

Welcome to Worship at
Trinity Lutheran Church, Osceola, WI
Pentecost 5 - June 27, 2021

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer. Amen.

Hymn #242 - "Oh, that I Had a Thousand Voices"

**Oh, that I had a thousand voices
To praise my God with thousand tongues!
My heart, which in the Lord rejoices,
Would then proclaim in grateful songs
To all, wherever I might be,
What great things God has done for me.**

**O forest leaves, so green and tender,
That dance for joy in summer air,
O meadow grasses, bright and slender,
O flow'rs, so wondrous sweet and fair,
You live to show his praise alone;
With me now make his glory known.**

**All creatures that have breath and motion,
That fill the earth, the sea, and sky,
Now join me in my heart's devotion;
Help me to raise his praises high.
My utmost pow'rs can never quite
Express the wonders of his might.**

**Lord, I will tell, while I am living,
Your love and grace with ev'ry breath
And greet each morning with thanksgiving
Until my heart is still in death,
And, when at last my lips grow cold,
Your praise shall in my sighs be told.**

Confession of Sins:

P: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace and forgiveness for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. O Lord, have mercy on us!

P: Upon this your confession, I as a called servant of Christ and His Word announce to you the grace of God, and in the place of and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

First Lesson: Job 38:1-11

Then the Lord responded to Job out of a violent storm. He said: Who is this who spreads darkness over my plans with his ignorant words? Get ready for action like a man! Then I will ask you questions, and you will inform me. Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you understand anything about it. Who determined its dimensions? I am sure you know. Who stretched out the surveying line over it? What supports its foundation? Who set its cornerstone in place, when the morning stars sang loud songs together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? Who locked up the sea behind doors when it burst out of the womb? When I clothed the sea with clouds, when I wrapped it with thick darkness as its swaddling cloths, when I broke its power with my decree, when I locked it up behind barred, double doors, I said, "You may come this far, but no farther. Here is the barrier for your proud waves." (EHV)

Psalm 46

Refrain: The mighty Lord is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**God is our ref'uge and strength,
An ever-present help in 'trouble.**

**Therefore we will not fear, though the 'earth give way
And the mountains fall into the heart 'of the sea,**

**Though its waters ‘roar and foam
And the mountains quake with their ‘surging.**

Refrain: The mighty Lord is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit’y of God,
The holy place where the Most ‘High dwells.**

**God is within her, she ‘will not fall;
God will help her at ‘break of day.**

**“Be still, and know that ‘I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted ‘in the earth.”**

**Glory be to the Father and ‘to the Son
And to the Holy ‘Spirit,
As it was in the be’ginning,
Is now, and will be forever. ‘Amen.**

Refrain: The mighty Lord is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

For the love of Christ compels us, because we came to this conclusion: One died for all; therefore, all died. And he died for all, so that those who live would no longer live for themselves but for him, who died in their place and was raised again. As a result, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we knew Christ according to the flesh, we no longer know him that way. So then, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away. The new has come! And all these things are from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. That is, God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them. And he has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, inasmuch as God is making an appeal through us. We urge you, on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him, who did not know sin, to become sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.
(EHV)

Verse of the Day: Alleluia. Because we are His children, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” Alleluia.

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

On that day, when evening came, Jesus said to them, “Let’s go over to the other side.” After leaving the crowd behind, the disciples took him along in the boat, just as he was. Other small boats also followed him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves were splashing into the boat, so that the boat was quickly filling up. Jesus himself was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. They woke him and said, “Teacher, don’t you care that we are about to drown?” Then he got up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” The wind stopped, and there was a great calm. He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Do you still lack faith?” They were filled with awe and said to one another, “Who then is this? Even the wind and the sea obey him!” (EHV)

The Apostles’ Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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 everlasting. Amen.

