

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

James: Wisdom for Life

September 29 & 30, 2018

5:00 pm & 8:15 am



AS WE GATHER

“And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.” Do you actually look forward to the Last Day? There are many things or events to which we look forward with anticipation. We may even say, “I can’t wait!” for the day of graduation from high school or college; the wedding day; the first day on a new job. Yet we don’t say that when anticipating major surgery or the dentist or the loss of a loved one. Today Jesus has us look forward to a reward laid up for us on that day. James chimes in, saying whatever our circumstances, the Christian faith enables us to live with the hope and light of our promised deliverance.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS - *We Prepare our hearts and minds for worship*



WELCOME

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN “Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray”

LSB 663

**Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep awaken!
Be not by the evil day Unawares o’er taken;
For the foe, Well we know,
Is a harvest reaping While the saints are sleeping.**

**Watch against the devil’s snares Lest asleep he find you;
For indeed no pains he spares To deceive and blind you.
Satan’s prey Oft are they
Who secure are sleeping And no watch are keeping.**

**Watch! Let not the wicked world With its lies defeat you
Lest with bold deceptions hurled It betray and cheat you.
Watch and see Lest there be
Faithless friends to charm you, Who but seek to harm you.**

**Watch against yourself, my soul, Lest with grace you trifle;
Let not self your thoughts control Nor God’s mercy stifle.
Pride and sin Lurk within,
All your hopes to shatter; Heed not when they flatter.**

**But while watching, also pray To the Lord unceasing.
God protects you day by day, Strength and faith increasing,
So that still Mind and will
Shall unite to serve Him And forever love Him.**

(Please Stand)

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: If any of you lacks wisdom,
People: **let him ask God, who gives generously**

Pastor: to all without reproach,
People: **and it will be given him.** (*James 1:5*)



INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(If you would like private confession and absolution, please call the office at (314) 832-5600 to make an appointment with Pastor Clark)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
People: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

(OR)

Seminary Student: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. *John 1:12, Philippians 1:6*

People: **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

HYMN OF PRAISE "Praise to You and Adoration" *LSB 692*

**Praise to You and adoration, Blessed Jesus, Son of God,
Who to serve Your own creation, Came to share our flesh and blood.
Guide me that I never may From Your fold or pastures stray,
But with zeal and joy exceeding Follow where Your steps are leading.**

**Hold me ever in Your keeping; Comfort me in pain and strife.
In my laughter and my weeping Be with me throughout my life.
Give me greater love for You, And my faith and hope renew
In Your birth, Your life, and passion, In Your death and resurrection.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Everlasting Father, source of every blessing,

People: **mercifully direct and govern us by Your Holy Spirit that we may complete the works You have prepared for us to do;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)



OLD TESTAMENT *Numbers 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29* (The people complain.)

⁴ Now the rabble that was among them had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, “Oh that we had meat to eat!⁵ We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. ⁶ But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at. . . .¹⁰ Moses heard the people weeping throughout their clans, everyone at the door of his tent. And the anger of the LORD blazed hotly, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹ Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹² Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,’ to the land that you swore to give their fathers? ¹³ Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, ‘Give us meat, that we may eat.’ ¹⁴ I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. ¹⁵ If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness.”¹⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you. . . .²⁴ So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. ²⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it. ²⁶ Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸ And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, “My lord Moses, stop them.”²⁹ But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



EPISTLE *James 5:13–20* (The prayer of faith)

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

¹⁹ My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰ let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

ALLELUIA and VERSE

LSB 205

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of God.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 9:38–50* (Temptations to sin)

(The congregation is invited to read the scripture in bold)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁸ John said to him, ³⁹ But Jesus said, “Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰ For the one who is not against us is for us. ⁴¹ For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

⁴² “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. ⁴³ And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸ ‘where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’ ⁴⁹ For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰ Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 207

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.

