

Old Testament

Leviticus 18:1-5 NIV The LORD said to Moses, 2 "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'I AM the LORD your God. 3 You must not do as they do in Egypt, where you used to live, and you must not do as they do in the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you. Do not follow their practices. 4 You must obey My laws and be careful to follow My decrees. I AM the LORD your God. 5 Keep My decrees and laws, for the man who obeys them will live by them. I AM the LORD.

Historic Epistle

Galatians 3:15-22 Brothers, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case. 16 The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. The Scripture does not say "and to seeds," meaning many people, but "and to your seed," meaning one person, who is Christ. 17 What I mean is this: The Law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise. 18 For if the inheritance depends on the Law, then it no longer depends on a promise; but God in his grace gave it to Abraham through a Promise. 19 What, then, was the purpose of the Law? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was put into effect through angels by a mediator. 20 A mediator, however, does not represent just one party; but God is one. 21 Is the Law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the Law. 22 But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.

Historic Gospel

Luke 10:23-37 25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" 26 "What is written in the Law?" He replied. "How do you read it?" 27 He answered: "'Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind;' and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" 28 "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." 29 ... 37 Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

3-Year C Gospel (Sermon)

Luke 13:22-30 Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as He made His way to Jerusalem. 23 Someone asked Him, "LORD, are only a few people going to be saved?" He said to them, 24 "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. 25 Once the Owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.' 26 "But He will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.' 27 "Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.' 28 "But He will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from Me, all you evildoers!' 29 "There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. 30 People will come from East and West and North and South, and will take their places at the Feast in the Kingdom of God. 31 Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last."



OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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BIBLE CLASS 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 11:15 AM

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

September 15th, 2019 ✦ Trinity-13 Christian Charity

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER: If you are new to the area or our worship and have never communed with us before, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you are not currently a member of an ELS or WELS congregation, we ask that you please **wait to take Communion until you can speak with our pastor.** Out of Christian love and consideration to you the guest, we want you to have the opportunity to learn what our church teaches about the Bible and Sacraments before you unite with us in taking Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding. LORD's blessings to you.

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP On silver liturgy sheets or in red TLH Hymnal p.15

Service	TLH# (vv)	...First Line
Opening Hymn	250 (4v)	Holy God, We Praise Thy Name
<i>Psalm 104</i>	<i>Ps.104 "3v"</i>	<i>LORD, Send Out Your Spirit And Renew... 7</i>
Hymn of the Day	415 (7v)	Lo Many Shall Come from the East&West
Offertory Verse	644 (1v)	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>
Distribution Hymn	324 (8v)	Jesus, Sinners Doth Receive Oh may all...
Closing Hymn	508 (4v)	Thou, Whose Almighty Word Chaos &...

Suggested Bible readings for the weekdays after the 13th Sunday after Trinity

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
II King10:1-36	II Chro.22:1-12	II Chro.23:1-21	II Chro.24:1-27	II Kiing.14:1-29	II Kings15:1-38
IThes.5:12-28	I Tim. 1:1-20	I Tim. .2:1-15	I Tim. 3:1-16	I Tim. 4:1-16	I Tim. 5:1-25

PROPERs for THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY ✦ SEPTEMBER 15th

INTROIT Have respect, O LORD, to Your Covenant; Do not let the oppressed return ashamed! Arise, O God, plead Your own cause; do not forget the voice of Your enemies. O God, why have You cast us off forever? Why does Your anger smoke against the sheep of Your pasture? ...Psalm 74

COLLECT Almighty and everlasting God, You have made us heirs of Your eternal and great promises: Increase in us daily the gifts of faith, hope, and love; that we may love all that You command; 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: Alleluia! Alleluia! O LORD, deal with Your servant according to Your mercy and teach me Your statutes. I am Your servant, give me understanding; that I may know Your testimonies. Alleluia!
...also from Psalm 74

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

O.T. Leviticus 18:1-5	God says: "I AM the LORD your God."
Epi. Galatians 3:15-22	The Law does <i>not</i> nullify the (Abramic) Promise.
Gos. Luke 10:23-37	Jesus (tells the Parable and) IS the Good Samaritan.

SERMON (3-Year Gospel) **Luke 13:22-30** (W-I-D-E VERSUS) **NARROW DOOR/S.**

PSALM 104 ♪ LORD, send out Your Spirit, – And renew the face of the earth;
LORD, send out Your Spirit, – And renew the face of the earth.

