

# NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## Cloud of Witnesses

August 10 & 11, 2019

5:00 pm & 8:15 am



### AS WE GATHER

How easy it is to become anxious when things go differently than we had hoped. We worry about ourselves and our loved ones. We experience everyday anxieties and big cosmic ones too. Sometimes anxiety can become so serious that professional help is needed. Paul writes in Philippians 4:6, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Easier said than done, Paul! Jesus invites us to let anxiety be. Concerning the things most of us worry about—like food, clothing, provisions—Jesus observes that just as the birds, the lilies, and the grass are well-provided for, we will be taken care of as well. The adventure of life is one of faith: entrusting ourselves to the care of God, seeking first God’s reign, and experiencing the rich provision enjoyed by all of creation as a gift.

### PRELUDE

*Organ*

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



**WELCOME**

**✠ PREPARATION ✠**

**OPENING HYMN** “Father Most Holy”

*LSB 504*

**Father most holy, merciful and tender; Jesus, our Savior, with the Father reigning;  
Spirit of comfort, advocate, defender, Light never waning;**

**Trinity blessed, unity unshaken, Goodness unbounded, very God of heaven,  
Light of the angels, joy of those forsaken, Hope of all living.**

**Maker of all things, all Thy creatures praise Thee; All for Thy worship were all created;  
Now, as we also worship Thee devoutly, Hear Thou our voices.**

**Δ Lord God Almighty, unto Thee be glory, One in three persons, over all exalted!  
Glory we offer, praise Thee and adore Thee, Now and forever.**

### 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 and everlasting God, by Your Spirit You brought Emperor Constantine to believe and confess the victory of the cross and moved his mother to help in the building of many churches where Your people could gather to receive Your gifts and praise Your name. Receive our thanks for them and for all benefactors who give generously of their wealth to further the work of Your Church in spreading the saving Gospel; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

*(Please Be Seated)*



**OLD TESTAMENT** *Genesis 15:1–6* (God’s promises to Abraham)

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” <sup>4</sup>And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup>And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



**EPISTLE** *Hebrews 11:1–16* (The people of God living by faith)

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>For by it the people of old received their commendation. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. <sup>4</sup>By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. <sup>5</sup>By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. <sup>6</sup>And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. <sup>7</sup>By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith. <sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore. <sup>13</sup>These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. <sup>14</sup>For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

**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 12:22–34* (Let anxiety be.)

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

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

<sup>22</sup>And he said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. <sup>23</sup>For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup>Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! <sup>25</sup>And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>26</sup>If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? <sup>27</sup>Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>28</sup>But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! <sup>29</sup>And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. <sup>30</sup>For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup>Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you. <sup>32</sup>“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your

possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

**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 "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"

LSB 765

**God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform;  
He plants His footsteps in the sea And rides upon the storm.**

**Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, But trust Him for His grace;  
Behind a frowning providence Faith sees a smiling face.**

**His purposes will ripen fast, Unfolding ev'ry hour;  
The bud may have a bitter taste, But sweet will be the flow'r.**

**Blind unbelief is sure to err And scan His work in vain;  
God is His own interpreter, And He will make it plain.**

**You fearful saints, fresh courage take; The clouds you so much dread  
Are big with mercy and will break In blessings on your head.**



### SERMON



### INSTALLATION OF JOSHUA BRAKHAGE, PASTORAL ASSISTANT

*(Please Stand)*



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray together in Christ Jesus for all people according to their needs. Loving God, grant us freedom from anxiety. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Loving God, grant us wise and faithful pastors who speak Your truth in love and Your love in truth. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Loving God, grant us civil leaders in every society that serve for the good of all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Loving God, grant healing to the sick and all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, [*especially . . .*]. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

*(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, 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** “Amazing Grace” *LSB 744*

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see!**

**The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be, As long as life endures.**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come;  
His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.**

**Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And mortal life shall cease,  
Amazing grace shall then prevail In heaven's joy and peace.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.**

**"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"**

*LSB 733*

**O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.**

**Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.**

**Before the hills in order stood Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.**

**Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;  
We fly forgotten as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.**

**O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!**

**"Salvation unto Us Has Come"**

*LSB 555*

**Salvation unto us has come By God's free grace and favor;  
Good works cannot avert our doom, They help and save us never.  
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone, Who did for all the world atone;  
He is our one Redeemer.**

**What God did in His law demand And none to Him could render  
Caused wrath and woe on ev'ry hand For man, the vile offender.  
Our flesh has not those pure desires The spirit of the Law requires,  
And lost is our condition.**

**It was a false, misleading dream That God His Law had given  
That sinners could themselves redeem And by their works gain heaven.  
The Law is but a mirror bright To bring the inbred sin to light  
That lurks within our nature.**

From sin our flesh could not abstain, Sin held its sway unceasing;  
The task was useless and in vain. Our guilt was e'er increasing.  
None can remove sin's poisoned dart Or purify our guileful heart  
So deep is our corruption.

Yet as the Law must be fulfilled Or we must die despairing,  
Christ came and has God's anger stilled, Our human nature sharing.  
He has for us the Law obeyed And thus the Father's vengeance stayed  
Which over us impended.

Since Christ has full atonements made And brought to us salvation,  
Each Christian therefore may be glad And build on this foundation.  
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead, Your death is now my life indeed.  
For You have paid my ransom.

Let me not doubt, but truly see Your word cannot be broken;  
Your call rings out, "Come unto Me!" No falsehood have You spoken.  
Baptized into Your precious name, My faith cannot be put to shame,  
And I shall never perish.

The Law reveals the guilt of sin And makes us conscience-stricken;  
But then the Gospel enters in The sinful soul to quicken.  
Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live; The Law no peace can ever give,  
No comfort and no blessing.

Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone And rests in Him unceasing;  
And by its fruits true faith is known, With love and hope increasing.  
For faith alone can justify; Works serve our neighbor and supply  
The proof that faith is living.

All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise To Father, Son, and Spirit,  
The God who saved us by His grace; All glory to His merit.  
O triune God in heav'n above, You have revealed Your saving love;  
Your blessed name we hallow.

*(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** “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

*LSB 516*

“Wake, awake, for night is flying,” The watchmen on the heights are crying;  
“Awake, Jerusalem, arise!” Midnight hears the welcome voices  
And at the thrilling cry rejoices: “Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise?  
The Bridegroom comes, awake! Your lamps with gladness take!  
Alleluia! With bridal care Yourselves prepare To meet the Bridegroom who is near.”

Zion hears the watchmen singing, And all her heart with joy is springing;  
She wakes, she rises from her gloom. For her Lord comes down all glorious,  
The strong in grace, in truth victorious; Her star is ris’n, her light is come.  
Now come, thou Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God’s own Son,  
Hail! Hosanna! We enter all The wedding hall To eat the Supper at Thy call.

Now let all the heav’ns adore Thee, let saints and angels sing before Thee  
With harp and cymbals’ clearest tone. Of one pearl each shining portal,  
Where, joining with the choir immortal, We gather round Thy radiant throne.  
No eye has seen the light, no ear has heard the might Of Thy glory;  
Therefore will we Eternally Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

**POSTLUDE**

*Organ*

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