

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Cloud of Witnesses

August 18, 2019

11:00 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.

PRE-SERVICE

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.

CCLI #219979. Used by permission

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 ✠

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.)

¹⁶Thus 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. ¹⁷They 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.’” ¹⁸For 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)



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. ⁵²For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. ⁵³They 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.



EAGLE SCOUT AWARD PRESENTATION TO ALEX PFEUFFER

SONG OF THE DAY "Dry Bones"

Daigle

**Through the eyes of men it seems there's so much we have lost
As we look down the road where all the prodigals have walked
One by one the enemy has whispered lies and led them off as slaves**

**But we know that You are God, Yours is the victory
We know there is more to come that we may not yet see
So with the faith You've given us, we step into the valley unafraid, yeah**

CHORUS: As we call out to dry bones, "Come alive, come alive"
We call out to dead hearts, "Come alive, come alive"
Up out of the ashes, let us see an army rise
We call out to dry bones, "Come alive"

**God of endless mercy, God of unrelenting love
Rescue every daughter, bring us back the wayward sons
And by Your spirit breathe upon them
Show the world that You alone can save
You alone can save CHORUS**

So breathe, oh breath of God Now breathe, oh breath of God
Breathe, oh breath of God now breathe REPEAT BRIDGE, CHORUS

CHORUS: As we call out to dry bones, "Come alive, come alive"
We call out to dead hearts, "Come alive, come alive"
Up out of the ashes, let us see an army rise
We call out to dry bones, "Come alive"

We call out to dry bones, come alive Oh come alive

CCLI #219979 Used by permission



SERMON



NEW MEMBER CONFIRMATION

Kim Abney
Joy Guilford

Mya Brodie
Michele Rosner

Lisa Schrum

(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

“Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart” H. Smith

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son.**

**And now let the weak say “I am strong,” Let the poor say “I am rich,”
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say “I am strong,” Let the poor say “I am rich,
Because of what the Lord has done for us.**

Give thanks. Give thanks. Give thanks.

CCLI #219979 Used by permission

(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 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.**

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*

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI “My Victory” Mulligan/Crowder/Cash/Bentley

**Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away our sin Who takes away our sin
The holy Lamb of God Makes us alive again Makes us alive again REPEAT**

CCLI #219979 Used by permission

(Please Be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION SONGS “I Will Wait For You” (Psalm 130)

Kauflin/Gwetty/Merker/Townend

**Out of the depths I cry to You In darkest places I will call
Incline Your ear to me anew And hear my cry for mercy Lord**

**Were You to count my sinful ways How could I come before Your throne
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze I stand redeemed by grace alone**

**CHORUS 1: I will wait for You I will wait for You
On Your word I will rely
I will wait for You surely wait for You
Till my soul is satisfied**

**So put Your hope in God alone Take courage in His power to save
Completely and forever won By Christ emerging from the grave**

**His steadfast love has made a way And God Himself has paid the price
That all who trust in Him today Find healing in His sacrifice**

**CHORUS 2: I will wait for You I will wait for You
Through the storm and through the night
I will wait for You surely wait for You
For Your love is my delight**

CCLI #219979 Used by permission

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

LSB 686

**Come Thou Fount of ev’ry blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise,
While the hope of endless glory Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee; May I still Thy goodness prove.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer, Hither by Thy help I’ve come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wand’ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.**

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.**

**Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood washed linen, How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry; Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry Me to realms of endless day.**

(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 SONG “You Never Let Go” Redman

**Even though I walk through the valley Of the shadow of death
Your perfect love is casting out fear
And even when I'm caught in the middle Of the storms of this life
I won't turn back I know You are near**

**And I will fear no evil For my God is with me
And if my God is with me Whom then shall I fear
Whom then shall I fear**

CHORUS: **Oh no You never let go Through the calm and through the storm
Oh no You never let go In ev'ry high and ev'ry low
Oh no You never let go Lord, You never let go of me**

**And I can see a light that is coming For the heart that holds on
A glorious light beyond all compare
And there will be an end to these troubles But until that day comes
We'll live to know You here on the earth**

**And I will fear no evil For my God is with me
And if my God is with me Whom then shall I fear**

Whom then shall I fear CHORUS

You keep on runnin' and You never let go . . . Singin' CHORUS

**CHORUS: Oh no You never let go Through the calm and through the storm
Oh no You never let go In ev'ry high and ev'ry low
Oh no You never let go Lord, You never let go of me**

**Yes I can see a light That is coming for the heart that holds on
And there will be an end to these troubles But until that day comes
Still I will praise You Still I will praise You REPEAT BRIDGE, CHORUS X2**

Lord, You never let go of me.

CCLI #219979 Used by permission

POSTLUDE

Instrumental Music

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3. Copyright © 2019 Concordia Publishing House.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012046