

Historic Scripture Lessons 🐦 for the 15th Sunday after Trinity

Old Testament

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 NIV Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is One. 5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These Commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Epistle

Galatians 5:24-6:10 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. 6:1 Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. 2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. 3 If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, 5 for each one should carry his own load. 6 Anyone who receives instruction in the Word must share all good things with his instructor. 7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. 8 The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. 9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do

not give up. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Gospel

Matthew 6:24-34 "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money. 25 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? 28 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

3-Yr Gospel Mark 7:31-37 (Inside)

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL  ELS
Fifteenth Sunday in Trinity ✠ *Christian Contentment*
Lilies of Field & Birds of Air 🐦 September 9th, 2018



OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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

✘ Rev. Andrew R. Burmeister 863-430-5859 ✘ Organ: A.R. Burmeister

September 9th, 2018 ✘ Trinity-15 ✘ Contentment

WELCOME to Our Savior! Visitors, please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate. And, come worship with us again! **God bless your week.**

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP On gold liturgy sheets and in (red) Hymnal p.5 .

Suggested Hymn	TLH# (vv)	...First Line
Opening Hymn	27 (6v)	Oh, Bless the LORD, My Soul
Psalm 91	Ps.91 '3v'	Be With Me LORD When I Am in Trouble ↗
Hymn of the Day	651 (4v)	Be Still My Soul; The LORD is on Thy Side
Offertory Verse	346 (6v)	Sing v.1 Jesus! And Shall It Ever Be ... →
Third Hymn	346 (6v)	Sing vv.2-6 Ashamed of Jesus? Sooner far
Closing Hymn	436 (5v)	The LORD's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

Suggested Bible readings for the weekdays of the 15th Sunday after Trinity

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
II King20:1-21	II Kings21:1-26	II Chro.34:1-33	II Ch35:20-36:10	Jeremia22:1-30	Jer. 25:1-14
Titus 3:8-15	Philemon	Hebrews1:1-14	Hebrew.2:5-3:6	Heb. 4:14-5:14	Heb. 6:1-20

PROPERs for FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY ☪ ✘ SEPTEMBER 9th

INTROIT Bow down Your ear, O LORD, hear me. You are my God, save Your servant who trusts in You. Be merciful to me, O LORD, for I cry to You all day long. Rejoice the soul of Your servant, for to You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. Ps.86

COLLECT O LORD, we beseech You, let Your continual mercy cleanse and defend Your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without Your help, preserve and govern it evermore by Your help and goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our LORD, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. C: ♪ A---men.

GRADUAL C: It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes. Alleluia! Alleluia! O God, my heart is fixed! I will sing and make music with all my soul. Alleluia! ...Psalms 118&108

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

O.T. Deuteronomy 6:4-7 Love the LORD, your God, who is One God.

Epi. Galatians 5:24-6:10 Let's not become weary of still doing good.

Gos. Matthew 6:24-34 Let God's Kingdom be your first & top priority.

Sermon Text: Mark 7:31-37 Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. 32 There some people brought to Him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Him to place His hand on the man. 33 After He took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put His fingers into the man's ears. Then He spit and touched the man's tongue. 34 He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to Him, "Ephphatha!" (which means, "Be opened!") 35 At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly. 36 Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more He did so, the more they kept talking about it. 37 People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

Psalm 91 REFRAIN: BE WITH ME LORD, WHEN I AM IN TROUBLE; BE WITH ME LORD, I PRAY

Refrain C: ♪ Be with me LORD, when I am in trouble; Be with me LORD, I pray.

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the LORD Most High, Who abide in the shadow of our God. Say to the LORD: "My Refuge and Fortress, the God in whom I trust."

Refrain C: ♪ Be with me LORD, when I am in trouble; Be with me LORD, I pray.

2. No evil shall befall you, no pain come near, For His angels stand close by your side. Guarding you always and bearing you gently, Watching over your life.

Refrain C: ♪ Be with me LORD, when I am in trouble; Be with me LORD, I pray.

3. Those who cling to the LORD live secure in His love, Lifted high those who trust in His Name. Call on the LORD, He will never forsake you, He will bring you salvation and joy. C: ♪ BE WITH ME LORD, WHEN I AM IN TROUBLE; BE WITH ME LORD, I PRAY.