Verse 1. ♪ O bless- the LORD, my soul, – O Lord, how great are Your ways!
How ma-ny are Your works-, O LORD, – The earth is full of Your glory!

Refrain C: ♪ LORD, send out Your Spirit, – And renew the face of the earth;
LORD, send out Your Spirit, – And renew the face of the earth.

Verse 2. ♪ You take back Your Spirit; They die, – Return-ing to- the dust.
You send forth Your Spirit, they are created, – You-renew the face of the earth.

Refrain C: ♪ LORD, send out Your Spirit, – And renew the face of the earth;
LORD, send out Your Spirit, – And renew the face of the earth.

Verse 3. ♪ May the glory of God be forever,– May the LORD rejoice in His Works!
May my thoughts and my deeds be pleasing to Him – I find my joy in the LORD.

Refrain C: ♪ LORD, send out Your Spirit, – And renew the face of the earth;
LORD, send out Your Spirit, – And renew the face of the earth.

#644 C: ♪ Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye Heav'nly Host:
PRAYSE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST. (A-MEN)

PRAYER REQUESTS:	Member or Relation	Pray for...
Umberto	(Tropical Storm)	Those in the path yet of this tropical storm
Shirley Marquardt	(DuWayne)	Shirley had a (2 nd) hernia surgery in August
Vivian Temple	(Tom)	Vivian is at home recovering. Tom is helping her
Joe Thacker	(Bev Foster)	Joe had blood work done in Michigan. Is still in MI
Jim Vanesky & Delores Platt		Jim had a fall, stitches out, back at home rehab
Dave Wiesenauer	(Pat)	Dave has (1 st) surgery scheduled this Thursday 19 th

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	Bev & Don Wienke	Elaine Jones
Treaters	Joan Patrick	(Potluck Lunch?)

Statistics	Last week	Year To Date / Avg.
Sunday, Attendance (Communion)	17 / (-)	19 / 17
Bible Class Attendance: Sunday	8	7 / 6
Sunday Offering (Needed) & YTD	\$. (\$1.3K)	YTD \$,./\$45.3K

Calendar of Events		
Today September 15	9:00 am	BibleStudy Messiah/I AM Stmts: Temple
Trinity-13 - Charity	10:00 am	Divine Worship (WITH Communion)
The Good Samaritan	11:15 ff...	"FFF" = Food, Fun & Fellowship ...Stay!
Monday, 9/16	9am-3pm	Pastor at Winkel in Winter Haven
Saturday, 9/21	10:00 pm	OSLadies' Guild September Meeting
Sunday, 9/22	9:00 am	BibleStudy Messiah/I AM Stmts: Water
Trinity-14 Thanks	10:00 am	Divine Worship (NO Communion)
10 Healed Lepers	11:15 ff...	"FFF" = Food, Fun & Fellowship ...Stay!

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

Next Sunday 9/22 Trinity-14/P.15C (p.5 No LS) 574 Ps.91 36 441.1,2 30 CW#379

TRINITY-13(P14C) Luke 13:22-30 "W-I-D-E vs. NARROW DOOR" 09.15.19 OSL

ONLY A FEW?!

As Jesus was making His way to Jerusalem to give His Life to save the world, someone came up to Him with a question. **"Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?"**

LOOK AROUND

You wonder sometimes, don't you, when you look around at the world as it is. When you look at the **state of the Church** as it is. When churches have become houses of entertainment or personal therapy or anything but repentance and forgiveness in the Name of Jesus. When you look at the diminishing impact that Christianity seems to have, especially in our place and time, you begin to wonder yourself. **Will only a few be saved in the end?**

QUESTION'S MOTIVATION Perhaps the person who asked the question noticed something similar. He saw the large crowds hanging around Jesus, pushing Him for a miracle, demanding favors, looking to get something from him. And the guy wonders out loud, *"Does anyone actually trust Jesus around here?"* Or perhaps the question comes out of a self-centered kind of security: *"I know I'm in, but look at all these losers. You're not telling me they're in too, are you Jesus?"* Maybe he's worried about the seating at the Heavenly Banquet; will he need a reservation to ensure a seat? Or perhaps he's like the safety-minded guy on a boat who sizes up the life raft and his fellow passengers. Is the life raft big or small? Will few get on or many?

EXCLUSIVE CLUB

Whatever his motives, he **assumes that salvation is for the few and not the many**, that the Kingdom of God is an exclusive country club, a refuge for the religious, a sanctuary for the salvageable, a health spa for the spiritually fit ... the "winners."

