

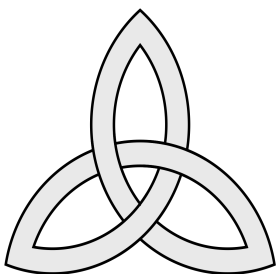


Liturgy of the Word

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 8, 2024

10:30 a.m.



Trinity Episcopal Church
West Branch, Michigan

Welcome!

Whoever you are and wherever you may be on your spiritual journey, we are so glad you have joined us for worship today. May you know the presence of the living God who welcomes you here. Almost everything you need to participate in today's service is included in this worship bulletin. The only additional item you will need is a hymnal for the hymns that are listed. The main hymnal we use is located in the back of the pew ahead of you (blue book). We typically only use one other hymnal (LEVAS—Lift Every Voice and Sing) and this hymnal is located in the corner of your pew seat. The greeters are available to answer any questions or direct you as needed. Restrooms are located on the lower level. If this is your first time with us, we invite you to complete and return a welcome card so that we can be in touch. May God bless you now and always.

About today's Service

The Gospel reading today contains two healing stories. In the first, Jesus astounds the disciples by healing the daughter of a Gentile woman, an act unheard of in his day. Then he heals a man who is deaf and mute. These healings, like the others in the Gospel, is for Mark a sign that Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus' attempt to prevent the healing being made known, and the crowd's amazement at this event, is a characteristic of Mark's Gospel. Also characteristic of Mark is that the people healed are in every case people who were rejected by traditional religious leaders.

In our first reading, we continue to read portions of the Wisdom writings. Proverbs is one of the more important of those writings. Today we are reminded that the wise person is concerned for a good name more than for riches. To do good for those in need is the way of Wisdom.

Today we continue reading the Epistle of James. This brief letter, ascribed to Jesus' brother, is strikingly similar in tone and content to the Sermon on the Mount. James is particularly concerned that belief in God be accompanied by conduct congruent with that faith. Above all, James is concerned lest we settle for faith which does not produce good works for others, especially the poor and helpless. Faith without good works is an empty faith.

The People of God gather, week by week, to meet Christ, dying and rising in our midst. His presence is revealed in our liturgical gatherings in Word and Sacrament, and in us, as members of his Body, by our daily lives of ministry to others in concrete acts of love and caring.

Liturgy of the Word

In order to prepare for worship and allow for private prayers,
please observe silence upon entering the church.

"Be still and know that I am God." -Psalm 46:10

The Greeting

Opening Hymn: Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Hymnal 602

Worship Leader Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

The Worship Leader says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The following is sung, all standing as able

Gloria in excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

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

**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.**

**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.***

Collect of the Day

Worship Leader The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Worship Leader Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Please be seated for the readings

First Reading

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favour is better than silver or gold.

The rich and the poor have this in common:
the LORD is the maker of them all.

Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,
and the rod of anger will fail.

Those who are generous are blessed,
for they share their bread with the poor.

Do not rob the poor because they are poor,
or crush the afflicted at the gate;
for the LORD pleads their cause
and despoils of life those who despoil them.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Please remain seated

Psalm 125

Qui confidunt

1 Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, *
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.

- 2 The hills stand about Jerusalem; *
 so does the LORD stand round about his people,
 from this time forth for evermore.
- 3 The scepter of the wicked shall not hold sway over the land allotted to the just,
 *
 so that the just shall not put their hands to evil.
- 4 Show your goodness, O LORD, to those who are good *
 and to those who are true of heart.
- 5 As for those who turn aside to crooked ways,
 the LORD will lead them away with the evildoers; *
 but peace be upon Israel.

Second Reading

James 2:1-17

A reading from the letter of James.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But

if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty.



For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you?

If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

The Third Reading

Mark 7:24-37

Please remain seated

A reading from the Gospel of Mark.

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Nicene Creed

Please stand as able and together say

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

Prayers of the People

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Skip, our Bishop; and

for all bishops and other ministers. We pray especially for our supply priest, Brian; and all our lay leaders and volunteers here at Trinity.

For all who serve God in his Church.

We pray especially for all of those whose lives are impacted by war. We pray for those individuals and families who are impacted by gun violence. We pray for individuals and communities impacted by weather events across the world. We also pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially all who are listed in our worship bulletin that have commended themselves to our prayers.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Worship Leader concludes

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Confession of Sin

All kneel as able.