OFFERING #346 C: ♪ 1. Jesus, and Shall It- Ever Be

A mortal man ashamed of Thee? Ashamed of Thee, Whom an-gels- praise, Whose glories shine through endless days? A--men.

PRAYER REQUESTS: (Member or Relation) Pray for...

Dee Kurczewski (David) Dee - falls. Rehabbing. David flipped van. Working
Jon & Andrea Sawyer Jon's heart, hopes to resume work. Andrea starts work
Ethel Wendt (Steve) Ethel has (major) surgery scheduled this Wednesday
Barb Wolkens Barb serious stiffened her neck. We pray she is improving
James Vanesky & Delores Platt Both at home rehabbing. We miss them

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	Joan Patrick	Bev & Don Wienke
Treaters	Mary Lou Knigge	

Statistics	Last week	Year To Date / Avg.
Sunday, Attendance (Communion)	17 / (16)	20 / 17
Bible Class Attendance: Sunday	8	8
Sunday Offering & Year-To-Date	\$.	YTD Total \$.

Calendar of Events		
Today, Sept, 9 th	8:30 am	Bible Study NT Themes, Keys: Gospel
Trinity-15 Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (NO Communion)
(Contentment) Lilies	10:45 ff...	"FFF" = Food, Fun & Fellowship ...Stay!
Tuesday, 9/11	1:30-3:30	OSL "Game Time" - Activities in hall
Thursday, 9/13	1:30 pm	OSL Church Council (1 st) SEP Meeting
Saturday, 9/15	10:00 am	OSLadies Guild (1 st) SEP Meeting in hall
Next Sunday, 9/16	8:30 am	Bible Study NT Themes: Kingdom of God
Trinity-16 Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (NO Communion)
(Dying & Rising)	10:45 ff...	"FFF" = Food, Fun & Fellowship ...Stay!

Elders: Tom Temple 213-4622; John Weber 853-5458; Don Wienke 815-8892.

September 9th ELS 100 Years*Proclaim the Wonders God Has Done: 1918-2018



The Synodical Conference came to a close after the ELS and the WELS separated from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod over the doctrine of church fellowship. In 1993 efforts by the ELS and the WELS to form a new international organization of fellowship came to fruition in what today is known as the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference (The CELC) which meets on a triennial basis.

Next Sunday 9/16 Trinity-16 (p.15 L.S.) 215 Ps.91 516 644 315 613

TRINITY-15 (P.16A) Mark 7:31-37 "JESUS HEALS THE DEAF MUTE" 09.09.18 OSL

PRAYER *Dear Lord Jesus, You are our High Priest and our Healer. Through Your death and Resurrection You have given ears to hear to those who in their sinful condition were deaf to all things spiritual. This included me. Today we again hear Your divine, "Ephphatha" in Your wonderful healing Gospel. May our ears, hearts and minds be opened that we gladly hear and receive Your Word. May the strings of our tongues also be loosed that we can speak boldly and clearly to others about the message of life and the way to You. Make our lives a reflection of You and Your love. You are our blessed Savior. Amen.*

HEAR/SPEAK Hearing and speaking. They are the input and output channels for words. Words go into ears; words come out of mouths. We learn by hearing and then speaking back what we have heard. We communicate by listening and speaking, hopefully in the right proportions.

GO TOGETHER Hearing and speaking **also run together**. The little child learns to speak by mimicking the sounds that he hears. First syllables, then words, then sentences, then whole paragraphs and on to a lifetime of grand conversation. When something is wrong with the ears, the mouth also will not work. The mouth relies on the ears. If you cannot hear, you will find it difficult to speak. People who are born deaf have a very difficult time learning to speak, if indeed they are able to speak at all. Many use sign language to hear with their eyes and speak with their hands.

