing Hymn** 

In Christ Alone



- **Happy Birthday**! Della McKenney celebrates 91 years of God's grace today! Thank you, Lord, for your grace and your love. God's richest blessings as you enjoy another year of God's favor!
- **Sunday Morning Bible Study:** God's people want to tell others about the peace, joy and forgiveness they have in Jesus. But many Christians are unsure how to do this. Join us as we learn some simple, practical ways to reach out to the lost souls God has brought into our lives. Join us today after worship.
- **This We Believe:** Starting Thursday, October 7 at 6:00pm, we'll hold a basic course on the teachings of the Lutheran Church. Many of our school parents will be attending, so if you want to brush up on (or find out) what the Lutheran Church teaches and what our school is teaching the kids, come and join us. It would be great for our school parents to meet you and make a Christian friend at Trinity. This is a great opportunity for us to reach out to our school families!
- **Small Group Bible Study:** We're looking to start up our small group Bible Studies again this fall. It's a great way to grow in faith and friendship with your family at Trinity. If you'd like to host, facilitate, or attend one of these classes, just sign up in church or on our website <u>www.trinitymarinette.com</u>. Training is provided. If you have any questions, just ask Pastor or Fred Schrank.
- **Phase 2 Scholarships Applications** are now being accepted. We are blessed to be able to offer financial assistance for Trinity Lutheran School members and non-members who make a financial need request for children attending grades PK-8. Funds are also available for members intending to pursue training for the teaching and preaching ministry. The due date for applications is October 1st. Contact Deb Mathey at tlssecretary@tlsmarinette.com or call 715-732-2956 for an application.
- **Let's Sing!** On October 3, we're dedicating the organ. On October 31, we have our area Reformation Festival: We hope to include choirs and small groups in those special worship events. We'll practice on Mondays at 7:00pm after church. Come and join us!
- Reformation Festival We'll gather with our brothers and sisters from our area WELS congregations to celebrate the Reformation of the Church on October 31 at St. John, Grover at 1:30pm.
- **FREE Books**: learn a Lutheran response to evolution You can request 3 FREE books (32-48 pages each). Choose from 10 titles. Request yours at
- www.LutheranScience.org/FreeBooks or by writing to (include your address): Lutheran Science Institute, 13390 W. Edgewood Ave, New Berlin WI 53151. This offer expires Dec. 31, 2021. Only one request per address. Limited to addresses in the USA. Offer subject to change without notice

- **Volunteers Needed**: Trinity Lutheran School is looking for volunteers to help with a variety of things around the school such as: Tutoring | Homework help |Teacher prep (making copies, prepping supplies, etc.) |Correcting *Fountas and Pinnell Testing* | Reading with students. Please contact Liz Broring at eboring@tlsmarinette.com for more information or to volunteer.
- **School Secretary Vacancy:** We will have a school secretary vacancy starting October 26. The secretary supports administrative functions of our school. Some of the needed skills include: basic bookkeeping, variety of computer applications, excellent communication and a friendly disposition that is focused on customer service. The secretary is typically scheduled to work each day that school is in session as well as 12-15 additional days. Work hours will be determined in collaboration with the Principal for an average of 4.25 hours/day. Training will be available. If we do not have any members interested in fulfilling this position by mid-September, we will expand our scope to external candidates. Contact the Principal Danell (715-732-2956) for a job description or if interested in applying. **Strategy Session:** We're making plans to reach out to our community and our school families with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This is a great opportunity to be part of God's ministry. We're having a strategy session at church on *Wednesday*, September 22 at 6:00pm. We're going to foster and strengthen relationships, get involved in the community, and develop a written plan for using our school and Early Childhood Ministry for outreach. You are vital to the Lord's ministry at Trinity. You can use your ideas, your enthusiasm, your wisdom and your skills to
- Trinity. You can use your ideas, your enthusiasm, your wisdom and your skills to serve our Lord and bring salvation to our community. Come to the meeting on September 22!
- **Next Week Is Christian Education Sunday!** The teachers and the children of our school will lead us in worship on *September 26*. We will install Mrs. Beth Kamps into our teaching ministry. We'll celebrate the priceless gift of Christian Education. God wants us to share his love to everybody, at every age, and in every place. We are privileged to have a Christian school, Christian homes, Christian families and a Christian Church! We are part of a synod, walking together in the love of God! We have Sunday schools, Christian Day Schools, Christian High Schools, a Christian Seminary, Christian missions and Christian brothers and sisters across the globe! Come to the Lord's house to celebrate God's grace and blessings!
- <u>Organ Dedication</u> The Lord has provided us with a beautiful organ with amazing capabilities. We'll finally dedicate our organ to the Lord's service on **Sunday**, **October 3.** Mr. Charles Bonow is coming as guest organist to help lead worship and use the resources of our new organ. After church, he will provide a short (half

hour) recital designed to further display the capabilities and more tonal resources of our new instrument. He has carefully selected the music of this recital to make it appealing to members who may be "less enthused" about organ music.

**Reformation Festival -** We'll gather with our brothers and sisters from our area WELS congregations to celebrate the Reformation of the Church on October 31 at St. John, Grover at 1:30pm. If you'd like to be part of the choir, please contact Pastor.

**The Lake Superior Circuit Fall Rally:** will be held in person this year on Sat. Nov. 6th at St. John Florence, WI. We will be holding a special offering for LWMS on Sunday, October 10th & Sunday, October 17th. The monies will go for one foreign mission and one home mission.

**Trinity's Fall Newsletter:** will be coming out the first week of October. If you have any submissions you would like added please get them to the church office September 26th.

#### Serving The Lord this Week

**Preacher:** Pastor Jon Tesch **September Altar Guild:** Janelle Peters & Sue Vieth

Lector: Tim Baneck Music: Anne Krzoska Usher Team: 5 Brian Visintin Paul Kamin, Josh Danell and Al Walker Next Week's Lector: Josh Ehlers Next Week's Music By: Josh Ehlers Next Week's Usher Team: 1 Dale Zorn Jerry Kamps, and Dennis McKenney

#### **Church Cleaning Team**

Week of Sept. 19th, 2021 Brandon & Grace Przewrocki Dave & Cindy Schacht Betty Messenger Week of Sept. 26, 2021 Allen & Ruth Behnke Suzanna Bolyard Lori Hoheneder

The more hands we have working together, the better our worship and outreach will be! Consider how you can use your gifts in God's service. Please speak with Fred Schrank or Pastor Tesch for more information on volunteering.

# Next week at a glance September 20th – September 26th

## Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup> • Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> Food Pantry...... 10:00am - 12:00pm Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> Telling the Next Generation ...... 6:00pm Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> Food Pantry.....1:00pm – 3:00pm Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup> Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> Catechism Class ......1:00pm Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup> ...... Christian Education Sunday

- Communion Worship Service Usher Team 1 ...... 9:00am
- Bible Study......10:00am

#### TRINITYS 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

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