(Please Be Seated)



CHILDREN'S TIME "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways" LSB 707, v.1

**Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His statues still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!**

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Christ, Our True and Only Light" LSB 839

**O Christ, our true and only light, Enlighten those who sit in night;
Let those afar now hear Your voice And in Your fold with us rejoice.**

**Fill with the radiance of Your grace The souls now lost in error's maze;
Enlighten those whose inmost minds Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.**

**O gently call those gone astray That they may find the saving way!
Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed In You find peace and heavn'ly rest.**

**Shine on the darkened and the cold; Recall the wand'ers to Your fold.
Unite all those who walk apart; Confirm the weak and doubting heart.**

**That they with us may evermore Such grace with wond'ring thanks adore
And endless praise to You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.**



SERMON

(Please Stand)



PRAAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Shepherd of youth, Your Son welcomed children inviting, "let the little children come to me."
Bless parents and teachers, homes and schools as they teach the faith. Work through us so children and youth would grow in love for you and their neighbor. Encourage and strengthen our Word of Life families and teachers (including...) Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Gracious God, You are truly the One from whom all blessings flow. Make us faithful stewards of all with which You have blessed us for Your Word says, “Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver.” By the power of your Spirit, inspire us to give generously and joyfully so that our congregation can share Christ vigorously, giving life now and for eternity. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: King of kings, You encourage that prayers “be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.” Give wisdom and integrity to all who serve in the government of our land and protect those who serve in our armed forces. Provide peace and provision that Your Gospel can be proclaimed. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Compassionate Lord, You sent Your Son to “seek and save the lost.” Give us courage to share the love for Christ with those who do not yet know their Savior. Give us compassion to show mercy to those who are considered the least and lowly by the world. Help us to love because You first loved us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Merciful Lord, look with favor upon those who are sick and suffering. Assure them of Your mercy, and comfort them in their illness (especially...). If it pleases You, restore them to health as you give them courage and hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, You have established Your church as more than a place to go to, but a family to belong to. Continue to lead this family of faith here at Ascension to be united in mission as a people who are, “Loved by Christ, sharing Christ’s love.” Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

(Special Petitions)

Pastor: All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ.

People: Amen!



GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

(Please Stand)



✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

We believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christian to eat and to drink. If you are a communicant member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, please feel free to commune with us. If not, please speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord’s Supper.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS — Holy, Holy, Holy *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9* *LSB 208*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *LSB 209*

Pastor: Hear us as we pray in His name as He has taught us:

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *LSB 209*

PAX DOMINI — *The Peace of the Lord John 20:19* *LSB 209*

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI — *Lamb of God John 1:29* *LSB 210*

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

(Please Be Seated)

**Come down, O Love divine; Seek Thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with Thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near; Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn, Till worldly passion turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let Thy glorious light Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity Mine outward vesture be
And lowliness become mine inner clothing---
True lowliness of heart, Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own short-comings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong, With which the soul will long,
Shall far out-pass the pow'r of human telling;
No soul can guess His grace Till it become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes His dwelling.**

“Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise”

LSB 802

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

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all life Thou givest to both great and small
In all life Thou livest, the true Life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish but naught changes Thee.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render: O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light that hides Thee.**

“O Worship the King”

LSB 804

**O worship the King, all glorious above.
O gratefully sing His pow'r and His love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.**

**O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.**

**This earth, with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy pow'r hath founded of old,
Established it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.**

**Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.**

**Frail children of dust and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend!**

**O measureless Might, ineffable Love,
While angels delight to hymn thee above,
Thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to Thy praise.**

(Please Stand)

NUNC DIMITTIS "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go" *LSB 854, v. 1 & 2*
(sung to the tune of the Doxology)

**Forth in The name, O Lord I go, My daily labor to pursue,
Thee, only Thee, resolved to know In all I think or speak or do.**

**The task Thy wisdom has assigned, O let me cheerfully fulfill;
In all my works Thy presence find, And prove Thy good and perfect will.**



BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION *Psalm 103:1*

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: 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. *Numbers 6:24-26*

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" *LSB 922*

**Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own.
In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing You are My own.**

**Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son's story; Here you touched Him, saw His glory.
Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.**

**Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit's power filled you; Here His tender comfort stilled you.
Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.**

**I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.**

POSTLUDE

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