

Pentecost 16

September 8, 2024

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 18 (Year B)

The Lord’s salvation changes everything for those who believe. Isaiah proclaimed that the coming of the Lord would bring healing and wholeness. This wholeness is reflected in James’ instructions to the church to show no partiality among members of the Body of Christ. All people are to be treated with equal respect. Jesus healed the daughter of a Gentile woman demonstrating the impartiality of God’s love.



THIS WEEK’S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Lesson: Isaiah 35:4-7a **Be Strong! Fear Not!**
The prophet proclaimed the Word of the Lord concerning the future judgment of all people. God promised to gather his chosen ones and return them to their homeland. To those who were anxious came a word of comfort and encouragement. God will come to save his people, proclaimed the prophet, and then the blind will see, the deaf will hear, and the lame will leap for joy.

Psalm 146 **Trust the Lord Alone**
The psalmist sang that the Lord is the one in whom there is salvation; he is faithful forever. Do not put your trust in princes who cannot save you or set you free.

Second Lesson: James 2:1-10, 14-18 **Make No Distinctions Among Persons**
James made it very clear to his Christian brothers and sisters that it is inconsistent with faith in Christ to show favoritism to one person over another. This is especially true when it comes to paying attention to those who are wealthy or who have status over those who are poor and have nothing but themselves to offer.

Gospel Lesson: Mark 7:(24-30) 31-37 **Jesus Performs Two Healing Miracles**
A Gentile woman saw Jesus and begged him to heal her daughter, who was possessed with a demon. Jesus rebuffed her request at first, but she would not give up. She believed in him wholeheartedly. He rewarded her great faith by healing her child. Then Jesus moved on to the Decapolis and restored hearing and perfect speech to a deaf man by putting his fingers in the man’s ears and touching his tongue.

Suggestions for the Day:

- Liturgical Color: Green
- Use the Kyrie OR the Hymn of Praise in Ordinary Time.
- Use the Apostles’ Creed in Ordinary Time.
- How many of us have anxious hearts? (Isaiah 35:4) There is much to be worried and anxious about, especially with all we’ve gone through in the past year with a global pandemic. But God is with us, he always has been and always will be. We can trust in his love and protection.

Encourage people to cast all their cares on the Lord (1 Peter 5:7). His love is healing and his faithfulness assures us that we belong to him. We need not worry!

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing	559	---	528	886	30	30
Peace, to Soothe Our Bitter Woes	338	---	---	381	---	web
Word of God, Come Down on Earth	---	716	545	510	---	---
Healer of Our Every Ill	---	738	---	612	---	---
He Leadeth Me	501	---	---	---	232	232
There is a Balm in Gilead	---	737	749	614	---	---
Glories of Your Name are Spoken	358	---	648	647	3	3
In Christ There is No East or West	359	---	653	650	---	---
All Creatures of Our God and King	527	---	---	835	20	---
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say	497	---	699	332	241	241

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW= Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV= With One Voice, ELW= Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB= The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC= The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at “Hymns and Music.”

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles:
Heal Our Land
(CCLI# 7070516)
Forgiveness
(CCLI# 6423944)
Worry
(CCLI# 5703005)
Be Strong
(CCLI# 2486679)
There’s Nothing that Our God Can’t Do
(CCLI# 7141227)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.