

Historic Scripture Lessons for the Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Old Testament

Jeremiah 16:14-21 NIV "However, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "when men will no longer say, 'As surely as the LORD lives, Who brought the Israelites up out of Egypt,' 15 but they will say, 'As surely as the LORD lives, Who brought the Israelites up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where He had banished them.' For I will restore them to the land I gave their forefathers. 16 "But now I will send for many fishermen," declares the LORD, "and they will catch them. After that I will send for many hunters, and they will hunt them down on every mountain and hill and from the crevices of the rocks. 17 My eyes are on all their ways; they are not hidden from Me, nor is their sin concealed from My eyes. 18 I will repay them double for their wickedness and their sin, because they have defiled My land with the lifeless forms of their vile images and have filled My inheritance with their detestable idols." 19 O LORD, My Strength and My Fortress, My Refuge in time of distress, to you the nations will come from the ends of the earth and say, "Our fathers possessed nothing but false gods, worthless idols that did them no good. 20 Do men make their own gods? Yes, but they are not gods!" 21 "Therefore I will teach them - this time I will teach them My Power and Might. Then they will know that My Name is the LORD.

Epistle

I Peter 3:8-14 Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. 9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. 10 For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. 11 He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." 13 Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? 14 But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened."

Gospel

Luke 5:1-11 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, with the people crowding around Him and listening to the Word of God, 2 He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. 3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then He sat down and taught the people from the boat. 4 When He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." 5 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because You say so, I will let down the nets." 6 When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. 7 So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. 8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" 9 For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, 10 and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men." 11 So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed Him.



Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL USA
Fifth Sunday after Trinity ✠ *Discipleship: Follow Jesus*
July 5th, 2015 ✠ 9:30 am



From "Illustrations of the Gospel Stories" by Jerome Nadal: **Luke 5**
Jesus causes and produces an abundant catch of fish.

Image courtesy of the Biblical and Religious Art Collection, <http://catholic-resources.org/Nadal/017.jpg>

OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

www.EvangelicalLutheranSynod.org

6920 N Socrum Loop Road / (north) Lakeland, FL 33809 USA

Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: www.osllakeland.org

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

* A.R. Burmeister 430-5859 * Organ: Janice Thomas (813) 650-9198

July 5th, 2015 * Trinity-5 Discipleship: Follow Jesus

WELCOME to Our Savior! We are so happy to have you worship with us today. If you are visiting us for the first time (or in a long time), we ask that that you please fill out a visitor card found in the pew cardholder and place it in the offering plate. Come and worship with us again! **God bless you.**

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP Printed on sheets and in red (TLH) hymnal p.5 .

Service		
Invocation Hymn	575 (5v)	Before the Lord We Bow
Hymn of the Day	421 (5v)	Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake
Offertory Verse	577 (2v)	<i>Sing vv. 1,2 God Bless Our Native Land</i>
Third Hymn	422 (4v)	Savior, I Follow On
Closing Hymn	410 (4v)	Jesus, Lead Thou On

Suggested Bible readings for the weekdays after the 5th Sunday after Trinity


Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

I SaM17:1-58 I SaM18:1-21 I SaM19:1-24 I SaM20:1-42 I SaM. 22:1-14 I SaM. 24:1-22

Roman.4:1-25 Rom. 5:1-6:2 Romans 6:12-31 Romans 7:1-25 Roman.12:1-29 Romans 13:1-7

PROPERs for THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY JULY 5th

INTROIT Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice; You have been my Help. Do not leave me or forsake me, O God of my salvation. The Lord is my Light and my Salvation; Whom shall I fear? ...Psalm 27

COLLECT O God, You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our heart such love toward You, that we may love You above all things, and lead us, by faith to Your eternal promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. C:  A---men.

GRADUAL C: Behold, O God, our Shield, and look on Your servants. O Lord God of hosts, hear our prayer. Alleluia! Alleluia! The king will joy in Your strength; and in Your salvation he will rejoice greatly. Alleluia! ...from Psalm 84

SCRIPTURE LESSONS (printed on the outside back page of the bulletin)

O.T. **Jeremiah 16:14-21** The Lord sends "fishermen" to His people.