Hymn #236 - “All Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

**All praise to God who reigns above,
The God of all creation,
The God of wonders, pow’r, and love,
The God of our salvation!
With healing balm my soul he fills,
The God who ev’ry sorrow stills -
To God all praise and glory!**

**I cried to him in time of need:
Lord God, oh, hear my calling!**

**For death he gave me life indeed
And kept my feet from falling.
For this my thanks shall endless be;
Oh, thank him, thank our God with me -
To God all praise and glory!**

**The Lord will not forsake his flock,
His chosen generation;
He is their refuge and their rock,
Their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand
He leads his own, his chosen band -
To God all praise and glory!**

**All who confess Christ's holy name,
To God give praise and glory!
All who the Father's pow'r proclaim,
To God give praise and glory!
All idols under foot be trod;
The Lord is God! The Lord is God!
To God all praise and glory!**

**Then come before his presence now
And banish fear and sadness;
To your Redeemer pay your vow
And sing with joy and gladness.
Though great distress my soul befell,
The Lord my God did all things well -
To God all praise and glory!**

**The Sermon: Job 38:1-11
 "Remember Who God Is"**

One of the sad trends in our culture is the growing lack of **respect** that children have for their **parents**, as well as for **anyone** in authority. For whatever the **reason**, a large group of today's young people don't look at adults the same way they **used** to. The way they **talk** to their parents and teachers, and the way they **act** around adults, is indicative of a general culture of **disrespect** that seems to be more and more **prevalent** - and at times it's even **accepted** and **promoted**. But we can't just look at the sins of the **younger** people in our world today, we need to

take a step back and look at **ourselves** too, because very often **we also** show a **disrespectful** attitude - not only toward other **people**, but even toward our **God**. It seems like sometimes we **forget** just who He truly **is**, and we **treat** Him very **poorly**. But in our text for this morning God brings us a **wake up call**. As He speaks to **Job**, He also speaks to **us** - **encouraging** us to **Remember Who God Is**.

In order to appreciate this reading from the Book of Job, we need to go back and look at the events of Job's life which **led up** to our text. In the **first** chapter of the Book of Job, we learned that Job was someone who **knew the Lord**. He **believed** in the Lord, and he **showed** his faith by living a **godly life**. The very first verse of the book tells us, "*There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright, a man who feared God and turned away from evil.*" In fact, Job was such a **fine example** of a believer, that God Himself **touted** Job's virtues in a conversation with Satan. That's when **Satan** proposed the **plan** which serves as the **background** for the whole Book of Job. Satan asked God to allow him to **strike** Job with **disaster**, in order to see if Job would still **follow God**. As odd as it may seem, God **consented** to the plan - and in the course of just **one day**, Job lost his **possessions**, his **servants**, and even his own **children**. Even so, Job remained **faithful**, and he didn't **curse** God. Satan then proposed taking the disasters a step **further**, which God **also** allowed. Satan could do **anything he wanted** to Job **himself**, except he **couldn't** take away Job's **life**. So, Satan struck Job with a **terrible** disease, covering his entire body with **boils** - and while Job **lamented** his circumstances, and wondered **why** these things were happening to him - Job **still** didn't **curse** God.

Then Job's **friends** arrived on the scene. Now we would **assume** that this would have been a **helpful** thing, but it turned out to be just the **opposite**. The **best** thing they did was to sit **silently** with him for seven days and nights, because once they opened their **mouths**, they got themselves into **trouble**. All **three** of Job's friends **accused** him of committing some **great sin**, and they proposed that **that** was why these great tragedies had come into his life. But Job refused to **acknowledge** any such sin. Over and over again He **defended** himself against their accusations. Finally out of **frustration** with his **situation** and with his **friends**, Job **foolishly** accused **God** of treating him **unfairly** - and he demanded an **audience** with God so he could **vindicate** himself.

Be **careful** what you **wish** for, because you might just **get** it! Interestingly enough, Job **got** his **wish**, but it didn't turn out **at all** the way he **expected**. The Lord came to **meet** with Job, and the words of our **text** are the first words He spoke. **Job** wanted God - Job **expected** God - to **defend** his actions, but **instead**,

God **blasted** Job for his **pride** and **arrogance**. We hear God **thundering** from a violent storm, “***Who is this** who spreads darkness over **my** plans with his **ignorant** words? Get ready for **action** like a man! Then I will ask **you** questions, and you will inform **me**. Where were **you** when **I** laid the foundation of the earth? **Tell** me, if you **understand** anything about it. Who determined its **dimensions**? I am sure **you know**. Who stretched out the **surveying line** over it? What supports its **foundation**? Who set its **cornerstone** in place, when the morning stars sang loud songs together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? Who locked up the **sea** behind doors when it burst out of the womb? When I clothed the sea with **clouds**, when I wrapped it with thick **darkness** as its swaddling cloths, when I broke its **power** with my decree, when I **locked it up** behind barred, double doors, I said, ‘You may come **this far**, but **no farther**. Here is the **barrier** for your proud waves.’”*

Basically, God was saying to Job, “Job, just who do you think you **are**? Have you been around for all **eternity**? Do you think you have all the **answers**? Do you think **I** don’t **know** what I’m **doing**? Do you think **I** owe **you** an **explanation** for My actions?” God made it **very clear** that He didn’t owe Job an **explanation** for **anything** - because **He is God**, and He can do **whatever** He **wants** to do, **whenever** He wants to **do** it - and **whatever** He chooses to **do** will always be **good**.

