From red letter challenge

BEINGE CHALLENGE a 40-day challenge to be like Jesus

Being Challenge: Study Scripture The 18th Sunday after Pentecost September 22, 2024

8:00 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

Studying Scripture is a central habit in the Being Challenge that emphasizes the importance of engaging deeply with God's Word. Through Scripture, we come to understand God's character, His promises, and His guidance for living a purposeful and faithful life. Jesus Himself frequently quoted and relied on Scripture to teach, inspire, and resist temptation, showing us the vital role it plays in shaping our beliefs and actions. By consistently studying Scripture, we allow God's truth to transform our hearts and minds, equipping us to navigate life's challenges with wisdom, discernment, and a deeper connection to His will.

CALL TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

HYMN Ancient Words

Verse 1
Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world
They resound with God's own heart
O let the ancient words impart

Verse 2
Words of life words of hope
Give us strength help us cope
In this world where'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us home

Chorus Ancient words ever true Changing me changing you We have come with open hearts O let the ancient words impart

Verse 3

Holy words of our faith

Handed down to this age

Came to us through sacrifice

O heed the faithful words of Christ

Verse 4

Martyr's blood stains each page

They have died for this faith

Hear them cry through the years

Heed these words and hold them dear

Ending

We have come with open hearts

O let the ancient words impart

O let the ancient words impart

INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the The Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES Psalm 54:1–2

Leader: O God, save me, by Your name, and vindicate me by Your might.

Leader: O God, hear my prayer;

People: give ear to the words of my mouth.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: Let us confess our sins to our heavenly Father.

People: Almighty God, I confess all my sins and iniquities with which I

have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. I have relied on my own strength to endure

during temptation and persecution rather than Your faithful protection. I am sorry for these my faults and ask Your forgiveness and pardon that I may return Your faithfulness with ongoing reliance of faith.

Leader: In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive

you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. God grant deliverance from every trouble and set

your feet to walk in His ways now and always.

People: Amen.

+ WORD +

973 THY WORD IS A LAMP

ref Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path. Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path.

- When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
 Still You're there right beside me.
 And nothing will I fear as long as You are near.
 Please be near me to the end. Refrain
- I will not forget Your love for me, and yet
 My heart forever is wandering.
 Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side;
 And I will love You to the end. Refrain

SALUTATION

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray.

O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and

deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns

with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Reader: Pam German

FIRST READING Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16 Page 11, FA 32

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, ²that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." ³Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, ⁴"Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. ⁷And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. . . .

¹⁵And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading Romans 4:13–25 Page 941, FA 1317

¹³The promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No

distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness." ²³But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING Mark 9:2–9 Page 844, FA 1165

²After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁶For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." ⁸And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

⁹And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

APOSTLES' CREED

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.
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 T everlasting. Amen.

578 THY STRONG WORD *sts.* 1, 3, 5

- 1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done. For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run. Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send! Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!
- 3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
 Bright with Thine own holiness,
 Glorious now, we press toward glory,
 And our lives our hopes confess.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia without end!
- 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim, Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name. Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

SERMON

578 THY STRONG WORD sts. 2, 4, 6

2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, Dark as night and deep as death, Broke the light of Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath. Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send! Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

4 From the cross Thy wisdom shining
Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

6 God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be. To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally. Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee. Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

OFFERING~ God's Word is Our Great Heritage-Carla Roghair

For Reflection:

God's Word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever...

Lord, grant while worlds endure we keep its teachings pure throughout all generations. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH Psalm 37:4–7

Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all

people according to their needs.

Leader: For the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name, that God's

people may be strengthened in the true faith and His kingdom

extended, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who

confess the name of Christ, that God would guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, let

us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For this People:, its mission and its people; for the ability to meet the

needs that arise as we do the work God has given us to do; and for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the educational institutions of our synod: for our preschools, our

day schools and high schools, our colleges and universities, and for our seminaries, that those who teach and those who learn in them would be transformed by the wisdom of Christ, let us pray to the

Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For all who partake this day of Christ's holy body and blood, that in

their eating and drinking they may receive the benefits of forgiveness of sins and the renewal of life and have a foretaste of the feast to

come, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who have wandered from the faith, that the Holy Spirit

would use us to call them home to the Father, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the government and all who have been set into positions of

leadership, that they may use the authority entrusted to them honorably and for the good of the people, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For all who serve in worthy occupations, professions, arts, and

sciences, that God would grant them skill and integrity in the

performance of their responsibilities and valued service through their

vocations, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who suffer from hunger, homelessness, poverty, or

unemployment, that God's great mercy and love would preserve and

relieve them, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For all the faithful, that the Spirit would lead them to cheerful,

generous giving from the bounty the Lord provides, to support the

Church and to help those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who are sick (especially [name]), that God would grant

healing to their bodies and strength to bear their infirmities with

patience and grace, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who mourn (especially [name]), that in their time of sorrow

they would not lose hope but rely on God's promise that He will

never leave them or forsake them, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For those who rejoice in the rich blessings of God, that they may

always remember the Giver of every gift and give Him heartfelt

thanks, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and

death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor, and worship,

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

LORD' PRAYER

People: 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.