Ever catch YOURSELF thinking that(?) *Thank God I'm not like other people who don't have the decency and common sense to worship on Sunday morning, who don't seem to get or even want to get the good news that their sins are forgiven freely for Jesus' sake, who don't even seem to care about the sins and even laugh at the notion that there is such a thing as "sin."* Ever catch yourself thinking of the church **as the religious equivalent of a political party** where the like-minded all get together and talk about how everyone else is **too stupid to see it our way?!**

"Are only a FEW people going to be saved?" How would YOU answer?

YES&NO

Jesus rarely answers questions posed to Him. He usually answers a question with another question or starts talking about something completely different, which He does here today. And in doing so, gets to the heart of the matter. Are only a few people going to be saved? Jesus' answer is a **paradoxical "YES" AND "NO."** It all **depends on how you look at it.**

ALL ROADS...

"Strive to enter by the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able." The way into the Kingdom of God is incredibly narrow; everything else is a brick wall. There is only **one, narrow door.** You hear it all the time, in our politically-correct, multi-cultural, inclusive age: **"All roads lead to heaven; we all worship the same**

god only in different ways; it doesn't matter what you believe as long as you believe something." <-WRONG! The opening to eternal life is a **thin Cross-shaped** opening in a solid stone wall of the Law, the Law that bars a sinner from God's presence. That Wall says **"Be perfect, be holy, keep every Commandment in thought, word, and deed ... or you can't enter."** And it doesn't matter how hard you try, or how hard you throw yourself against that wall, or take a running start and try to climb or jump, **you can NOT make it.** There is only One Way through the Law to God, and that is through the narrow opening of the **perfect life and death** of Jesus, the Son of God. He is that Narrow Door in an otherwise impenetrable wall that leads to life.

NO CAN DO

Religion, i.e. this business of trying to **deal with God by doing good**, is really **trying to knock down the wall of the Law or climb over it by your strength and will** (with God's help of course, but **you** always wind up doing it or it wouldn't be religion). And that's not the way to be saved. To be saved is to be saved. It happens **TO you**; it's something done **FOR you** by another. You can**NOT save yourself**, by definition. You can't save yourself from drowning, from a fire, from being trapped. If you could save yourself, then you wouldn't need to be saved.

This is what makes Christianity the "Joker" in the deck of religious playing cards. It's the one (and only) "religion" that doesn't have you work your way in. You simply trust that you are in by virtue of the death of Another. You trust that you are righteous before a righteous God, not for what you have done but because He says so, but for what Jesus has done and has given to you. You trust that you are Baptized, forgiven, clothed with Christ, united with Him in His death and life, that in Him you are free from the Law, that in Jesus you have been pulled through the very narrow door of this one dark death on a Cross that embraced you and will not let you go.

The way of Christ is a narrow, exclusive way. *"No one comes to the Father, except through Me,"* Jesus said. And His death and Resurrection are the only way that leads to life. There is no other way. All other paths, no matter how pious, how religious, how rigorous, how full of works and rituals and disciplines, run head long into the brick wall of the Law and come to nothing but destruction.

T.O.G.

The window of opportunity is short = one lifetime. (Time of Grace.) The door shuts at your death or at the day of Jesus' appearing, whichever comes first, and you do not know the day or the hour. The smart money says, "Don't delay when it comes to Jesus." There will be those who find themselves on the wrong side of that narrow door, who bang on it and plead, who argue that they are entitled to be let in, *"We ate with you, we drank with you, we heard you teach in our streets."* But it's **not** about what we did, but who we are in relation to Jesus. *"I don't know you or where you come from,"* is the word of judgment to all who would try to "credential" their way in. (And its) ... **Too little, too late.**

AUDIENCE Jesus is speaking to the religious of His day. Those who were **working hard to please God**; those who religiously **kept the fasts and feasts and tithes and traditions**. But they did **not** trust the mercy of God toward sinners. They looked down on their fellow sinners and judged them unfit for the Kingdom. They were the winners. But in the end, the religious winners weep and grind their molars at the grace of God toward sinners, when people from the four corners of the world dine with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob at the Lamb's High Feast.

FOR **ALL!** **There's** the inclusive or **Universal** part of **salvation**. Will only a few be saved? **NO, not a few, but MANY**. Many who had no inherent "right" to be there. Many including the Gentiles, the nations, the ancient enemies of Israel, from **the north, south, east, and west**. Isaiah spoke of it when he said that prophets would go out from Israel to **Tarshish**, to the **Libyans**, the **Lidians**, **Tubal**, and **Greece**, to distant islands, to those who had not heard the name of Jehovah. And they will bring them all together and gather the nations on Jehovah's Holy Mountain.