These words of our text were only the **beginning**. In the verses which **follow** our text the Lord goes on to ask Job **77 questions** before He even gives Job the opportunity to **respond**. And what **was** his response? It was pretty much what we would **expect** from a person who had been so thoroughly **rebuked** by the Lord. Job was completely **humbled**, and he responded. “*I am **insignificant**. How could I reply to **you**? I will put my hand over my **mouth**. I spoke **once**, but I cannot **defend** it. **Twice**, but I will not go any **further**.*”

No one sitting in this church (or anywhere else) has experienced the trials which **Job** experienced - and that doesn’t mean that none of us have ever seen **tragedy**, or that we’ve never known **heartache**. We **have** - and the fact of the matter is that we will probably experience **more** of it before our lifetimes are over. How would **we** respond if God allowed the same things to happen to **us**, which He allowed to happen to **Job**? Would we **complain**? Would we **question** God’s **goodness**? Would we **demand** that God **listen** to us because He seems to be treating us **unfairly**? I’m pretty sure that we wouldn’t come away looking any better than **Job** did. Just like **Job**, we need to **Remember Who God Is**. God is the **Creator** - we are the **creation**. God is **all powerful** - we are **weak**. God **knows everything** - we don’t even know what we **think** we know. We have **no right** to

question **any** of God's actions. That may be offensive to our sinful **pride**, but an attitude of **humility** is what we would **need**, if we would ever even **think** about trying to **compare** ourselves with God. God can do **whatever** He wants to do, and that would be our **only** message today if these 11 verses from the Book of Job were the **only** words we had to go on. But we know that there's **more** to Job's story, and we also know that there's more to the story of how God deals with **all** of His people.

After Job **repented** of his sinful pride, the Lord turned His rebuke to the **friends** of Job. He scolded **them** for accusing Job of some **great sin**, and He **vindicated** Job for saying **correctly** that God **wasn't** punishing Job for a **specific sin** in his life. He told the friends to bring a **sacrifice** to Him, so that **Job** could plead on **their behalf**, and God would **hear** Job's prayer. Then, as the story **ends**, we see God's amazing **grace**. Instead of dealing with Job in **anger**, He **blessed** Job - even **beyond** the blessings which he had previously **lost**. God restored Job's **wealth** to **twice** what it had been before, and he blessed Job with more **sons** and **daughters**. And then after blessing Job with another 140 years of **life**, God gave him the **greatest** blessing of all. He took him to **Himself** in **heaven**. Job had certainly learned **Who God Is**. He had learned that God is **almighty** and **all-knowing**, and that He could deal with him however He **wanted**, but he had **also** learned that what God **wanted** was to always deal with him in **love**, and **compassion**, and **grace**. That's **Who God Is**.

When we are in the middle of **tragedy** and **suffering**, we **all** need to fall down on our knees, and humbly **submit ourselves** to the mighty hand of God. We **don't** need to **question** whether or not God is treating us **fairly**. We know that He is **not** treating us **fairly** - and we should be **grateful** for that, because God is being **merciful** to us. When we **Remember Who God Is** - that He is a **holy** God who **hates sin** - we realize that if He treated us **fairly**, He would have to **condemn** us. If God treated us **fairly** we wouldn't only face **troubles** and **hardship** in **this** life, but because of our **sin**, we would have to face **eternal** punishment in **hell**.

But, instead of condemning **us**, God decided to condemn His Son **Jesus**, in our **place**. As we heard in our second lesson today, "*God made him who did **not** know sin, to **become** sin for us, so that we might become the **righteousness** of God in him.*" Through the **sacrifice** of Jesus - the **sinless** one - we are provided with **forgiveness** for our sins, and God sees us as **righteous**. There's nothing **fair** about that - it's completely due to God's **love** for us - love which is totally **unearned** and **undeserved** by us. Nevertheless, it's a love which we can **count** on, because we know **Who God Is**. Our God is a God of **love**, and He doesn't want to see us

suffer now and forever. Instead He wants us to be **with Him** in heaven. And since He knows that we can't **earn** heaven on our **own**, He **gives** us heaven as a free **gift** - a gift which was **earned** by His **perfect Son**. When we realize how **wonderful** that gift is, and how **unworthy** we are to receive it, all of our **questions** and **complaints** will turn into **praise** and **thanksgiving**.

