

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

James: Wisdom for Life

September 30, 2018

11:00 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.

PRE-SERVICE “When the Roll is Called Up Yonder”

Instrumental



WELCOME

✘ PREPARATION ✘

OPENING SONG “Our God Saves” Brown/Baloche

**In the Name of the Father, in the Name of the Son, in the Name of the Spirit, Lord we come;
We're gather'd together to lift up Your Name, to call on our Savior, to fall on Your grace;
Hear the joyful sound of our offering as Your saints bow down, as Your people sing;
We will rise with You, lifted on Your wings, and the world will see that . . .**

**Our God saves, Our God saves; There is hope, in Your Name;
Mourning turns to songs of praise; Our God saves, Our God saves. REPEAT SONG**

Our God saves.

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(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 ✠

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)



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!

SONG OF THE DAY “Do It Again”

Brown/Brock/Redman/Furtick

**Walking around these walls, I thought by now they'd fall
But you have never failed me yet. Waiting for change to come
Knowing the battle's won For you have never failed me yet**

**CHORUS: Your promise still stands
Great is your faithfulness
Faithfulness
I'm still in your hands
This is my confidence
You've never failed me yet**

**I know the night won't last Your word will come to pass
My heart will sing your praise again Jesus you're still enough
Keep me within your love My heart will sing your praise again CHORUS X2**

**I've seen you move You move the mountains
And I believe I'll see you do it again
You made a way Where there was no way
And I believe I'll see you do it again REPEAT BRIDGE, CHORUS X2**

**You've never failed me yet I never will forget
You've never failed me yet I never will forget**

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SERMON

(Please Stand)



PRAYER 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

OFFERTORY “It’s the Power of the Cross”

Townend/Getty

**Oh to see the dawn of the darkest day. Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men torn and beaten then. Nailed to a cross of wood.**

**CHORUS 1: This the pow'r of the cross. Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame bore the wrath. We stand forgiven at the cross.**

**Oh to see the pain written on Your face. Bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought ev'ry evil deed. Crowning Your bloodstained brow. CHORUS 1**

**Now the daylight flees now the ground beneath. Quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two dead are raised to life. Finished the vict'ry cry. CHORUS 1**

**Oh to see my name written in the wounds. For through Your suff'ring I am free.
Death is crushed to death life is mine to live. Won through Your selfless love.**

**CHORUS 2: This the pow'r of the cross. Son of God slain for us.
What a love what a cost. We stand forgiven at the cross.**
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(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.**

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

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI *Lamb of God* “Lamb of God” Maichel

**Lamb of God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world.
Lamb of God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world.
And have mercy on us. Have mercy on us and grant us your peace. Grant us your peace.
Have Mercy on us, O Lamb of God. Grant us your peace we pray.**

(Please Be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION SONGS “Great are You Lord”

Ingram/Jordan/Leonard

**You give life You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope You restore ev'ry heart that is broken
And great are You Lord**

CHORUS: It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only **REPEAT SONG, CHORUS X2**

Instrumental

BRIDGE: And all the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry these bones will sing
Great are You Lord **REPEAT X3, CHORUS X2**
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“The Wonderful Cross”

Tomlin/Watts/Walt/Reeves/Mason

**When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**See from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

CHORUS: O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross
bids me come and die and find that I may truly live.
O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross;
All who gather here by grace draw near
And bless Your name.

**Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an off'ring far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all. CHORUS**

Your name

(Please Stand)



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 SONG “Your Grace Is Enough”

Maher

**Great is Your faithfulness, O God; You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart.
You lead us by still waters into mercy and nothing can keep us apart.**

CHORUS: **So remember Your people, remember Your children,
remember Your promise O God.
Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough for me.**

**Great is Your love and justice, God of Jacob; You use the weak to lead the strong.
You lead us in the song of Your salvation, and all Your people sing along. CHORUS**

**Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough for me. CHORUS**

**Yeah, Your grace is enough; Heaven reaches out to us.
Your grace is enough for me.
God, I sing Your grace is enough; I'm covered in Your love.
Your grace is enough for me, for me.**

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POSTLUDE *Instrumental Music*

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