

The Old Testament Reading. Isaiah 50:4–10

The 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. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. I 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. But 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. He 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. Behold, 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. Who 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.

The Epistle Reading. James 3:1–12

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

The Gospel Reading. Mark 9:14–29

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

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
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“All things are possible for one who believes.”



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 12, 2021

Website: <http://holycrosskc.org>
Email: church@holycrosskc.org

Receiving the Lord's Supper at Holy Cross

Our Lord gives both directions and warnings in Scripture when it comes to the precious gift of Holy Communion, which we take great care to follow. A small brochure is available in the pew which describes the importance of the Biblical and historic practice known as "Closed Communion." If you are not under the spiritual care of Holy Cross, please speak with the pastor before communing so that our unity with Christ and with one another may be genuine. Our aim is not to insult, but to instruct and prepare those who earnestly desire to join our communion. So, if you or your children are not yet communicants, you may come forward for a blessing tied to baptism, and you are encouraged to signify this by crossing your arms over your chest as the pastor comes by. The Blood of Christ is offered either in individual glasses, or simply hold out your hand to take the chalice by the base as you drink from it.

Notes on the service: As the Church Year continues in the season after Pentecost, Christians use this time to celebrate the new life we have in Christ through His Holy Spirit. All the lessons for today describe how words have power. In the *Old Testament Reading*, the Servant is given a tongue that may sustain the weary. The *Epistle* from James uses the analogy of the bit in a horse's mouth or a rudder steering a ship to describe the power that words have in steering one through life. The *Gospel* provides the account of Jesus healing a young boy possessed by a spirit. This time, Jesus' tongue is not used to sustain the weary, bless or curse, but rather to deliver, to set free. Words have power, and it is a vivid demonstration of the Word of God that brings power even over demons.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY: (The theme prayer of the day.)

P: Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your Church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Organist. Diane Lutman
Communion Elder. Dave Senne
Ushers. Randy Wilson & Carl Pigors

Psalm 31



Be strong, and let your heart take | courage,*
all you who wait | for the LORD!

But I trust in you, | O LORD;*

I say, "You | are my God."

My times are | in your hand;*

rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my
perse- | cutors!

Make your face shine on your | servant;*

save me in your | steadfast love!

Note: Standing and Kneeling are optional

10:00 A.M.

Divine Service Setting Three LSB 184

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn—LSB #868

Confession and Absolution LSB 184

Service of the Word LSB 186

Introit - Psalm 31—(printed at left)

Gloria Patri - LSB 186

Kyrie - LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis—LSB 187-189

Collect of the Day—LSB 189

The Lessons: (printed on back)

The Nicene Creed - LSB 191

Hymn of the Day - LSB #524

Sermon - Rev. Perry Copus

Offertory & Offering - LSB 192-193

Prayer of the Church - LSB 193

Service of the Sacrament LSB 194

Preface & Sanctus - LSB 194-195

Lord's Prayer - LSB 196 (Spoken)

The Words of Our Lord—LSB 197

Agnus Dei - LSB 198

Distribution - LSB 199

Hymns—LSB #672

LSB #737

LSB #725

Nunc Dimittis - LSB 199

Benedicamus & Benediction - LSB 201-202

Closing Hymn—LSB #839

Postlude