

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Cloud of Witnesses

August 17 & 18, 2019

5:00 pm & 8:15 am



AS WE GATHER

“By faith . . .” With these words the writer to the Hebrews describes the manner of life of the saints of old. The writer records that “by faith” God’s people did things. They did not just believe stuff—they acted! This echoes James who challenges us, “Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works” (James 2:18). Life is changing all around us. Entrusting our life and will to the care of the founder and perfecter of our faith, Jesus, the Prince of Peace, God’s people act . . . by faith.

PRELUDE

Organ

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



WELCOME

✠ **PREPARATION** ✠

OPENING HYMN “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” *LSB 655*

**Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has done.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow’r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally.**

**O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,

People: **let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely,**

Pastor: and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

People: **looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.**

ALL: **Amen!** *Hebrew 12:1-2a*

(Please Stand)



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.** *Matthew 28:19b*

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8-9**

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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. [John 20:19-23]
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 ✠

KYRIE *Lord, Have Mercy (sung)* *LSB 152*

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.
People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
People: **Amen.**

**Saints, see the cloud of witnesses surround us;
 Their lives of faith encourage and astound us.
 Hear how the Master praised their faith so fervent:
 “Well done, my servant!”**

**Lord, give us faith to walk where You are sending,
 On paths unmarked, eyes blind as to their ending;
 Not knowing where we go, but that You lead us—
 With grace precede us.**

**You, Jesus, You alone deserve all glory!
 Our lives unfold, embraced within Your story;
 Past, present, future— You, the same forever—
 You fail us never!**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: O God, by whose grace and power Your holy martyr Lucia triumphed over suffering and remained faithful; unto death, grant us, who now remember her suffering with thanksgiving, to be so true in our witness to You in this world that we may receive with her new eyes without tears and the crown of light and life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

(Please Be Seated)



OLD TESTAMENT *Jeremiah 23:16–29* (Ignoring false prophets,
 we listen to God’s Word.)

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD. ¹⁷ They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No disaster shall come upon you.’” ¹⁸ For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened? ¹⁹ Behold, the storm of the LORD! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. ²⁰ The anger of the LORD will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly. ²¹ “I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. ²² But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds. ²³ “Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God far away? ²⁴ Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ ²⁶ How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, ²⁷ who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my

word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



EPISTLE *Hebrews 11:17–31; 12:1–3* (The people of God living by faith)

¹⁷ By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ¹⁹ He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. ²⁰ By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. ²¹ By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. ²² By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones. ²³ By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. ²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. ²⁸ By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them. ²⁹ By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies. . . . ¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

GOSPEL VERSE “For All the Saints”

LSB 677, v. 1

**For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!**



HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 12:49–53* (Division and perfect peace)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

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

⁴⁹ “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. ⁵² For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. ⁵³ They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother

against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.



APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 159

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 MESSAGE "Jesus Loves Me, This I Know"

LSB 588, v. 2

**Jesus loves me, He who died, Heaven's gate to open wide;
He will wash away my sin, Let His little child come in.**

***Refrain:* Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.**

HYMN OF THE DAY "For All the Saints"

LSB 677

**For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Oh, may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old
And win with them the victor's crown of gold! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave again and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day:
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of Glory passes on His way. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Alleluia! Alleluia!



SERMON

(Please Stand)



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray together in Christ Jesus for all people according to their needs. For faith to act in love and service to people, as we follow Jesus through the seasons and changes of life, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For kind pastors who speak the peace Jesus embodied through the Law and the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who hold positions of public trust in this and every land that all people may live in peace, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the healing of the sick and peace to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit [*especially . . .*], let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For life eternal under God's reign with all the saints in light, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

(Special Petitions)

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

(Please Be Seated)



GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

Your tithes and offerings shape the lives of people through the Gospel of Jesus Christ for now and eternity. Thank you for your generosity! “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:7

(Please Stand)

OFFERTORY “Sing with All the Saints in Glory”

LSB 671, v. 1

**Sing with all the saints in glory, Sing the resurrection song!
Death and sorrow, earth’s dark story, To the former days belong.
All around the clouds are breaking; Soon the storms of time shall cease;
In God’s likeness we awaken, Knowing everlasting peace.**



✠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 Christians 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 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 “Sing with All the Saints in Glory”

LSB 671, v. 2

**Oh, what glory, far exceeding All that eye has yet perceived!
Holiest hearts for ages pleading Never that full joy conceived.
God has promised, Christ prepares it; There on high our welcome waits.
Ev’ry humble spirit shares it, Christ has passed the eternal gates.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 162

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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. *Matthew 6:9–13*

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

LSB 163

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

People: Amen.

COMMUNION CANTICAL “Sing with All the Saints in Glory”

LSB 671, v. 3

**Life eternal! Heav'n rejoices: Jesus lives who once was dead.
Shout with joy, O deathless voices! Child of God, lift up your head!
Life eternal! Oh, what wonders Crowd of faith; what joy unknown,
When, amid earth's closing thunders, Saints shall stand before the throne!**
(Please Be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “Evening and Morning”

LSB 726

**Evening and morning, Sunset and dawning.
Wealth, peace, and gladness, Comfort in sadness:
These are Thy works; all the glory be Thine!
Times without number, Awake or in slumber,
Your eye observes us, From danger preserves us,
Causing Thy mercy upon us to shine.**

**Father, oh, hear me, Pardon and spare me;
Calm all my terrors, Blot out my errors
That by Thine eyes they may no more be scanned.
Order my goings, Direct all my doings;
As it may please Thee, Retain or release me;
All I commit to Thy fatherly hand.**

**Ills that still grieve me Soon are to leave me;
Though billows tower, And winds gain power,
After the storm the fair sun shows its face.
Joys e'er increasing And peace never ceasing:
These I shall treasure And share in full measure
When in His mansions God grants me a place.**

**To God in heaven All praise be given!
Come, let us offer And gladly proffer
To the Creator the gifts He doth prize,
He well receiveth A heart that believeth;
Hymns that adore Him Are precious before Him
And to His throne like sweet incense arise.**

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

LSB 411

**I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.**

**Refrain: In Him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path, And show me the way to the Father. Refrain**

**I’m looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain**

“The Clouds of Judgement Gather”

LSB 513

**The clouds of judgement gather, The time is growing late;
Be sober and be watchful, Our judge is at the gate:
The judge who comes in mercy, The judge who comes in might
To put an end to evil And diadem the right.**

**Arise, O true disciples; Let wrong give way to right,
And penitential shadow To Jesus’ blessed light:
The light that has no evening, That knows no moon or sun,
The light so new and golden, The light that is but one.**

**The home of fadeless splendor, Of blooms that bear no thorn,
Where they shall dwell as children Who here as exiles mourn:
The peace of all the faithful, The calm of all the blest,
Inviolable, unfading, Divinest, sweetest, best.**

**Oh, happy, holy portion, Relief for all distressed,
True vision of true beauty, Refreshment for the blest!
Strive now to win that glory, Toil now to gain that light;
Send hope ahead to grasp it Till hope be lost in sight.**

(Please Stand)

CLOSING SENTENCES

Pastor: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
People: **let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely,**

Pastor: and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,
People: **looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.**

ALL: **Amen!** *Hebrew 12:1-2a*



BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

LSB 166

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.
People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Thy Strong Word”

LSB 578

**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!**

**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!**

**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!**

**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!**

**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 souls with alleluias, Alleluias without end!**

**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!**

POSTLUDE

Organ

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