WORD GETS AROUND Some people brought a deaf mute to Jesus. They were in the region of the Decapolis, the same region where Jesus had exorcised a legion of demons from a man and cast them into a herd of pigs who promptly jumped off a cliff into the sea. **Word had gotten around**. This Jesus had power. The One Who had power of the demons would surely have the power to heal their friend. *"Please lay your hand on him and make him better."*

WORLD OF WORDS Deafness isn't a disease, really. It's not life threatening. You don't die of being deaf. **But a world of silence is isolating**. A life without words is a life without communication. Think of all the things you hear and say each day. We are all "word processors" from the moment we wake up and say our first prayers and good mornings. We hear words and speak them to others. Kind words. True words. Loving words. Flattering words. Hateful words. Lying words. Our lives are full of words heard and spoken. Words are the stuff of communication and **communication is at the heart of communion**. We have "word fellowship" with one another. A common language, a means of expressing ourselves to another.

(UN)COMMON LANGUAGE Think about learning another language. Without a common language, we can't communicate, we can't make ourselves be understood, we can't express our thoughts and feelings. Those of **you who have learned and used other languages**, do you remember the first time you spoke to another person in their language? The **thrill** of being understood, of cracking through that language barrier with even a few

words. It's an amazing experience, and one that is completely lost to someone who is deaf. In some ways, deafness is worse than a disease.

EARTHY MEANS Jesus has mercy on the man. He pulls him aside privately. He's not going to make a show out of this. And He does some things that seem strange to us. He sticks his fingers in the man's ears. He spits and touches the man's tongue. He lifts his eyes to Heaven. **He sighs. Sign language**. That is language this man could understand.

BE OPEN! He speaks to the man's ears: "**Ephphatha**." A funny sounding Aramaic word (that means) **Be opened**. That's all it takes from Jesus. **One Word**. The man's ears were opened, his tongue released. He could hear; he could speak plainly.

BE QUIET?! And then what does Jesus say? *"Don't tell anyone."* He just fixes a man's ear and tongue and He says, *"Don't tell anyone."* But of course, they go and **tell everyone** because no one listens to Jesus anyway, and how do you **not tell everyone** when your life that was full of silence is now filled with words? You want to use those words and tell everyone in your own words what Jesus has done for you.

HE IS US We are that deaf mute in the Decapolis. As children of Adam we are conceived and born *spiritually* "hard of hearing and slow of speech." Deaf to God's Word; mute to prayer and praise. **We don't hear** or listen when God speaks to us. We don't naturally have words of prayer and praise on our lips. **Our ears are blocked, our tongues are tied**. What we **do** hear is **ourselves**. The words we want to hear are **our** words, **our** wisdom, **our** self-justifications, all the ways we try to build **ourselves** up. That's what we want to hear. That's what we want others to hear as well. Our own "spiritual noise." That's what we want to sing in a way too. Not the new song of salvation but the "old song of **our** religion" that doesn't magnify the Lord but magnifies **me** and wants to justify **us** to God.

BREAK THE SILENCE But Jesus **intrudes into our spiritual silence**. Jesus "sticks His Fingers into our ears," **not** to tickle them or scratch our particular itch but to **beat the rhythm of salvation onto our eardrums**. He spits His "Baptismal spit" of contempt against sin, death and the devil that want to enslave and destroy us. He looks to the Father, sighs His Spirit and speaks His **Ephphatha!** to us. And with that Word He creates faithful ears that hear. **"Faith comes by hearing."** He takes hold of our tied-up tongues and releases a torrent of thanksgiving, confession, prayer and praise. *"O Lord, open Thou my lips, and my mouth will declare Thy praise."* If the Lord doesn't open our lips and loosen our tongues, there will be no prayer and praise coming out, but only the litany of curses and self-justifications and judgments **that are a denial of God and an insult to our humanity**.

PERSONAL HEALING *"Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped, then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy."* Isaiah said that centuries

before, laying down the prophetic path for Messiah. These were Messianic signs. These were signs that the Kingdom of God was coming, that the **Age of Messiah** had dawned, that the forces of darkness and death had met the match and were defeated. Jesus didn't do these miraculous signs for headlines and celebrity. This wasn't like the hucksters on TV who broadcast their alleged "miracles" for millions to gawk at and send them money. Remember, **Jesus did this privately, away from the crowds.**

TRUE PURPOSE That's because He didn't come to start a movement. **He came to save the world.** He didn't come to be a wonder-working celebrity. He came to die on a Cross. He didn't come to fix every deaf ear and tied tongue. He came to bring life and salvation, to see humanity through death to Resurrection, to glorify our humanity at God's Right Hand, to lay down His Life as the one and only Sacrifice that atones for our sins.