This is the eternal **truth** of the Gospel, but that **truth** doesn't make our earthly sufferings **go away**. Nevertheless, it **does** give us the motivation to **bear up** under all kinds of trials. It's **comforting** to know that the God who is our **Creator**, and who could treat us **any** way He wants, has chosen to deal with us in His **mercy**, and has promised to make **all things** work out for our eternal **good**. We may not be blessed as clearly as **Job** was, to **see** the hand of God turn all of our sufferings into **blessings** in our lives. And we may not ever find all the **answers** to our **questions** while we are still on this side of heaven. But in the middle of our **suffering**, we can be **content** by simply **Remembering Who God Is**. He is the **almighty** God who **created** the universe, but He is also the God of free and faithful **grace**, who sent His **Son** to **save** us, and who has promised to always be **with** us, to **forgive** us, and to **strengthen** us in all our trials. **Remember Who God Is**, and humbly submit to **His will**, as we look forward to the joys of **heaven**. Amen.

Prayers:

Heavenly Father, we are constantly assailed by the forces of **evil** which seek to **destroy** our souls. In his bold **attacks**, Satan not only tries to make us **ashamed** of the Gospel, and too **timid** to confess our Savior; but his objective is to **rob** us of our **faith** altogether. With deep **guile** and **cunning** he tries to snare our hearts with **worldly** cares and subtle schemes for **happiness**; and to cloud our minds with **doubt** and **confusion** regarding Your Word. He never seems to **tire** in his wily efforts to lead us away from the **godly** path of **righteousness**, and into the ways of **sin**. As the father of **lies**, he delights in sowing seeds of **discord** and **suspicion**, especially among us believers.

Lord Jesus, in Your Word, You promise that if we **resist** the devil, he will **flee** from us. You have admonished us to take up the **shield** of faith, with which we can **extinguish** all the flaming arrows of the evil one. We implore You to bless our hearts **richly** with Your **grace** through the Holy Spirit, giving us a strong **faith**, and an overwhelming **love** for our Savior. Only then will we be able to rout Satan **out** of our lives, and to turn his temptations **away** from our hearts. Protect us at all times, so Satan cannot **snatch** the Word of salvation from us, or lead us into **unbelief** and **despair**.

By Your Holy Spirit, keep us all **steadfast** and **true** to Your Word, causing us to search it **diligently** in our **private** study, and also to give prayerful attention to it when it is publicly **preached** and **taught**. **Nourish** and **strengthen** our faith by Your Word, and cause the instruction, the guidance, and the encouragement it brings to produce **rich fruits** in our lives. Forgive the times when we **lost** the good fight, and fell into **sin**. Renew, strengthen, and sustain us, until we finally enter the Kingdom of Glory in heaven. Make Your Word **effective** wherever it is proclaimed, that more and more souls may be won for **You**, and **rescued** from Satan. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

**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.**

Hymn #240 - *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, O Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, your great name we praise!**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Not wanting nor wasting, you rule in your might,
Your justice like mountains high soaring above,
Your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**All life you engender in great and in small,
Of all life Befriender, the true Life of all.
We blossom and flourish in richness and range;
We wither and perish, but you never change.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Your angels adore you, all veiling their sight.
Our praises we render; oh, lead us to see
The light of your splendor, your love's majesty!**

P: Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your Word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Your people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit! As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Blessing:

P: The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn #238 - "Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul"

**Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!
Let all within me join
And aid my tongue to bless his name
Whose favors are divine.**

**Oh, bless the Lord, my soul,
Nor let his mercies lie
Forgotten in unthankfulness
And without praises die.**

**'Tis he forgives my sins;
'Tis he relieves my pain;
'Tis he that heals my sicknesses
And makes me young again.**

**He fills the poor with good;
He gives the suff'ers rest;
The Lord has judgments for the proud
And justice for th' oppressed.**

**His wondrous works and ways
He made by Moses known,
But sent the world his truth and grace
By his beloved Son.**