

## NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Suffering Servants  
September 29 & 30, 2018

### AS WE GATHER

Suffering. Difficulty. Persecution. Struggles. No one likes these kinds of things. When they come into our lives, we often question God, "Why me??" Why do I have to suffer, to face difficulties of various kinds, struggle in life, and sometimes even be persecuted by unbelievers?? There is no good answer to that question. However, the Holy Scriptures would call us to faith to believe even in the face of these things and to believe that good things, blessings, and a strengthened faith can come from facing sufferings through faith in Christ.

### WELCOME

### MINISTRY MOMENT – YOUTH TESTIMONIES

“For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” (2 Corinthians 12:10, ESV)

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

### OPENING HYMN #802 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.  
  
Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.  
  
To all life Thou givest to both great and small-  
In all life Thou livest, the true Life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree  
And wither and perish but naught changes Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight  
All laud we would render; O help us to see  
‘Tis only the splendor of light that hides Thee.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Your hands have made and fashioned me;

**People: give me understanding that I may learn your commandments.**

Pastor: Let your mercy come to me, that I may live;

**People: for your law is my delight.**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Beloved, today the apostle James says, “Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.”  
Let us all therefore lay our sins on Jesus, looking to Him for forgiveness.

**People: Almighty God, at your invitation, we beg for your grace and forgiveness of our sins for the sake of the priceless sacrifice of our Lord Jesus on the cross. Forgive us for the wayward and wrongful acts we have committed and also for the good and constructive words and acts we have failed to do. Help us to live in the faith of the resurrection of the righteous. Amen.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE #930 “All You Works of God, Bless the Lord”

All you works of God, bless the Lord! All you angels, now bless the Lord;  
Come, you heavens and pow’rs that be, Praise the Lord and His majesty:

*Refrain:*

*Raise your voices high, praise and magnify, All you works of God, bless the Lord!  
Raise your voices high, praise and magnify, All you works of God, bless the Lord!*

Sing, you sun and you moon above, Stars of heaven, now sing His love;  
Dew and showers, you winds that blow, Heat and fire, you ice and snow:

*Refrain*

Frost of winter with song so cold, Dews of summer, your song unfold;  
Light and darkness, you day and night,  
Clouds of thunder, you lightnings bright: *Refrain*

Hills and mountains, now sing His worth,  
All you green things that grow on earth;  
Seas and rivers, you springs and wells,  
Beasts and cattle, you birds and whales: *Refrain*

Come, humanity, sing along, Sing, you people of God, a song:  
Priests and servants, your Lord now bless, Join, you spirits and souls at rest:  
*Refrain*

Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart; All you humble, His praise impart;  
God the Father and Son adore, Bless the Spirit forevermore! *Refrain*

### **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, by your word of wisdom this day, help us to live  
in the glorious hope and light of the promised day of resurrection.  
Help us to pray for your power and grace for the help and healing of  
all those in need; 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** *Numbers 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29* (The people complain.) Now the rabble that was among them had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, “Oh that we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.” Moses heard the people weeping throughout their clans, everyone at the door of his tent. And the anger of the LORD blazed hotly, and Moses was displeased. Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all

this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,’ to the land that you swore to give their fathers? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, ‘Give us meat, that we may eat.’ I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness.” Then the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you. So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it. Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, “My lord Moses, stop them.” But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *James 5:1–20* (The prayer of faith)

Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you. Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the

Lord. Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**10:30 ANTHEM**        *“Let the Little Children Come”* - Getty

(Rise)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter

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

**HOLY GOSPEL** Mark 9:38–50 (Temptations to sin)

John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. For the one who is not against us is for us. For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward. “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, ‘where their worm does not die and the fire is

not quenched.’ For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Be seated)

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

### SERMON HYMN

### “Nearer, My God, to Thee”

TLH #533

Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.  
E’en though it be a cross That raiseth me,  
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

Tho’ like the wanderer, The sun gone down,  
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone,  
Yet in my dreams I’d be Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

There let my way appear Steps unto heav’n;  
All that Thou sendest me In mercy giv’n;  
angels to beckon me Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

Then with my waking thoughts Bright with Thy praise,  
Out of my stony griefs Bethel I’ll raise,  
So by my woes to be Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

Or if on joyful wing, Cleaving the sky,  
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, Upward I fly,  
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to Thee,  
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

**SERMON**    *“Enduring Suffering Through Faith and Prayer”*    **James 5:1-20**

(Rise)

**NICENE CREED** (*found on the inside back cover of the hymnal*)

(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.

*Brief silence*

Pastor: Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, help your children to rejoice in the work of the Spirit wherever He pours out His gifts,

**People: giving all the glory to you and your boundless love.**

Pastor: King of glory, continue to raise up those who assist your ministers in bearing the burden of caring for your people with their prayers, their service and their support. Enable all ministers of the Word to proclaim your Law and promises with faithfulness and zeal.

**People: Help us put an end to all grumbling against one another, and remind us that the Judge is standing at the door.**

Pastor: Savior of all, you endured suffering and trials as you walked the face of the earth. Help us look to you in faith whenever we face suffering and trails, that we would not grow weary.

**People: Strengthen our faith to believe that you are with us in suffering, can bring good from suffering, and even strengthen our faith as we face various trials in life.**

Pastor: Remember in mercy all who have strayed from the life of your Church and your truth, and use us to bring them back to you.