Epi. **I Peter 3:8-14** You were called to inherit a blessing.

Gos. **Luke 5:1-11** Jesus calls fishermen as His first disciples.

SERMON Text: Luke 5:1-11 THEME: "FOLLOW ME, I'M GOIN' FISHIN'!"

OFFERING HYMN VERSE (sung as the Offering is brought up) #577 vv.1,2

1. *God bless our native land!
Firm may she ever stand
Thro' storm and night!
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave
Do Thou our country save
By Thy great might.*

2. *For her our prayer shall rise
To God above the skies;
On Him we wait.
Thou who art ever nigh,
Guarding with watchful eye,
To Thee aloud we cry,
God save the State! Amen.*

PRAYER REQUESTS:	Member or Relation	Pray for...
United States - USA	(4 th)Thank The LORD for All the Freedoms we have	
David & Rachel Divine	(Vivian's g'son & daugh) Serve in US Army - Alaska	
Jim & Elma Hendricks	Elma had surgery at Celebration - back home.	
Linda Kryszak	Still recuperating at home. Pray for further healing	
Vivian Temple (Tom)	Vivian is at home recovering. Foot improving	
Don Wienke (Bev)	Don had (muscle-wrap) surgery - back home.	

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	(Volunteer)	(Volunteer)
(Head)Usher	John Weber	Leroy Dux
Treaters	(Volunteer)	(Volunteer)

Statistics	Last week	Year to date (Avg)
Sunday Attendance (Communion)	--(--)	32 (25)
Bible Class Attendance: Sunday	--	13
Last Sunday Offering (Year To Date)	\$---.00	(YTD) \$--,---.51

Calendar of Events		
Sunday, 7/5	8:30 am	Bible Study in fellowship hall 3 rd Art.
Trinity-5 Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (NO Communion)
(Independence Day)	11:00 ff...	Fellowship, Coffee... <i>Please stay & talk</i>
Wednesday, 17 th	11:00 am	Catechism Class (Mariah) at church
Sunday, 7/12	8:30 am	Bible Study in fellowship hall 3 rd Art.
Trinity-6 Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (WITH Communion)
(& Pastor back)	11:00 ff...	Fellowship, Coffee... <i>Please stay & talk</i>

Our (Savior) Elders are: **Leroy Dux 940-3237; Jim Vanesky 644-7807; John Weber 853-5458 & Don Wienke 863-815-8892.** Please contact them.

* Schedule for 3(or 4) Sundays ; as Pastor Andy has been away a couple weeks:

June 28th (last Sunday) Pastor away that Sunday and the next. On 28th, visiting preacher **Mark Wold** led Worship and delivered a message. Thanks.

July 5th (Independence Day weekend. **No L.S.**) Today, Our Elder **Leroy Dux** will lead Worship and deliver a message to us. **Thanks Leroy** for your service.

July 12th God willing, Pastor will be back from MN to lead us again. (**W/L.S.**)

* Hope everyone has a wonderful (4th) weekend and week. See you all next Sunday!

Next Sun. 7/12 **Trinity-6 Sunday (p.15 W/ LS) #s 370 342 400.1,4 324 47**



TRINITY-5(B) Luke 5:1-11 "FOLLOW ME, I'M GOIN' FISHIN'" 07.05.15 OSL

PRAYER O Lord, Jesus Christ, You have called us to be Your dear children even though we do not deserve this. Forgive us our sins, and prosper and bless us each in our callings, that by Your strength we may serve You. We pray in Your most Holy Name, **Amen**.

GREETING Dear Fellow Redeemed by the Greatest Fisher of Men,

INTRODUCTION Here's a really strange miracle for you: **A miraculous catch of fish.** Tailor-made for fishermen, the first of Jesus' disciples. **Peter, Andrew, James, and John** were partners in a fishing business owned by Zebedee, the father of James and John. Fishermen would probably not be your first choice for disciple material - rough, uneducated, quick with cursing, hot-headed at times. **Not exactly on the "top ten" of most pastoral call lists.** But then, that's Jesus' way of doing things - the **unlikely way.** He was teaching the crowd who came to the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus co-opts Simon's boat and uses it for a pulpit. After the sermon, He tells Simon, *"Go out where the water is deep and let out your nets."* Now this is the **trust point**, and the point of the miracle. Simon may not know much, but he does know a thing or two about fishing.

