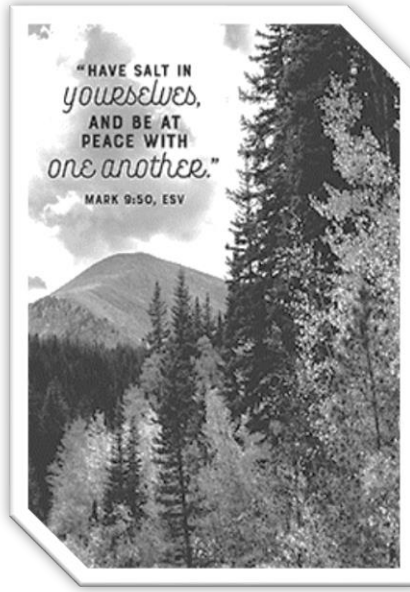


TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1410 Rogers St
Stevens Point, Wisconsin

Pastor Joyce Heintz
Ministers: Every Baptized Member
Sunday, September 29, 2024, 9:00 a.m.



Trinity's Mission

Bringing God's love to the world in worship, witness, and service.

Trinity's Vision

A Christ and Scripture centered congregation.

- Mission centered congregation constantly evaluating its vision to accomplish its mission.
- A congregation whose members sense that they belong to the body of Christ and, in turn want to provide for the needs of others.

Telephone: 715 344-2869, Email: trinity@trinitysp.com
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19th Sunday after Pentecost

ELW Service of the Word

Introduction to the day

Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude:

"You Are the Light"

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Song:

"Everyone Come"

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading:

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the Lord, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors’? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

¹⁶So the Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading:

James 5:13-20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

16Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. 17Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. 18Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

19My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, 20you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message

Gospel Acclamation

Lord your words give us life. Lord your words give us life.

Al-le-lu-ia no where else can we find, Words of e - ter-nal life.

Gospel:

Mark 9:38-50

The holy gospel according to Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

38John said to [Jesus], “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” 39But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. 40Whoever is not against us is for us. 41For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

42“*If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.*

⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon:

Andrew Griesman

Hymn of the Day:

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Carl Gotthelf Glaser | Charles Wesley | David Crowder | Jack Parker

Affirmation: We Sing of the Spirit

We sing of God the Spirit,

**who from the beginning has swept over the face of creation,
animating all energy and matter and moving in the human heart.**

We sing of God the Spirit,

faithful and untameable, who is creatively and redemptively active in the world.

The Spirit challenges us to celebrate the holy

not only in what is familiar, but also in that which seems foreign.

We sing of the Spirit,

**who speaks our prayers of deepest longing
and enfolds our concerns and confessions, transforming us and the world.**

We offer worship

**as an outpouring of gratitude and awe
and a practice of opening ourselves
to God’s still, small voice of comfort,
to God’s rushing whirlwind of challenge.**

Through word, music, art, and sacrament,

**in community and in solitude,
God changes our lives, our relationships, and our world.**

Prayers of Intercession

Response: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Peace: The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering/Band Song: ***"All Belong Here"*** by The Many

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Holy God, mighty Fortress, loving Redeemer, steadfast Comforter,
as vegetation matures in forests and fields, your living Word undergirds all that lives.
We praise your eternal Word.
We praise your eternal Word.

In the words of the Scriptures you offer us Christ: our refuge, our savior, our friend,
accompanying us throughout our years and renewing us in love.
We praise Jesus, your Word.
We praise Jesus, your Word.

We pray for power from your abiding Spirit. Strengthen us to stand firm in faith, in devotion to your Word, and in service to others.

We pray for the Spirit of your Word.

We pray for the Spirit of your Word.

To you be honor and praise and glory, today and forever. **Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Song:

"Bring Forth the Kingdom"

HS #821

Dismissal:

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

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Affirmation: We Sing of the Spirit excerpted from *Song of Faith* of the United Church of Canada (2006). <http://www.united-church.ca/beliefs/statements/songfaith>