**People: Give us faithful hearts that seek the lost and fill us with a godly fear of the danger of causing your little ones, by our words or deeds, to stumble and fall from you.**

Pastor: Lord of the Nations, to your kindness we commend all who have been entrusted with public service in our land. Keep them ever mindful that they will give account to you.

**People: Protect them from every impulse to serve self and to live in luxury or self-indulgence. Fill them with your wisdom, and make them a blessing to our people.**

Pastor: Father of all compassion, you call us to patient waiting in our lives until the coming of our Lord, when we know you will restore us fully. Bless those who pass through difficult times of emotional or physical illness, especially your servants Karen, Dolores, Bob, Herb, Larry, Marilyn, Cindy, Anita, Scott, LuEva, Dick, Nancy, Jan, Shirley, Gladys, Russ, Arlene, Dorothy, John, Arlene, Jack, Shirley, Jonathan, Helen, Leonard and Sarah.

**People: Remind them of your never failing love and give them a steadfast faith in your mercy and compassion. Bless all ministry to the sick or suffering provided in your name.**

Pastor: Giver of life, we rejoice with the Mueller and Lacey families upon the birth of Levi David Lacey. Grant your loving care and protection to this new child, especially until he is brought to the waters of Holy Baptism.

**People: Bless his parents to nurture him physically and raise him spiritually in the one Christian faith, as a believer in and follower of Christ.**

Pastor: Merciful Master, your Son urges us to enter the life that is truly life. As we gather around His altar today, we pray you would renew in us a hearty desire for life with you.

**People: Having received in faith our Savior's body and blood as the guarantee and pledge of eternal life, we may leave this place as witnesses to the joy of sin's forgiveness and death's defeat.**

Pastor: God of life, receive our thanks on this day for all your servants who finished their course in faith and now rest from their labors. Comfort all who still grieve their earthly loss.

**People: Bring us to share with them your unending life on the day of the Savior's appearing.**

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

**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 #550 “Lamb of God”

Your only Son, no sin to hide, But You have sent Him from Your side  
To walk upon this guilty sod, And to become the Lamb of God.

Refrain:

**O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!  
O wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.**

Your Gift of love they crucified, They laughed and scorned Him as He died:  
The humble King they named a fraud, And sacrificed the Lamb of God. **Refrain**

I was so lost, I should have died, But You have brought me to Your side  
To be led by Your staff and rod, And to be called a lamb of God. **Refrain**  
(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 #478 “The Day of Resurrection”

The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,  
The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.  
From death to life eternal, From sin’s dominion free,  
Our Christ has brought us over With hymns of victory.

Let hearts be purged of evil That we may see aright  
The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light  
And, list’ning to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain,  
His own “All hail!” and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.

Now let the heav’ns be joyful, Let earth its song begin,  
Let all the world keep triumph And all that is therein.  
Let all things, seen and unseen, Their notes of gladness blend;  
For Christ the Lord has risen, Our joy that has no end!

All praise to God the Father, All praise to God the Son,  
All praise to God the Spirit, Eternal Three in One!  
Let all the ransomed number Fall down before the throne  
And honor, pow’r, and glory Ascribe to God alone!

## HYMN #719 “I Leave All Things to God’s Direction”

I leave all things to God’s direction; He loves me both in joy and woe.  
His will is good, sure His affection; His tender love is true, I know.  
My fortress and my rock is He: What pleases God, that pleases me.

God knows what must be done to save me; His love for me will never cease.  
Upon His hands He did engrave me With purest gold of loving grace.  
His will supreme must ever be: What pleases God, that pleases me.

My God desires the soul’s salvation; My soul He, too, desires to save.  
Therefore with Christian resignation All earthly troubles I will brave.  
His will be done eternally: What pleases God, that pleases me.

My God has all things in His keeping; He is the ever faithful friend. He gives me  
laughter after weeping, and all His ways in blessings end. His love endures  
eternally: What pleases God, that pleases me.

## HYMN #761 “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee;  
Let the water and the blood, From Thy riven side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.

Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill Thy Law’s demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring; Simply to Thy cross I cling.  
Naked, come to Thee for dress; Helpless, look to Thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the fountain fly: Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyelids close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown, See Thee on Thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee.

### COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Thanks and praise to you, O Lord, for your mighty, healing Word  
and for our lives renewed through the forgiveness of our sins and  
your gift of the hope of the resurrection. Keep us in this hope all our  
days, looking forward to your deliverance in eternal life; through  
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and  
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the glory of the Lord endure forever;

**People: may the Lord rejoice in His works,**

Pastor: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

**People: I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

Pastor: May my meditation be pleasing to Him,

**People: for I rejoice in the Lord.**

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 #664 “Fight the Good Fight”

Fight the good fight with all your might;  
Christ is your strength, and Christ your right.  
Lay hold on life, and it shall be Your joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God’s good grace;  
Lift up your eyes, and seek His face. Life with its way before us lies;  
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside, lean on your guide; His boundless mercy will provide.  
Trust, and enduring faith shall prove  
Christ is your life and Christ your love.

Faint not nor fear, His arms are near; He changes not who holds you dear;  
Only believe, and you will see That Christ is all eternally.

Preacher  
Liturgist  
Lectors  
Acolytes  
Organist, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Director

Pastor Harold Bender  
Pastor Noah Kegley  
Debbie Ulbing, Debra Nier, Carri Halstead  
Riley Zacharias, Alexis Plumeri, Caden Gibbs  
Michelle Prince

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