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TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

The Sunday of Jesus Healing a Deaf Man

August 30, 2020

Isaiah 29:17-24

¹⁷Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field,

and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?

¹⁸In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see.

¹⁹The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

²⁰For the ruthless shall come to nothing and the scoffer cease, and all who watch to do evil shall be cut off, ²¹who by a word make a man out to be an offender,

and lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate,

and with an empty plea turn aside him who is in the right.

²²Therefore thus says the LORD, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob: "Jacob shall no more be ashamed,

no more shall his face grow pale.

²³For when he sees his children, the work of my hands, in his midst, they will sanctify my name; they will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob

and will stand in awe of the God of Israel.

²⁴And those who go astray in spirit will come to understanding,

and those who murmur will accept instruction."

2 Corinthians 3:4-11

⁴Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. ⁵Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, ⁶who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

⁷Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end, ⁸will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory? ⁹For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory. ¹⁰Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it. ¹¹For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory.

Mark 7:31-37

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. 32And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. 33 And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. 34And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." 35And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

SERMON – AUGUST 30, 2020





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"Who Will Show Us Some Good?"

Sermon Outline

- 1. Psalm 4 "There are many who say, 'Who will show us some good?"
 - a. Jesus, Jesus! He is the Good! (Grace, Forgiveness, Baptism, Life, Resurrection, Love, Self-Control, etc.)
- 2. Jesus brings the deaf mute, many others, and us into a new world to hear something GOOD.
 - a. Matt. 15:30 "And great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute, and many others, and they put them at his feet, and he healed them."
- 3. The Problem of Evil Challenge (POE)
 - a. "If there is a God, why is there evil?"
 - i. The fundamental flaw in this question is placing all the fault on God.
 - ii. It may not be the answer you want, but God has given an answer to evil in Jesus.
- 4. The 'Jesus is Good' Answer
 - a. "If there isn't a God, how do you know what's good?"
 - b. Jesus, the Great Doctor, diagnoses the problem and reaches inside of us.
- 5. Living in the GOOD Living in Jesus (He does all things well!)

DOCTRINE FOR THE DAY – GOD AND EVIL

From the Explanation to the Small Catechism, 2017:

136. If our gracious Creator provides for all of our needs and protects us from all evil, why do suffering and death exist in the world?

- A. Our first parents (prompted by the devil) brought evil and suffering into the world by rebelling against God. Sinful activity continues to cause tremendous suffering throughout the world.
 - **Romans 5:12** As sin came into the world through one man, ... death spread to all men because all sinned.
- B. God punished human rebellion by cursing the earth: even though the earth sustains life, God's judgment is also evident (storms, pests, earthquakes, diseases, and so forth).
 - **Romans 8:20–22** For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.
- C. Therefore, we need to repent of our sin, trust God's promise of forgiveness in Christ, care for those who suffer, and pray for God's restoration of all things when Christ comes again.

138. What is God doing about all the suffering and death in the world?

- A. God does not allow evil to have the final word. He daily brings forth new life in the midst of and in spite of all the sin and death in the world.
- B. On the cross, Christ took all of our suffering into Himself. By His death, Christ overcomes our suffering and death. In His resurrection from the dead, Christ gives eternal life to all who trust in Him, even to those who are suffering.
- C. God is working out all things for His gracious purposes and for the well-being of His Church, even though we cannot always see this.
- D. When Jesus returns, God will free His children from all suffering, and with them, the entire creation.
 - **Revelation 21:4** He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

The Sunday of the Pharisee and Tax Collector

LAST SUNDAY

Jesus' death on the cross is for every single person. Even if you are a tax collector. Even if you're a Pharisee. Even if you're Cain and even if you're the murderer Saul (who became the apostle Paul). His grace is for all of us sinners. And that means every sinner matters no matter who they are.





NEXT SUNDAY

The Sunday of the Good Samaritan

Hymns: 543, 542, 547, 550, 685

2 Chron. 28:8–15: The Prophet Oded Commands Mercy for the Captives

Gal. 3:15–22: "But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe."

Luke 10:23–37: The Parable of the Good Samaritan

Who is my life for? Our sinful natures want to be like the priest and Levite who only care for themselves and passed by the injured man. But Jesus, the Good Samaritan, has given His life for us, healed us, and called us to live for others. Next week we'll answer the question, "Who is my neighbor?" and talk about our vocations to serve others.







PRAYER LIST

- † Barb Miller (recovering); Darrell Schieber (recovering)
- † Philip Meyers; Anna Niemtschk
- † For the family and friends of Bob Bier (brother-in-law to Nancy Jarrett)
- † For an end to the Covid virus and for reconciliation in our nation
- † Military: Jack Richardson; Chaplain Michael Kearney, Alan Burton
- † Rev. Matthew Harrison, Synod Pres.; Rev. Mark Miller, District Pres.

AN ORDER FOR HOME DEVOTIONS

INVOCATION (In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.)

APOSTLES' CREED & LORD'S PRAYER

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

LSB p. 299

Sun – 8/30	Ps 32	1 Kings 12:20—13:5, 33-34 1 Kings 14:1—16:28	2 Cor. 8:1-24
Mon	Ps 32	1 Kings 16:29—17:24	2 Cor. 9:1-15 2 Cor. 10:1—13:14
Tues	Ps 32	1 Kings 18:1-19	Eph. 1:1-23
Wed	Ps 32	1 Kings 18:20-40	Eph. 2:1-22
Thurs	Ps 32	1 Kings 19:1-21 <i>1 Kings 20:1—22:53</i>	Eph. 3:1-21
Fri	Ps 32	2 Kings 2:1-18	Eph. 4:1-24
Sat	Ps 32	2 Kings 2:19-25; 4:1-7	Eph. 4:25—5:14
Sun – 9/6	Ps 32	2 Kings 4:8-22, 32-37	Eph. 5:15-33

PRAYERS

- 1. Personal (confession, help in your vocations, thanksgivings)
- 2. For Others (family, friends, neighbors)
- 3. For Church (church's prayer list, for your pastor, etc.)
- 4. For Nation (leaders, military, peace, an end to abortion, etc.)
- 5. Conclusion (through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.)

LUTHER'S MORNING/EVENING PRAYER