

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Power of the Tongue  
September 15 & 16, 2018

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### AS WE GATHER

In our epistle reading from James, he speaks of the use of our tongues. He points out that out of the mouths of believers comes both cursing of people and praising of our God, both evil words and righteous words come forth from us. He then declares that this should not be so!! Every day we open our mouths and at any given moment something good or something bad can come out. Our Lord Jesus wants our mouths to sound forth His praise, thankfulness, and words that encourage and build others up.

### WELCOME

“For the sake of Christ, then, I am content  
with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities.  
For when I am weak, then I am strong.” (2 Corinthians 12:10, ESV)

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✂ PREPARATION ✂

### OPENING HYMN #726 “Evening and Morning”

Evening and morning, sunset and dawning,  
Wealth, peace, and gladness, Comfort in sadness:  
These are Thy works; all the glory be Thine!  
Times without number, Awake or in slumber,  
Thine eye observes us, From danger preserves us,  
Causing Thy mercy upon us to shine.

Father, O hear me, Pardon and spare me;  
Calm all my terrors, Blot out my errors  
That by Thine eyes they may no more be scanned.  
Order my goings, Direct all my doings;  
As it may please Thee, Retain or release me;  
All I commit to Thy fatherly hand.

Ills that still grieve me Soon are to leave me;  
Though billows tower, And winds gain power,  
After the storm the fair sun shows its face.  
Joys e'er increasing And peace never ceasing:  
These shall I treasure And share in full measure  
When in His mansions God grants me a place.

To God in heaven All praise be given!  
Come, let us offer And gladly proffer  
To the Creator the gifts He doth prize.  
He well receiveth A heart that believeth;  
Hymns that adore Him Are precious before Him  
And to His throne like sweet incense arise.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice and my pleas  
for mercy.

**People: Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him  
as long as I live.**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

**All: Then I called on the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray, deliver  
my soul!” Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is  
merciful.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered to our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of  
this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before  
God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and  
deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.  
Together as His people, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of  
God our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ,  
and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**People: For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from  
tears, my feet from stumbling; I will walk before the LORD in  
the land of the living. Almighty God, have mercy upon us,  
forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE #819 “Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good”** Stanzas 1,4,5

Sing Praise to God, the highest good, The author of creation,  
The God of love who understood Our need for His salvation.  
With healing balm our souls He fills And ev’ry faithless murmur stills:  
To God all praise and glory!

He never shall forsake His flock, His chosen generation;  
He is their refuge and their rock, Their peace and their salvation.  
As with a mother’s tender hand, He leads His own, His chosen band:  
To God all praise and glory!

All who confess Christ’s holy name, Give God the praise and glory.  
Let all who know His pow’r proclaim Aloud the wondrous story.  
Cast ev’ry idol from its throne, For God is God, and He alone:  
To God all praise and glory!

**SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need,

**People: continue to preserve your Church in safety, govern her by your goodness, and bless her with your peace;**

Pastor: for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

**5:00 & 10:30 BAPTISM SONG #605 “Father Welcomes”**

**Refrain:**

**Father welcomes all His children To His fam’ly through His Son.  
Father giving His salvation, Life forever has been won.**

Little children, come to Me, For My kingdom is of these.  
Life and love I have to give, Mercy for your sin. *Refrain*

In the water, in the Word, In His promise, be assured;  
Those who are baptized and believe Shall be born again. *Refrain*

Let us daily die to sin; Let us daily rise with Him.  
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord, Live in the peace of God. *Refrain*

**5:00 BAPTISM** of Liam Joseph Belsha Page 268

**10:30 BAPTISM** of Owen Jacob Bender Page 268

**✱ WORD ✱**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Isaiah 50:4–10* (“He who vindicates me is near.”)  
The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me. Behold, the Lord GOD helps me; who will declare me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *James 3:1–12* (“From the same mouth come blessing and cursing.”)  
Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his

whole body. If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**5:00 ANTHEM**                    *"10,000 Reasons"* Arr. Lloyd Larson

**8:00 ANTHEM**                    *"The Words of My Mouth"*

(Rise)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Mark 9:14-29* (Jesus casts out a spirit.)

And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "'If you can!' All things are possible for one who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help

my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Be seated)

**8:00 BELLS**    *"How Firm a Foundation & Come Christians Join to Sing"*

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN #783 "Take My Life and Let It Be"**

Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect and use Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

**SERMON**

***"From the Same Mouth!"***

**James 3:1-12**

(Rise)

**8:00 NICENE CREED** *(found on the inside back cover of the hymnal)*

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Lord God, heavenly Father, you have given your beloved Son the tongue to teach us the Truth of your Word and Promises, that He may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary.

**People: Prosper in every place the preaching of His Word. By your Spirit, enable your pastors to proclaim it with clarity and joy. Open our ears and the ears of all your children to hear and believe it with gladness and be transformed by it.**

Pastor: Holy One, raise up new servants of your Church who will dedicate their lives to the spread of your Gospel.

**People: Empower, support, and comfort our Together in Mission partners, Rachel Meyer and Pastor Ferry and family, that they may share the love of Christ in both word and deed.**

Pastor: Remember in kindness this congregation. Set our tongues free from sin that we might use them to bless you as our Lord and Father.

**People: By your Spirit free us from all cursing, gossip, lies, and complaining.**

Pastor: Lord of the church, we rejoice as the Kingdom of Christ extends to others, especially as Liam Joseph Belsha and Owen Jacob Bender are baptized into Christ, receiving the gift of the Spirit and the saving faith he bestows.