He knows that the best fishing is done at night, when the fish are bold and hungry and come to the shallows to feed. He also knows that if you don't catch anything at night, you may as well tend your nets and cut your losses and hope for better the next night. He also knows that it doesn't make much sense to put out into the deep during the day when you haven't caught anything in the shallows at night.

But, he also knows this: When Jesus says something, it pays to listen. "At your word, I will let down the nets." That's the **essence of the episode**, as it is with so many episodes in the Gospel. The **crisis of faith.** Will we trust Jesus to take Him at His Word, even when He asks the counterintuitive thing, the unreasonable thing, the outrageous thing? What Jesus is doing for the fishermen is training them in trust. If they trust Him with catching fish, they will learn to trust Him with catching people. If they trust Him with the little things - their livelihood, they will learn to trust Him with the big things - forgiveness, life, and salvation.

When you stop to think about it, it's a small thing for Jesus to say, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." For Jesus, it's like **shooting fish in a barrel.** Who needs sonar when you're the Lord of creation? He spoke the Word that created fish on the fifth day. He knows where all the fish are, because He's the Creator in the flesh. He knows where the fish are hanging out, so it's not a big deal for Him to direct the fishermen's net to where the catch is.

The impression is made. As they pull their busting nets into the boat, and the fish are flopping all over the deck, and more boats are called in to help out, Simon Peter falls down at the feet of Jesus in an **act of worship and confession** and says, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." Peter sounds a bit like the prophet Isaiah when he caught a glimpse of God on His throne in the year that King Uzziah died and saw the Lord in His glory with the six

winged seraphs flying around singing, **"Holy, holy, holy,"** and Isaiah says, *"I'm dead(-man). I'm a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people with unclean lips. I'm a sinner among sinners."*

That's how it is when you come face to face with the Lord. It's not *"Shine, Jesus shine, oh we're so happy to be here and you should be too,"* it's *"Lord, have mercy, I'm a dead man."* Jesus may have looked plain and ordinary enough, like any other local in Galilee. But no one in Galilee has a bead on fish quite like the Lord, and when it dawns on Peter that there is more to Jesus than meets the eye, he immediately becomes aware of his own sin. And his reflex is a good one - he wants to run away, or he wants Jesus to go away. This man who has the Creator's authority over the fish in the sea is simply too much to bear. Peter understands that his sin and God's presence are not compatible, just as Isaiah understood that he had no right to stand before the Lord enthroned in glory.

We think it would be fun, inspiring even, to have been eyewitnesses of these miracles, these revelations of the Mystery of Christ. We imagine that it would be easier to believe, much easier than reading it from a book or hearing it from the pulpit. But we would be wrong. The miracles proclaim the majesty of God, the divinity of Jesus. He does what only God in the flesh can do, and in a way that only God in the flesh can do it. And that face to face encounter with God in the flesh is no source of comfort to a sinner, unless we know for certain He is for us and not against us, that He comes to forgive not to condemn, that He comes in mercy, not in wrath.

It was astonishing, this catch of fish. As was changing water into wine, and healing sicknesses with a word, and casting out demons. It's all astonishing, **and frightening.** This is **how near God is to us in Jesus** - He knows the location of the fish, not to mention the birds and the ants. He knows the number of hairs on your head, and the number of your days. He knows your sin, everything you do and think and say. He knows better than you know. We do well to say with Peter, "Lord, depart from me. Don't come near me. You are holy, I am anything but holy. You are God's sinless Son, and I'm a poor, miserable sinner. You are the Lord of creation, and I am your disobedient creature."

But the beautiful thing is that this **same God of power** is a God of **mercy and forgiveness.** He takes a burning coal and burnishes the lips of his prophet with words of forgiveness: "your guilt is taken away, your sin atoned for." He takes these fishermen - Peter, Andrew, James, John - sinners, all of them, none of them "worthy" on their own to be His disciples, let alone His apostles and first pastors of His church, yet Jesus calls them. "Follow me." Those are the disciple-making words from Jesus, that take a sinner and call Him to repentance, to a new mind. Follow me - and where is Jesus going? To His own death and resurrection. That's where His disciples follow Him - through death to resurrection and life. His path is their path, His life their life, His forgiveness covers their sin.