The Worship Leader then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A period of silence is observed.

Worship Leader and People together say

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Worship Leader stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

Peace

All stand as able.

Worship Leader The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements - Sharing of God's Blessings.

Announcements may be made at this point in the service.

Birthday and Anniversary Prayers

The Worship Leader says

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn: When Christ was Lifted From the Earth

Hymnal 603

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings/ gifts to the altar

Doxology

Singing together

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The General Thanksgiving

Worship leader and people

***Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.***

A Prayer attributed to St. Francis

Worship leader and people

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

*Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where
there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.*

*Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.*

For it is in giving that we receive;

*it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we
are born to eternal life. Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

Worship leader and people

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,

for ever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: Thou Whose Almighty Word

Hymnal 371

Dismissal

Worship Leader

Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Please keep in your prayers this week...

Jim Harriott	Bobby Dack	Corbin Ride
Victor Schreffler	Barb McCabe	Carter Riddle
Lindsey Nothnagel	Andy & Diana Oberdick	Cassandra
Gene Hutchins	Bob Smith	Rick Webber
Bill & Marlene Sawyer	Nadine & Gary Morse	Dylan Miles
Bonnie Orgovan	The Singh Family	Colette
Jim Brewer	Steve & OK Pun Poling	David
Tom Olson	Pam Levere	Alex
Donna Voss	Sylvia	Keith
Mary Claire	Ryan	Rod
Shawn Willis	Nora	
Fred & Karen Harvey	Tracy	



We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, confused, well-heeled or down-at-heel. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers. We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you're just browsing, just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury or haven't been to church since Christmas 10 or 20+ years ago. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-fit moms, football dads, starving artists, tree huggers, latte sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like organized religion. We're not that keen on it either. We offer welcome to those who think the Earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here because Granny is visiting and wanted to come to church. We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throats as kids or got lost looking for the Historical Society museum and wound up here by mistake. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters and you.

From a sign posted at Coventry Cathedral in England,
context edited slightly for
Trinity Episcopal Church, West Branch, Michigan

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Worship Leader: Gene Turkelson

Lector: Luke Stefanovsky

Intercessor: Martha Bamfield

Altar Preparation: Signe Turkelson

Acolyte: x

Greeters: Victor & Rebecca Schreffler

Organist: Carol Shaw

Live Stream: Tom Olson

Coffee Hour: Signe & Gene Turkelson

Bulletin: Deb Heisler

There are opportunities to host coffee hour. See sign-up sheet in Cooper Hall

Our mission is to support all on their journey toward a deeper relationship with God, one another and all creation through worship, pastoral care, fellowship and outreach.

100 E. Houghton Ave., P.O. Box 83, West Branch, MI | 989.345.0493

September 2024	<u>1st</u> The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost <i>*w/Healing Service</i>	<u>8th</u> The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost	<u>15th</u> The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost	<u>22th</u> The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	<u>29th</u> The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Service	Holy Eucharist	Liturgy of the Word	Holy Eucharist	Liturgy of the Word	Liturgy of the Word
Clergy Worship Leader	Priest: The Rev. Brian Chace	Worship Leader: Gene Turkelson	Priest: The Rev. Brian Chace	Worship Leader: Martha Bamfield	Worship Leader: Leah Wolf
Lector	Jane Hutchins	Luke Stefanovsky	Chuck Scheich	Rebecca Shreffler	Deborah Drys
Lay Eucharistic Minister	Jane Hutchins	X	Martha Bamfield	X	X
Intercessor	Rebecca Schreffler	Martha Bamfield	Luke Stefanovsky	Jane Allstetter	Victor Schreffler
Altar Guild	Martha Bamfield	Signe Turkelson	Carol Scheich	Chris Anderson	Martha Bamfield
Greeters	Gene Hutchins	Victor & Rebecca Schreffler	Chris Anderson	Chuck & Carol Scheich	Luke Stefanovsky & Martha Bamfield
Livestream	Tom Olson	Tom Olson	Tom Olson	Tom Olson	Tom Olson
Organist	Carol Shaw	Carol Shaw	Carol Shaw	Carol Shaw	Carol Shaw
Acolyte	Victor Schreffler	x	Martha Bamfield	x	x
Bulletin	Martha Bamfield	Debra Heisler	Carol Scheich	Deborah Drys	Rebecca S.