4-ALL Jesus commanded His disciples to make disciples of **"all nations."** **As many as Jesus died for**. And how many did the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world die for? **Not just a few, or even a lot, but "the many," the whole lot = ALL!** *"For He bore the sins of the many, and made intercession for transgressor."* & *"This is My Blood of Covenant poured out for many(all!) for the forgiveness of sins."* & *"He is the atoning Sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world."*

WIDE, ACTUALLY The Narrow Door is also a Wide Door really, embracing **ALL** of humanity in one perfect life, squeezing the world through one perfect death, one Resurrection from the dead. Just as **one man, Adam, dragged all** of humanity into sin and death, so **One Man, Jesus, pulls all humanity** into His forgiveness and life by His own Cross and tomb.

HOW MANY(?) So, **back we come to the original question** on our menu this morning. **Will only a few be saved? How do YOU answer?** It depends entirely on how you look at it. If you look at it from **our** perspective, from our **inability to find the narrow door** and squeeze our way through it on our own, the answer is yes, only a few. And you can never really be sure that you'll be among the few. So few, it's not worth considering. In fact, **Only One. One Perfect Jew** Who makes it in on His own merits, and you are **not** Him. His Name is **Jesus**.

MANY! But if you **look at it from God's perspective**, lensed through the Narrow Door of Jesus' death, the answer is **NO**. Not few, but **many**, a great multitude no one can count from every nation, tribe, people, and language. The narrow door of Jesus' death is wide enough to include the worst of sinners, the chief of sinners, even you. Will only a few be saved? The key to getting the question right is to get it **"Jesus-Right."** **He's the narrow door** that leads to life. And looking to Him, you don't even have to ask the question. **IJ'N, Amen. SDG**

POSSIBLE Prayer of the Church ✠ 13th Sunday after Trinity, September 15th

Let us pray to the Lord on behalf of His Church, our nation, the causes of peace and justice, the needs of the sick, and all people as they have need.

We praise Your goodness, O Lord, for sustaining us day to day in all our needs of body and life and for delivering to us Your Son that we may enjoy forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. We rejoice that You have granted to us the Comforter, that we may not be without Your guidance and gifts, and we ask You to help us treasure in our hearts all that You have supplied for us and for our salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Bless Your Church, O Lord, and preserve all Your people whom You have called by Your Word, given new birth in the waters of Baptism, and fed and nourished by their Communion upon the body and blood of our Savior. Make us perfect in love, that we may keep Your commands and do the good works that glorify You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Make wise and faithful all pastors and all those who hold office in Your Church, O Lord, that by their devotion and service many may hear Your Word and be brought to faith. Raise up many who will heed Your call and serve where You desire. Bless the work of missionaries far and near and those who give aid and comfort to the poor and those in need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our ...**

Give to our nation wise and honorable leaders, O Lord, that we may be protected by good laws and delivered from injustice, prejudice and hatred. Bless the members of our armed forces who defend us against our enemies, and guide us that we may be good citizens. Bring harmony and concord to the nations, that war and violence may cease and we may work together for the common good. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Deliver us from a judgmental spirit, O Lord, and instill within us a repentant heart, that we may seek reconciliation and peace through confession and the forgiveness of sins. Bless those who work within Your Church to bring peace and unity where there is division, mistrust and hate. Lord, in Your ...

Bring to the sick and sorrowing the comfort of Your grace, that in the days of their afflictions and in their time of adversity they may know Your presence and healing grace [*especially OSL Prayer List*]. According to Your gracious will, grant to all the consolation of Your love and Your tender compassion. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

We recall with thanksgiving, O Lord, those who served You in days past and now rest from their labors, and we pray You to keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, those who await our Lord's coming on earth and those whom You have brought into Your nearer presence. By this holy communion, give us grace to sustain us through the changes and chances of this mortal life, and keep us to that day when Christ shall call us unto Himself and we shall know You face to face, in the marriage supper of the Lamb that knows no end. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

O Lord, all things are Yours, and You have promised to well supply us with all that we need. Give us courage and faith, that we may give a confident "amen" to these prayers, certain that You will give us all that is good and beneficial to our salvation and preserve us from all things harmful, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, through whom, with whom and in whom, be all honor and glory, both now and forever. **Amen. Then, Lord's Supper, p.24**