

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Cloud of Witnesses

August 24 & 25, 2019

5:00 pm & 8:15 am



AS WE GATHER

It often seems that God has laid an impossible mission before us. How can He draw from all nations, and how can He work through us to do it? But this is the God for whom nothing is impossible and the same God who has insisted that He speaks through the voices of His people. That means the task before us is to speak faithfully God's Word and so reflect the loving heart of our heavenly Father, who has sent His Son to redeem His fallen world. But we act not alone. The Holy Spirit works through the Word—even when it is spoken by our voices. God has called us here with the gracious invitation of His Word so that we might be strengthened and equipped to be sent forth with that same gracious invitation of Christ, crucified and risen.

PRELUDE

Organ

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



WELCOME

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN "All People That On Earth Do Dwell"

LSB 791

**All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell; Come ye before Him and rejoice.**

**Know that the Lord is God indeed; Without our aid He did us make.
We are His folk, He doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.**

**O enter then His gates with praise; Approach with joy His courts unto.
Praise, laud, and bless His name always, For it is seemly so to do.**

**For why? The Lord our God is good: His mercy is forever sure.
His truth at all times firmly stood And shall from age to age endure.**

**To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host Be praise and glory evermore.**

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.

SERMON SERIES HYMN “Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses” *LSB 667, v. 1, 5, & 6*

**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: Almighty God, You called Boniface to be a witness and martyr in Germany, and by his labor and suffering You raised up a people for Your own possession. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your Church in every land, that by the service and sacrifice of many of Your holy name may be glorified and Your kingdom enlarged; 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 *Isaiah 66:18–23* (They shall come and see His glory.)

¹⁸ “For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, ¹⁹ and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. ²⁰ And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. ²¹ And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD. ²² “For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain. ²³ From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Hebrews 12:4–24* (See that you do not refuse Him who is speaking.)



ur struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵ And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. ⁶ For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” ⁷ It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸ If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹ Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰ For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹ For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. ¹² Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴ Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶ that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷ For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears. ¹⁸ For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰ For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

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 13:22–30* (Will those who are saved be few?)

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

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

²² He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. ²³ And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, ²⁴ “Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵ When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ ²⁶ Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and

drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’²⁷ But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’²⁸ In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out.²⁹ And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God.³⁰ And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

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 "A Multitude Comes From the East and West"

LSB 510

**A multitude comes from the east and the west
To sit at the feet of salvation
With Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the blest,
Obeying the Lord's invitation.
Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!**

**O God, let us hear when our Shepherd shall call
In accents persuasive and tender,
That while there is time we make haste, one and all,
And find Him, our mighty defender.
Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!**

**All trials shall be like a dream that is past,
Forgotten all trouble and mourning.
All questions and doubts have been answered at last,
When rises the light of that morning.
Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!**

**The heavens shall ring with an anthem more grand
Than ever on earth was recorded.
The blest of the Lord shall receive at His hand
The crown to the victors awarded.
Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!**



SERMON

(Please Stand)



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: With You nothing is impossible and Your sufficient grace calls us to offer You the prayer and petitions of our hearts, O Lord, to whom we pray. That we hear His call to labor in His vineyard, supplying missionaries and church workers to speak His Word here and everywhere and that we well supply them with the tools and resources to accomplish this work, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Hear the prayers of Your people.**

Pastor: That we be good citizens and good neighbors and that those who lead us serve ably and well, for the benefit of all but especially for the protection of the weak, for equal justice before the law, and for the promotion of virtue, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Hear the prayers of Your people.**

Pastor: That we extend God's care to those in any need, including those seeking employment, those struggling with disability, and the poor, and that we well supply those in need with the abundant resources God has entrusted into our care, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Hear the prayers of Your people.**

Pastor: That the hurting find relief, the sick healing, the dying hope, the grieving comfort, and the mentally ill peace, especially those who have requested our prayers, [*including . . .*], that all those who cry to the Lord receive grace sufficient to their need, let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Hear the prayers of Your people.**

(Special Petitions)

Pastor: Through Him, with Him, in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, both now and forever.

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.**

THE SATURDAY 5:00 PM SERVICE CONTINUES ON PAGE 9



✠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, 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 “Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace” *LSB 844*

**Lord of all nations, grant me grace To love all people, ev’ry race;
And in each person may I see My kindred, loved, redeemed by Thee.**

**Break down the wall that would divide Thy children, Lord, on ev’ry side.
My neighbor’s good let me pursue; Let Christian love bind warm and true.**

**Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred My loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.**

**Give me Thy courage, Lord, to speak Whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I myself the victim be, Help me forgive, rememb’ring Thee.**

**With Thine own love may I be filled And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where’er I be, May be divinely touched by Thee.**

“Jerusalem the Golden” *LSB 672*

**Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest—
The promise of salvation, The place of peace and rest—
We know not, oh, we know not What joys await us there:
The radiancy of glory, The bliss beyond compare!**

**Within those walls of Zion Sounds forth the joyful song,
As saints join with the angels And all the martyr throng.
The Prince is ever with them; The daylight is serene;
The city of the blessed Shines bright with glorious sheen.**

**Around the throne of David, The saints, from care released,
Raise loud their songs of triumph To celebrate the feast.
They sing to Christ their leader, Who conquered in the fight.
Who won for them forever Their gleaming robes of white.**

**O sweet and blessed country, The home of God’s elect!
O sweet and blessed country That faithful hearts expect!
In mercy, Jesus, bring us To that eternal rest
With You and God the Father And Spirit, ever blest.**

**Lord of glory you have bought us with Your life blood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice;
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand
To the unthankful and the evil With Your own unsparing hand.**

**Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Gladly, freely of Your own.
With the sunshine of Your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by You, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed ‘Tis to give than to receive.**

**Wondrous honor You have given To our humblest charity
In Your own mysterious sentence, “You have done it all to Me.”
Can it be, O gracious Master, That You deign for alms to sue,
Saying by Your poor and needy, “Give as I have giv’n to you”?**

**Lord of glory, You have bought us With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones, That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust You boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on You;
But, oh, best of all Your graces, With Your love our love renew.**

(Please Stand)

THE SATURDAY 5:00 PM SERVICE CONTINUES HERE

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 “Glorious Things of You Are Spoken”

LSB 648

**Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken Formed you for His own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded, What can shake your sure repose?
With salvation’s walls surrounded, You may smile at all your foes.**

**See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love,
Well supply your sons and daughters And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river Ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver, Never fails from age to age.**

**Round each habitation hov'ring, See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a cov'ring, Showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna Which God gives them on their way.**

**Savior, since of Zion's city I through grace a member am,
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in Your name.
Fading are the world's vain pleasures, All their boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasures None but Zion's children know.**

POSTLUDE

Organ

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