BENEDICTION

Leader: 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 T give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN O Church Arise

Verse 1

O church arise and put your armour on
Hear the call of Christ our Captain
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies
An army bold whose battle cry is Love
Reaching out to those in darkness

Verse 2

Our call to war to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valour
When faced with trials on every side
We know the outcome is secure
And Christ will have the prize for which He died
An inheritance of nations

Verse 3

Come see the cross where love and mercy meet
As the Son of God is stricken
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet
For the Conqueror has risen
And as the stone is rolled away
And Christ emerges from the grave
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him

Verse 4

So Spirit come put strength in every stride Give grace for every hurdle That we may run with faith to win the prize Of a servant good and faithful As saints of old still line the way Retelling triumphs of His grace We hear their calls and hunger for the day When with Christ we stand in glory

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

10:30 a.m.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC: Always

Verse 1

I believe You gave sight to the blind I believe that the dead came to life I believe there were wonders and signs And You're still the same

Verse 2

I believe every word that You said I believe there are scars in Your hands That Your goodness is good without end And You'll never change

Chorus

I will tell of Your wonders sing of Your grace The God of creation knows me by name The Lord is faithful yesterday now and always Always

Your mercy is mighty age after age All generations will bow down and praise The Lord is faithful yesterday now and always Always

Verse 3

I believe You will come in the clouds
I believe You are here even now
In Your presence I know there is power
Power to save oh

Chorus

I will tell of Your wonders sing of Your grace The God of creation knows me by name The Lord is faithful yesterday now and always Always

Your mercy is mighty age after age All generations will bow down and praise The Lord is faithful yesterday now and always Always

Bridge

You were You are You always will be God You were You are You always will be God Yes You always will be God

Chorus

I will tell of Your wonders sing of Your grace The God of creation knows me by name The Lord is faithful yesterday now and always Always

Your mercy is mighty age after age All generations will bow down and praise The Lord is faithful yesterday now and always Always

Ending

Your mercy is mighty age after age All generations will bow down and praise The Lord is faithful yesterday now and always

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG: Better Is One Day

Verse 1

How lovely is Your dwelling place

O Lord almighty
For my soul longs and even faints for You
For here my heart is satisfied
Within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings

Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts Better is one day in Your house Better is one day in Your courts Than thousands elsewhere (Than thousands elsewhere)

Verse 2
One thing I ask and I would seek
To see Your beauty
To find You in the place
Your glory dwells

Chorus

Better is one day in Your courts Better is one day in Your house Better is one day in Your courts Than thousands elsewhere (Than thousands elsewhere)

Bridge

My heart and flesh cry out
For You the living God
Your Spirit's water to my soul
I've tasted and I've seen
Come once again to me
I will draw near to You
I will draw near to You to You

Bridge

Better is one day better is one day Better is one day than thousands elsewhere Better is one day better is one day Better is one day than thousands elsewhere

INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

SONG: Ancient Words

Verse 1

Holy words long preserved

For our walk in this world

They resound with God's own heart

O let the ancient words impart

Verse 2

Words of life words of hope

Give us strength help us cope

In this world where'er we roam

Ancient words will guide us home

Chorus

Ancient words ever true

Changing me changing you

We have come with open hearts

O let the ancient words impart

Verse 3

Holy words of our faith

Handed down to this age
Came to us through sacrifice
O heed the faithful words of Christ

Chorus

Ancient words ever true
Changing me changing you
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Chorus

Ancient words ever true
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O let the ancient words impart

Ending

We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart
O let the ancient words impart

OFFERING There's Nothing That Our God Can't Do

Verse 1
Just one word
You calm the storm that surrounds me
Just one word
The darkness has to retreat
Just one touch
I feel the presence of heaven
Just one touch
My eyes were opened to see
My heart can't help but believe

Chorus 1

There's nothing that our God can't do There's not a mountain that He can't move Oh praise the name that makes a way There's nothing that our God can't do

Verse 2

Just one word
You heal what's broken inside me
Just one word
And you revive ev'ry dream
Just one touch
I feel the power of heaven
Just one touch
My eyes were opened to see
My heart can't help but believe

Chorus 2

There's nothing that our God can't do There's not a mountain that He can't move Oh praise the name that makes a way There's nothing that our God can't do

There's nothing that our God can't do
There's not a prison wall He can't break through
Oh praise the name that makes a way
There's nothing that our God can't do

Bridge

I will believe for greater things There's no power like the power of Jesus Let faith arise let all agree There's no power like the power of Jesus

Bridge

I will believe for greater things There's no power like the power of Jesus Let faith arise let all agree There's no power like His power

Ending

There's nothing that our God can't do

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray.

O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns

with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

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Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all

people according to their needs.

Leader: For the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name, that God's

people may be strengthened in the true faith and His kingdom

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their eating and drinking they may receive the benefits of forgiveness

of sins and the renewal of life and have a foretaste of the feast to

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generous giving from the bounty the Lord provides, to support the

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never leave them or forsake them, let us pray to the Lord:

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Leader: For those who rejoice in the rich blessings of God, that they may

always remember the Giver of every gift and give Him heartfelt

thanks, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and

death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High

Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

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.

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Leader This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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¹³The promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

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²After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁶For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." ⁸And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

⁹And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

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 + everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Leader: 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.

People: Amen.

CLOSING SONG: Always

Verse 1

I believe You gave sight to the blind I believe that the dead came to life I believe there were wonders and signs And You're still the same

Verse 2

I believe every word that You said I believe there are scars in Your hands That Your goodness is good without end And You'll never change

Chorus

I will tell of Your wonders sing of Your grace The God of creation knows me by name The Lord is faithful yesterday now and always Always

Your mercy is mighty age after age All generations will bow down and praise The Lord is faithful yesterday now and always Always

Bridge

You were You are You always will be God You were You are You always will be God Yes You always will be God

Ending

Your mercy is mighty age after age All generations will bow down and praise The Lord is faithful yesterday now and always