**People: Bless the parents of both of these young ones, that they would nurture them both physically and spiritually and raise them in the one true faith.**

Pastor: Father, you teach us in your Word to pray for all who are in authority, that we may lead lives of peace and godliness. Into your hands, we commend all who have been entrusted with offices of public trust in our land.

**People: Grant to them all a share in your wisdom, that they may serve with integrity and honor. Free our public discourse from personal attacks, and help us all to use our tongues to explain our neighbor's actions in the kindest way.**

Pastor: Lord God, almighty, you are an ever-present help in times of trouble. Bless, comfort, encourage, and strengthen all those affected by the devastation of hurricane Florence.

**People: Remind them of your abiding presence, of the promise that you can work good out of the bad, and bless your people to support them with prayer and our resources.**

Pastor: Eternal Father, your Son healed many who suffered from frail and diseased bodies in His ministry, showing your great compassion for us and pointing us toward the final healing to come. Into His hands we commend all who are in need: the sick, the homebound, the lonely, the grieving, the discouraged, the anxious and the depressed, especially: Bob, Herb, Larry, Grant, Marilyn, Cindy, Anita, Scott, LuEva, Dorothy, Dick, Nancy, Jan, Dolores, Shirley, Gladys, Russ, Arlene, Dorothy, John, Arlene, Jack, Shirley, Jonathan, Helen, Leonard and Sarah.

**People: Shower each one with your compassion, and sustain their faith as they await your will.**

Pastor: Giver of every good gift, we rejoice in your goodness day by day. We rejoice with the Weil family as they celebrate the birthdays of children and grandchildren, and the Hoffman's as they celebrate the anniversaries of Frank and Nicki, as well as Scott and Tina.

**People: Bless also Denton as he remembers his departed wife, Linda, on her birthday. Grant us to treasure the people you place in our lives.**

Pastor: Loving One, in the Lord's Supper we partake of Christ's holy passion. He comes to give us His body and blood and His saving righteousness, the forgiveness of all our sins.

**People: Give to all who come to His table today repentance and faith to welcome Him with joy, praying: Lord, I believe; help my unbelief.**

Pastor: Source of all life, receive our praise for those who have died trusting in Jesus Christ.

**People: Give us our portion with the saints in light, and bring us to the day of resurrection joy.**

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## 8:00 THE LORD'S PRAYER

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

### AGNUS DEI

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O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.  
Your mercy never wavers. Your grace will always stay.  
Grant peace we pray, Lord Jesus. Grant peace in ev'ry place.  
From earth's vain chaos free us. Come meet us face to face.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

### HYMN #554 "O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"

O Jesus, King most wonderful! O Conqueror renowned!  
O Source of peace ineffable, In whom all joys are found:

When once You visit darkened hearts, Then truth begins to shine,  
Then earthly vanity departs, Then kindles love divine.

O Jesus, light of all below, The fount of life and fire,  
Surpassing all the joys we know, All that we can desire:

May ev'ry heart confess Your name, Forever You adore,  
And, seeking You, itself inflame To seek You more and more!

Oh, may our tongues forever bless, May we love You alone  
And ever in our lives express The image of Your own!

### HYMN #930 "All You Works of God, Bless the Lord"

All you works of God, bless the Lord! All you angels, now bless the Lord;  
Come, you heavens and pow'rs that be, Praise the Lord and His majesty:

*Refrain*

*Raise your voices high, praise and magnify, All you works of God, bless the Lord!*  
*Raise your voices high, praise and magnify, All you works of God, bless the Lord!*

Sing, you sun and you moon above, Stars of heaven, now sing His love;  
Dew and showers, you winds that blow, Heat and fire, you ice and snow:

*Refrain*

Frost of winter with song so cold, Dews of summer, your song unfold;  
Light and darkness, you day and night, Clouds of thunder, you lightnings  
bright: *Refrain*

Hills and mountains, now sing His worth, All you green things that grow on  
earth; Seas and rivers, you springs and wells, Beasts and cattle, you birds and  
whales: *Refrain*

Come, humanity, sing along, Sing, you people of God, a song:  
Priests and servants, your Lord now bless, Join, you spirits and souls at rest:

*Refrain*

Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart; All you humble, His praise impart;  
God the Father and Son adore, Bless the Spirit forevermore! *Refrain*

### HYMN #704 "Renew Me, O Eternal Light"

Renew me, O eternal Light, And let my heart and soul be bright,  
Illumined with the light of grace That issues from your holy face.

Remove the pow'r of sin from me And cleanse all my impurity  
That I may have the strength and will Temptations of the flesh to still.

Create in me a new heart, Lord, That gladly I obey your Word.  
Let what you will be my desire, And with new life my soul inspire.

Grant that I only you may love And seek those things which are above  
Till I behold you face to face, O Light eternal, through your grace.

## COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

Pastor: I love the LORD, because He has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

**People: Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

### CLOSING HYMN #611 “Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die  
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus' love, Higher than the heavens above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity!  
Love that found me wondrous thought!  
Found me when I sought Him not.

Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart,  
Peace that flows from sin forgiven, Joy that lifts the soul to heaven,  
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.

Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;  
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.  
He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.

O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your word!  
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

Preacher  
Liturgist  
Lectors  
Acolytes  
Organist, 6-8 Director, 5-8 Bells  
Choir Director

Pastor Harold Bender  
Pastor Noah Kegley  
Jim Adams, Melissa Leon  
Emma Harper, Lillia Carson, Riley Gibbs  
Michelle Prince  
Nancy Hoelke

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