OUTREACH/EVANGELISM People had to bring that deaf mute to Jesus. He hadn't heard about Jesus. He couldn't hear. He couldn't ask Jesus for anything. He couldn't speak. Friends brought him to Jesus and prayed for him. **That's evangelism. That's mission. That's outreach.** Here is one verse in the Gospel that you can be completely sure **does NOT apply to you at all.** It's what Jesus said to those people that day. *"Don't tell anyone what happened."* **That's NOT for you.** We hear the opposite. *"Go and make disciples of all nations."* In other words, **"Go and tell everyone."**

AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' YET They went and told everyone, in spite of what Jesus said. And people marveled and were astonished beyond measure. *"He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."* And we might say, **"You aint seen nothin' yet."**

IT IS FINISHED Now you see why Jesus told them not to tell anyone. Because then, at that moment. He wasn't finished yet. He hadn't breathed His last great Sigh. **"It Is Finished."** That's where all these signs and wonders and healings and demon castings and miracles point. To the Cross and **His** sighing and dying. That's where the **price of these miracles is paid out.** Jesus goes along touching the untouchable, sticking fingers in ears, grabbing hold of tongues, reaching out to lepers, even raising the dead ... all **to absorb into His Flesh all that has gone wrong with our flesh.**

ALL 4 U! He becomes the disease for your healing. He becomes **deaf in His death for your hearing.** He becomes **mute for your praise.** He becomes **sin for your righteousness.** He goes into darkness so that you might walk in Light.

HE HAS DONE ALL THINGS WELL ... Oh yes, He has! He made the blind to see, the deaf to hear, the lame to walk, the mute to talk. He justifies the sinner. He raises the dead. He Baptizes, feeds, and forgives you. He opens your ears to His Word. He loosens your tongues to sing His new song of Salvation. He has done all things well. And you, Baptized believer, are the living proof of it. **IJ'N, Amen. SDG**

Possible Prayer of the Church ☩ 15th Sunday after Trinity September 9th, 2018

Let us take up our priestly duty and intercede on behalf of Christ's Church and all those in need. (Possible) Brief silence

For the baptized, that the Spirit would constantly open our ears to hear Jesus' Word and set our tongues free to glorify Him who does all things well, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all the servants of the Word, that through their preaching and teaching, the healing waters of the Gospel may flow through the wilderness of this world, quenching thirst with the gift of the Spirit, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the gift of new church workers, that God would raise up those who speak to the anxious of heart: *"Be strong; fear not! Your God will come and save you,"* let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For freedom from all prejudice that judges with evil thoughts and makes distinctions that dishonor the poor, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our Congress, our president, our justices and all in authority in our land, that God would grant them wisdom, courage, civility and honor as they carry out their difficult responsibilities, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who suffer oppression from the evil one, for all who struggle under sickness or loneliness or grief, for all whom we have been asked to remember, [especially [OSL Prayer List](#).]

PRAYER REQUESTS:	(Member or Relation)	Pray for...
Dee Kurczewski	(David)	Dee - falls. Rehabbing. David flipped van. Working
Jon & Andrea Sawyer		Jon's heart, hopes to resume work. Andrea starts work
Ethel Wendt	(Steve)	Ethel has (major) surgery scheduled this Wednesday
Barb Wolkens		Barb serious stiffened her neck. We pray she is improving
James Vanesky & Delores Platt		Both at home rehabbing. We miss them

that Christ would grant them deliverance and healing according to His gracious Will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For whenever we come to the Lord's Altar, that acknowledging our unworthiness to so much as gather the crumbs from under His table, Christ may mercifully feed us with His very Body and Blood and grant us to rejoice forevermore in His love and to show forth His praise in lives dedicated to works of faith, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the faithful departed, let us offer our praise and thanksgiving, and ask for grace to join them in glorifying Christ forever, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

75Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen. Then, The Lord's Prayer**