

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 24

Thankful to God for Church and Nation

October 18 & 19, 2014

AS WE GATHER

God calls His people to lives of commitment, including making commitments to the Church and to the nation where the people live. Ultimately, God is Lord over both the Church and over all nations. Sometimes, in His providence, He shows His dominion in ways not readily understood. He may use non-Christian leaders and unchristian nations to further His gracious plans. In living our lives, we are called to carry out the duties and responsibilities associated with citizenship in our nation. At the same time we are to demonstrate our highest allegiance to God by being people of faith who show love and evidence hope in all situations.

WELCOME

This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. (Romans 3:22-24, NIV)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN #907 “God Himself is Present”

God Himself is present: Let us now adore Him
And with awe appear before Him, God is in His temple;
All within keep silence; Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.
He alone On His throne Is our God and Savior; Praise His name forever!

God Himself is present; Hear the harps resounding:
See the hosts the throne surrounding. “Holy, holy, holy!”
Hear the hymn ascending, Songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow Your ear To us here; Hear, O Christ, the praises That Your Church now raises.

Fount of ev'ry blessing, Purify my spirit, Trusting only in Your merit.
Like the holy angels, Worshipping before You, May I ceaselessly adore You.
Let Your will Ever still Rule Your Church terrestrial As the hosts celestial.

(Rise)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 9:1–2; 128:1*

Pastor: I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart;

People: **I will recount all of your wonderful deeds.**

Pastor: I will be glad and exult in you;

People: **I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.**

Pastor: Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD,

People: **who walks in His ways!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

People: **O God our Father, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have transgressed your law and have brought injury to others. We have not always shown forth our faith in every aspect of our lives. We sincerely repent of our sins. Have mercy on us and hear this, our confession, O Lord. Grant us your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit within us, lead us to amend our sinful lives that each day we may grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of your holy name.**

Pastor: The Lord hears our pleas and accepts our prayers. To each of us, our Lord promises forgiveness, life, and salvation. 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Gloria in Excelsis”

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To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless you, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our Heav'nly King.

To You, O solebegotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High.
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, the protector of all who trust in you, have mercy on us that with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 45:1–7* (There is none beside the Lord who rules the world.)

"This is what the LORD says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor, to open doors before him so that gates will not be shut: I will go before you and will level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron. I will give you the treasures of darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name. For the sake of Jacob my servant, of Israel my chosen, I summon you by name and bestow on you a title of honor, though you do not acknowledge me. I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is none besides me. I am the LORD, and there is no other. I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 1:1–10 (God's chosen people in Christ as examples of faith) Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you. We always thank God for all of you, mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became imitators of us and of the Lord; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia--your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead--Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

5:00 CHOIR ANTHEM *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"* Grades 1-4
Congregation may join in singing the third stanza and refrain

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*

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 God. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, We shall know the joy of 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.

8:00 CHOIR ANTHEM *"Sov'reign Lord, Creator, Righteous One"* Mary McDonald

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 22:15–22* (Teaching about giving what is due to Caesar and to God) Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, and he asked them, "Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?" "Caesar's," they replied. Then he said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #940 "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" Rise for the last stanza

Holy God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee.

All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heav'n above adore Thee.

Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.

Hark! The glad celestial hymn Angel choirs above are raising;

Cherubim and seraphim, In unceasing chorus praising,

Fill the heavn's with sweet accord: Holy, holy, holy Lord!

Lo, the apostles' holy train Join Thy sacred name to hallow;

Prophets swell the glad refrain, And the white-robed martyrs follow,

and from morn to set of sun Through the Church the song goes on.

Thou art King of Glory, Christ; Son of God, yet born of Mary.

For us sinners sacrificed, As to death a Tributary,

First to break the bars of death, Thou hast opened heav'n to faith.

(Rise) Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;

Though in essence only one, Undivided God we claim Thee

And, adoring, bend the knee While we own the mystery.

SERMON

"The Truth Cannot Be Trapped"

Matthew 22:15-21

(Rise)

CATECHISM *The First Article*

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Pastor: What does this mean?

All: I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

(Be seated)

OFFERING As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Pastor: . . . as you live and reign as one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

HYMN "Jesus, Name Above All Names" AGPS #145

Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,
Emmanuel, God is with us blessed Redeemer, living Word.

Jesus, loving shepherd vine of the branches, Son of God
Prince of Peace, Wonderful counselor Lord of the universe, Light of the world.

Jesus, Way of salvation, King of kings, Lord of lords,
the way the truth, and the Life, Mighty creator, My Savior and friend.

HYMN #732 "All Depends on Our Possessing"

All depends on our possessing God's abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart. They who trust with faith unshaken
By their God are not forsaken And will keep a dauntless heart.

He who to this day has fed me And to many joys has led me
Is and ever shall be mine. He who ever gently schools me,
He who daily guides and rules me Will remain my help divine.

Many spend their lives in fretting Over trifles and in getting
Things that have no solid ground. I shall strive to win a treasure
That will bring me lasting pleasure And that now is seldom found.

When with sorrow I am stricken, Hope anew my heart will quicken;
All my longing shall be stilled. To His loving kindness tender
Soul and body I surrender, For on God alone I build.

Well He knows what best to grant me; All the longing hopes that haunt me,
Joy and sorrow, have their day. I shall doubt His wisdom never;
As God wills, so be it ever; I commit to Him my way.

If my days on earth He lengthen, God my weary soul will strengthen;
All my trust in Him I place. Earthly wealth is not abiding,
Like a stream away is gliding; Safe I anchor in His grace.

HYMN #625 "Lord Jesus Christ, Life-giving Bread"

Lord Jesus Christ, lifegiving bread, May I in grace possess You.
Let me with holy food be fed. In hunger I address You.
Prepare me well for You, O Lord, And, humbly by my prayer implored,
Give me Your grace and mercy.

To pastures green, Lord, safely guide, To restful waters lead me;
Your table well for me provide, Your wounded hand now feed me.
Though weary, sinful, sick, and weak, Refuge in You alone I seek,
To share Your cup of healing.

O bread of heav'n, my soul's delight, For full and free remission
I come with prayer before Your sight In sorrow and contrition.
Your righteousness, Lord, cover me That I receive You worthily,
Assured of Your full pardon.

I do not merit favor, Lord, My weight of sin would break me;
In all my guilty heart's discord, O Lord, do not forsake me.
In my distress this comforts me That You receive me graciously,
O Christ, my Lord of mercy!

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are you, Heavenly Father, for you have once again fed and nourished us at your Table through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Strengthen us through this gracious Meal, that we may live with hope and confidence, showing forth your love through acts of mercy. Support us in this life, and bring us at last to the unending feast in your eternal kingdom, where you live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

CLOSING

Pastor: But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself.

People: To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

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 #966 "Before You, Lord, We Bow"

Before You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns above
And rules the world below, Boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring In joy and praise, Our hearts we raise To You, our King!

The nation You have blest May well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by Your care.
For this bright day, For this fair land Gifts of Your hand Our thanks we pay.

May ev'ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,
Shine in Your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue Be tuned to praise And join to raise A grateful song.

Earth, hear your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore, And bow before The Crucified.

And when in pow'r He comes, Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, With joy to sing To heav'n's high King Salvation's song!

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Acolytes

Organist

Grades 1-4 Teachers

Choir Director

Music Coordinator

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Pastor Harold Bender

Jim Laux, Bob Reynolds, Dan Vaclav

Nik Mueller, Ryan Murray, Cassy Barry

Roger Gottschalk

Barb Heimsoth, Pat Graf, Jane Jahnke

Nancy Hoelke

Kim Woller