



16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4660 West 94th Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

(708) 423-1040
Pastor John Moeller

www.stpauloaklawn.org
Director of Music Ruth Sievers

As We Gather

In today's Scripture readings, James draws our attention to the tongue. Our tongues might be small but, like the rudder of a ship, the tongue is vitally important to us for staying on the right course. If the rudder is broken, the ship goes adrift. If the tongue is filled with evil, so will be the rest of our lives. But the tongue also boasts of great things, speaking God's good Word of forgiveness and life. Remember that Jesus has restored all things, including our tongues to no longer speak evil, but to glorify Him and His Word.

Prelude

"Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear"

M. Praetorius

Opening Hymn

"Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear"

#908

- 1 Lord, open now my heart to hear,
And through Your Word to me draw near;
Let me Your Word e'er pure retain;
Let me Your child and heir remain.
- △ 3 To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Shall glory, praise, and honor be
Now and throughout eternity.
- 2 Your Word inspires my heart within;
Your Word grants healing from my sin;
Your Word has pow'r to guide and bless;
Your Word brings peace and happiness.

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Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Opening Sentences

- P** I called on the name of the LORD:
C O LORD, I believe. Help my unbelief!
P The LORD has dealt bountifully with us.
C The LORD has opened our ears.
P The LORD has delivered us from death.
C He wipes away tears from all faces.
P He rescues our feet from stumbling
C and restores our tongues to proclaim His good news.

Confession and Absolution

- P** Despite all of God's actions on our behalf, we still struggle with sin in our lives. Our tongues still curse. Our feet still stumble. Our ears still listen to lies and vicious gossip. But our heavenly Father still invites us to come to Him for restoration, renewal, and forgiveness.

We pause in silence to remember and confess our sins before our Heavenly Father

- P** Heavenly Father,
C we have sinned against You and our neighbors in the things we have said and those we have left unsaid. We have neglected opportunities to love our neighbors. We have stumbled and fallen again and again. In Your mercy, restore us, renew us, and forgive us on account of Jesus. Amen.

P Almighty God, in His boundless love sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise for our forgiveness and eternal life. Because of Jesus, we are restored, body and soul. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen. We are forgiven in Christ. By His blood we are renewed and restored. Amen.**

† WORD †

Psalm

Psalm 116:1–9; antiphon: v. 5

P I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

C **Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

P The snares of death encompassed me;

C **the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;**

P I suffered distress and anguish.

C **Then I called on the name of the LORD: “O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”**

P Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;

C **our God is merciful.**

P The LORD preserves the simple;

C **when I was brought low, he saved me.**

P Return, O my soul, to your rest;

for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

C **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.**

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your Word You spoke creation into being. Tame our tongues and guide our words so that we would proclaim Your promises to the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

† Israel’s Sin and the Servant’s Obedience †

Isaiah 50:4-10

⁴The 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. ⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. ⁶I 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. ⁷But 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. ⁸He 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. ⁹Behold, 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. ¹⁰Who 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem of Praise Duet

“Beautiful Savior”

arr. F. Christiansen / R. Peety

Epistle

✠ Taming the Tongue ✠

James 3:1-12

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For 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. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴Look 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. ⁵So 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! ⁶And 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. ⁷For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

✠ Jesus heals a Boy with an Unclean Spirit ✠

Mark 9:14-29

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. ¹⁵And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to [Jesus] and greeted him. ¹⁶And he asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” ¹⁷And someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. ¹⁸And 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.” ¹⁹And 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.” ²⁰And 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. ²¹And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. ²²And 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.” ²³And Jesus said to him, “If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.” ²⁴Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” ²⁵And 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.” ²⁶And 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.” ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” ²⁹And he said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Confession of Faith

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.

The Apostles' Creed

He ascended into heaven and sits at the
right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living
and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life \dagger everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

#528 sts. 1, 2, 3 & 5

1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!

3 Jesus! The name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life and health and peace.

2 My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad,
The honors of Thy name.

5 Look unto Him, ye nations; own
Your God, ye fallen race.
Look and be saved through faith alone,
Be justified by grace.

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Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Prayer of Remembrance

Offering—*may be left in the offering plates near the doors as you leave. Those worshipping at home may continue to mail or drop off offerings at the church office, and on-line giving is available to everyone on our website at www.stpauloaklawn.org. For information about regular electronic giving, please contact the church office.*

Offertory Meditation

\dagger SERVICE of the SACRAMENT \dagger

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface
Words of Our Lord

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father, who art in Heaven...**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

✠ **DISTRIBUTION of the SACRAMENT** ✠

Hymn

"Jesus Comes Today with Healing"

#620

1 Jesus comes today with healing,
Knocking at my door, appealing,
Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.
He Himself makes preparation,
And I hear His invitation:
"Come and taste the blessed feast."

3 Under bread and wine, though lowly,
I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv'n for me,
Very Lamb of God from heaven,
Who to bitter death was given,
Hung upon the cursed tree.

2 Christ Himself, the priest presiding,
Yet in bread and wine abiding
In this holy sacrament,
Gives the bread of life, once broken,
And the cup, the precious token
Of His sacred covenant.

4 God descends with heav'nly power,
Gives Himself to me this hour
In this ordinary sign.
On my tongue His pledge receiving,
I accept His grace, believing
That I taste His love divine.

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Hymn

"O Sing to the Lord"

#808

1 O sing to the Lord,
O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord,
O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord,
O sing God a new song.
O sing to our God,
O sing to our God.

2 For God is the Lord!
And God has done
wonders.
For God is the Lord!
And God has done
wonders.
For God is the Lord!
And God has done
wonders.
O sing to our God,
O sing to our God.