They have a new life, and by the word of Jesus, a new vocation. "Fear not; from now on you will be catchers of men." They used to catch fish in nets, now they would catch men and women in the nets of Jesus' death and

Resurrection. Jesus gives us an image for the business of disciple-making. Fishing. Net fishing. Don't lose sight of that. There are other kinds of fishing: bait fishing, lure fishing, fly fishing. Those all operate on the basis of deception. Trick the fish into biting onto something - a piece of bait, a shiny lure, a piece of feather or fur skipping on the surface like a fly. And after they've bitten into your little trick, you snag them on a hidden hook and reel 'em in one at a time.

Sadly, I think **the church operates with that model all too often.** Bait and switch, lure them in and hook them at just the right moment. Appeal to their needs and hopefully you can reel them in for the Kingdom. The biggest problem with all of that kind of fishing is that it relies on our smarts, our strategies, our skills, how good our bait is, how attractive our lures are, how real our flies look.

Peter and the fishermen were doing net fishing - casting their nets into the sea and the hauling up whatever was caught. On their own at night, they came up with nothing. In the day, at the Word of Jesus, their nets were bursting full. Net fishing is an act of pure faith. You cast your net hoping, praying, trusting that there are fish under the surface to catch. You can't see them, and you really have no control over what you're catching. Which leads to the **second point.**

Net fishing is ("catholic,") universal, indiscriminate. **Nets catch anything and everything that comes their way.** Stuff you want and stuff you don't want. Fish, old tires, you name it. Jesus told a parable comparing the action of God's Kingdom to a dragnet that hauls in all sorts of fish and other things, and the angels sit on the beach with buckets sorting the keepers from the non-keepers. That's the image Jesus wants to set before His church in mission in the world. It's a boat casting out a huge net, taking Jesus at His word, making disciples of the nations by baptizing and teaching. **Not** luring people into the Kingdom, sweeping them in, capturing them in the gracious net of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Not discriminating, picking and choosing, deciding which are the keepers and which to throw back. And like fish caught in a net, a lot of them don't want to be there. As the net tightens around the fish, they always look for a way to escape. But the paradox is that the way to save your life is to lose your life, like all those fish that were pulled up into the fishermen's boats that day.

We follow the Word of Jesus, the Lord of creation, the Savior of all, the Lord of the Church. *"Make disciples of all the nations."* Go fishing in the deep water. Cast out your nets, the net of the good news of Jesus' death and Resurrection. Baptize and teach, and in the baptizing and teaching, Jesus says, **"I am with you always, to the end of the age."** Go fishing, the Lord says to His Church. Cast the net of Jesus' Resurrection wide and deep into the waters of the world. And whether we haul in a boat load or a few, that's the Lord's business, and He knows best. **The catch is His, not ours.**

CONCLUSION I can't leave this miracle without pointing out something obvious and yet not so obvious. A ton of **fish** died that day to make a point. Boat loads of fish hauled out of their happy home in the sea into a boat to their certain death to give us a picture of the Kingdom of God in action. Could that be right? **You bet it is.** To die in Jesus, caught in His net, is to live forever in Him. In Baptism you were buried with Christ in His death, caught in His net, dragged out of the depths of sin and death into His boat. Caught by Jesus, who died and Rose to save you, you couldn't be in a better boat. **In His Holy Name, Amen. SDG**

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL USA
5th Sunday after Trinity † **SERMON: "Gone Fishin'"**
July 5th, 2015 9:30 am



*Woodcut illustration in a 1695 Bible – Luke 5:1-11
Peter kneels before Jesus in repentance as the other disciples
pull in the miraculous catch of fish.*

Image courtesy of the Digital Image Archive, Pitts Theology Library, Candler School of Theology, Emory University
<http://www.pitts.emory.edu/DIA/detail.cfm?ID=3098>