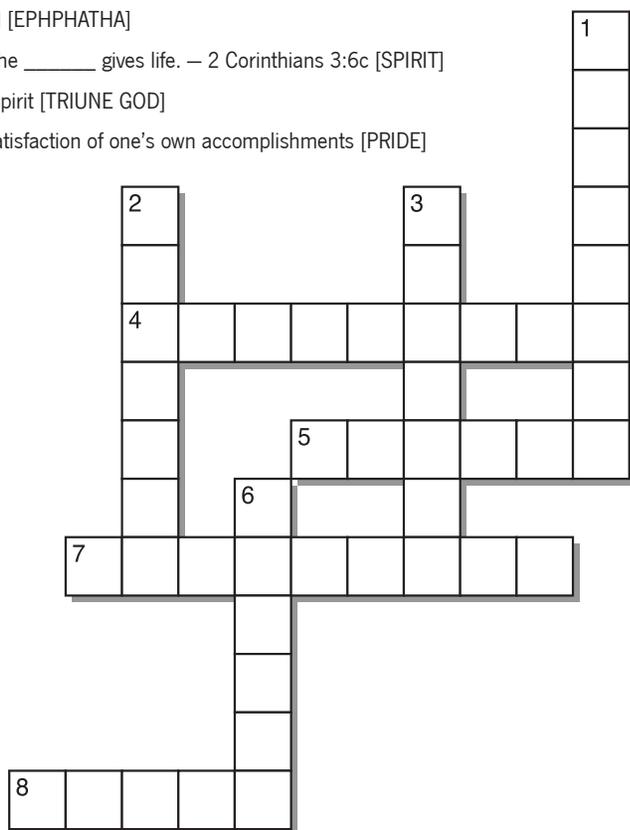


**ACROSS**

- 4) Be opened; be released [EPHPHATHA]
- 5) For the letter kills, but the \_\_\_\_\_ gives life. — 2 Corinthians 3:6c [SPIRIT]
- 7) Father, Son, and Holy Spirit [TRIUNE GOD]
- 8) a feeling of immense satisfaction of one's own accomplishments [PRIDE]



**WORD BANK**

- Covenant
- Creator
- Ephphatha
- Hearing
- Humble
- Pride
- Spirit
- Triune God

**DOWN**

- 1) God's promise [COVENANT]
- 2) God is the \_\_\_\_\_ of all things. [CREATOR]
- 3) So faith comes from \_\_\_\_\_, and hearing through the word of Christ. — Romans 10:17 [HEARING]
- 6) having a modest view of one's own importance [HUMBLE]



[www.steadfastlutherans.org/parish](http://www.steadfastlutherans.org/parish)

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# Lambs at Pasture™

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

2017

**INTROIT**

*Psalm 70:2b, 4a, 5b; antiphon: Psalm 70:1-2a*

Make haste, O God, to deliver me!

**O LORD, make haste to help me!**

Let them be put to shame and confusion

**who seek my life!**

Let them be turned back

**and brought to dishonor who desire my hurt!**

May all who seek you rejoice

**and be glad in you!**

You are my help and my deliverer,

**O LORD, do not delay!**

**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.**

Make haste, O God, to deliver me!

**O LORD, make haste to help me!**

Let them be put to shame and confusion

**who seek my life!**

**DAILY READINGS & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

An answer key is available for download at [www.stluth.org/lap](http://www.stluth.org/lap)

**MEMORY VERSE**

*Psalm 81:1*

Alleluia. Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob. Alleluia.

**HYMN OF THE WEEK:** LSB #823 — May God Bestow on Us His Grace

**CATECHISM CONNECTION:**

The First Article of the Creed with Explanation (pages 15-16)

**COLLECT OF THE WEEK**

Almighty and merciful God, by Your gift alone Your faithful people render true and laudable service. Help us steadfastly to live in this life according to Your promises and finally attain Your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## MONDAY — THE PSALM

Read Psalm 146

Why should we trust in the Lord? (verse 6)

God is our Creator, He made all things. He richly and daily provides all that is needed. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. (SC: The First Article of the Creed)

List some of the ways the Lord proves Himself trustworthy. (verses 5-9)

Verse 6 — The Lord is forever faithful, He keeps His word and promises.

Verse 7 — The Lord gives justice to the oppressed, feeds the hungry, and releases believers from bondage.

Verse 8 — The Lord gives sight to the blind, He lifts up those who are down, and He loves the righteous.

Verse 9 — The Lord protects us, He provides for the widow and fatherless, and He brings ruin to the wicked.

## TUESDAY — THE OLD TESTAMENT

Read Isaiah 29:17-24

How did God show mercy to Israel? (verses 17-23)

Verse 17 — God turns everything around, a foreshadow of the humble being exalted and the proud being abased.

Verse 18 — God opens the ears and eyes to the Lord, the people are able to understand His words

Verses 19-21 — The exalted will be humbled and the humble will be exalted

Verses 22-23 — Jacob would no longer be ashamed, but see his children were brought to faith and praise God

How did God's people react to everything He did for them? (verses 23-24)

God's people (believers) will stand in awe of the God; they will worship and praise Him.

## WEDNESDAY — THE GOSPEL

Read Mark 7:31-37

Describe the man who was brought to Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. (verse 32)

The man was deaf and had a speech impediment. This man brought before the Lord could neither hear nor speak clearly. He could not hear the Gospel with his ears. He could not confess Christ with his lips. Even though he desired to hear and speak rightly, he was unable, and helpless to cure himself.

What happened? What word did Jesus say to the man? What does the word mean? (verses 34-37)

Jesus Christ saved him. For while his tongue was silent and his ears stopped, his heart was moved to faith. The Lord loosens the tongue which the devil had tied and opens the ears that Satan had stopped, and He does so, with a single word: Ephphatha.

Ephphatha, it means: Be opened; be released.

By that strong Word, the Lord broke the twisted gates that blocked the man's ears, and made straight the tongue distorted by sin. The Mouth that spoke the Words, "Let there be..." and there was (Genesis 1:3, 6-7, 9, 11, 14-15, 20-21, 24 26-27), the Mouth from which holy Breath animated the first man (Genesis 2:7), the Mouth from which holy Breath breathed the Apostolic Office into Eleven bewildered disciples giving them the power to bind and loose sin (John 20:22-23), the Mouth of Christ also speaks a Word of Promise to you: Everyone who believes in the Son [of God] has everlasting life (John 3:36), and [He] will raise [you] up on the last day. (John 6:40c). [Everyone who] believes in [Him], as the Scriptures [say], out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. (John 7:38).

## THURSDAY — THE EPISTLE

Read Romans 10:9-17

Where does faith come from? (verse 17)

Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the Word of Christ.

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 86 (page 102), question 87 (pages 102-103), question 117 (page 121), and question 161 (pages 152-153)

### Optional Reading & Discussion Question

2 Corinthians 3:4-11

What does "for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life" mean? (verse 6)

The letter of the Law condemns, it puts the sinner to death. The Spirit works in our heart, giving us eternal life and salvation through Jesus Christ.

Review *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, question 6 (page 51)

## CATECHISM CONNECTION

What is the connection of the First Article of the Creed with Explanation and Trinity XII?

God is the Creator of all things, and He provides everything needed to sustain us — both spiritually and physically. He does this out of fatherly, divine goodness, without any merit or worthiness in me.