

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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SERMON OUTLINE -- SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

“Troubles Are Good For You” (John 14:1)

INTRODUCTION: *How many things can you list that makes your heart troubled?*

I. OUR LORD JESUS KNOWS OUR TROUBLES

- A. He invites us: “*Believe in Me*” (John 14:1)
- B. But we look in the wrong places for help
- C. We trust in the wrong things & make them our *idols*

II. IT IS GOOD TO HAVE OUR *IDOLS* REVEALED SO THEY MAY BE CAST DOWN

- A. Troubles cause us to repent, give up our idols & look to the mercy of God
- B. Sometimes our troubles come as a result of our Christian faith (1 Peter 2:20-21)
- C. This too is good for us & drives us to God’s Word, sacraments, & fellowship of the Church

III. IN TIMES OF TROUBLE WE:

- A. Look to God – Father, Son, Holy Spirit
- B. **Are being turned** from our idols & turned to the true God
- C. Remember others who need Jesus’ promises (John 14:1; 11:25-26; 16:33; Philippians 4:7)

(turn over to continue)

IV. TROUBLES ARE GOOD FOR US BECAUSE THEY HELP US:

- A. Turn away from our many idols
- B. Turn to our Lord Jesus
- C. Receive from Him strength & hope
- D. Serve others in need
- E. Enjoy *God's peace that surpasses all understanding*
- F. Celebrate that *God will bring good out of evil* (Genesis 50:20)

CONCLUSION: *We declare in faith: troubles are good for us*