3 So dance for our God
And blow all the
trumpets.
So dance for our God
And blow all the
trumpets.
So dance for our God
And blow all the
trumpets.
And sing to our God,
And sing to our God.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>4 O shout to our God,
Who gave us the Spirit.
O shout to our God,
Who gave us the Spirit.
O shout to our God,
Who gave us the Spirit.
O sing to our God,
O sing to our God.</p> | <p>5 For Jesus is Lord!
Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord!
Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord!
Amen! Alleluia!
O sing to our God,
O sing to our God.</p> |
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Communion Blessing

P The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

Closing Prayer

Benediction

P 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.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

“Jesus Shall Reign”

#832 sts. 1, 2, 3 & 5

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.</p> | <p>3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.</p> |
| <p>2 To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With ev'ry morning sacrifice.</p> | <p>5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen.</p> |

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Postlude

“Jesus Shall Reign”

R. Wienhorst



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND THANKS

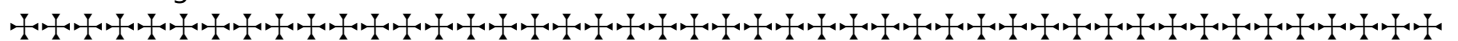
Vocalists: Sue Marcinkowski & Clarisse Rose

Lector: Bill Leise

Altar Care: Martha Moeller

Altar Flowers are given in thanks for God's many and gracious gifts

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Please pray for these members of our St. Paul family:

Dawn McNicholas	Cathy Gleason
Del Purdy	Janet Varnagis
Julie & Larry Gurga	Laverne Abraham
Janice Przybycien	Kevin Hickey
Mary Ann Colander	Art Hornburg
Melva Smith	Sue Lilja
Carol Small	Mike Degidio
Norma Silinski	Beverly Sellers
Lenore Curran	Betty Beegle
Delphine Cherry	Ron Klingensmith
Louis Frank	Deb Skopec
Herta Iversen	Loretta Frank
Jane & Freddie Giacobbe	Marge Rochlitz
Ron Hickey	Shirley Smulkis
Ingrid Lesko	Katherine Hice
Gloria Meyer	Jan Briede
Delores Stegemann	Connie Braun
Kurt Seehofer	The Polezoes Family
Lincoln & Parker Alex	Patricia Murdoch
Gloria Crook	Lois Kaminske
Patty Sellers	

We pray for those who grieve:

- David Purdy and the family and friends of his father, Del Purdy, called home to heaven September 9.
 - Visitation at Kosary Tuesday, 9/14, 3-8 PM.
 - Service at St. Paul Wednesday, 9/15 at 10:00 AM; lying in state at 9:00.
- Family and friends of Roy Kiefer, called home to heaven on Sept. 9. A memorial service is planned for Sept 21.
- Linda Miller and family on the death of her Aunt, Nancy Ziomek, on Sept. 1. Services have been held.
-

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

For Donna Campbell, celebrating 1 year in remission

Announcements & Notes:

- Operation Barnabas will host their 5th Annual Veteran’s Luncheon on Sat., Oct. 9th; reservations are needed, info fliers in the narthex.
- On Sept. 18, Our Savior Lutheran Church in Burbank presents “The Guys,” a tribute to the events of 9/11. This was presented by our St. Paul Players in 2011. Tickets \$10 at the door. Flyers in narthex.
- LWML fall gathering is Saturday, September 25th at Good Shepherd Church in Elgin. Pre-registration is required. Flyers are in the narthex.
- Our 6PM Wednesday evening worship services are again being held in our sanctuary.

Please pray for these friends and family of our members:

Nora Maculitis	Patrick Pasqua Sr.
Larry Fetcho’s (son-in-law, Brad)	Eugene Marcinkowski
Denise DeLaurentis	Dorothy Kroll
Anthony Krcelic, Jr.	Eric Kessling
Bob Hessert	Georgiana Easton
Jackie Plichta	Patricia Paulsen
Ken Kruckow	Janet Trierweiler
Alan Hecke	Kim Lamberth
Matt Favero	Sandra Wilson
Rev. Bob Mitchell	Al Silinski
Pam Palhegyi	Carol Milazzo
Rich Huscher	The Lamberth Family
Jerry Gross	Brenda Gurgel
Gloria Folsom	Autumn Kessling
Elizabeth Hoefler	Alan Iversen
Ron Lunt	Christopher Kosary
Sandy Plath	Iris McCoy
Shirley Demyres	Raquel Rameriz
Nick & Bridget DeAngelo	Henry Bonder
Sue Hardin	Justin & Ashley Fasel
Kim & Shawn Skelton, Sr.	Kyle Hughes
Elaine Hoffstetter	Fred Raddatz
Selma & John Carmichael	Allyson Seehofer
Bernadette & Rich Trusk	Dana Kahn
Donald Hakanson	Carl Hoppe
Paul Noffke	Sue Sortino
Pam Brown	Lisa Sanders
Shawn Harland	Ann Herold
Barb Potter	Wayne Volk
Charley Heitz	Sharon Bryant
Doris Potts	Brad Benfield
Doreen Holford	Janice Hernandez
Donna Santi	Judy Collins
Paul Sowa	Maryann Krieg (Wilke)
Jimmy Kennedy, Jr.	Knox Christensen
Cathy Becker	Lois Kiefer
George Lilja	Tim Buckley
Donna Patri	Skip Sorensen
Joe Thomas	Kristen Will
Logan Bliss	

Please let the church office know when your need for our congregational prayers is over (708) 423-1040.