



Eighteenth Sunday after  
Pentecost

October 12, 2025-Setting 4

Why did only one return to give thanks?

The answer has to do with the identity of the one leper who did give thanks to Jesus. "He," St. Luke tells us, "was a Samaritan." Which made him, as Jesus calls him later, a foreigner, an outsider. The other nine, they were part of the in crowd, the people of God. You'd think they'd be the ones to give God thanks. But - no - it was only the outsider who did it.

And why? Why do you suppose that was?

We're not told precisely in the story. But I suspect it had to do with a sense of entitlement. The nine insider lepers figured they had their cleansing coming to them, that it was somehow owed to them, because, after all, they were part of the people of God. The outsider leper, on the other hand, didn't figure God owed him anything at all. So he was able to receive his cleansing as a gift - and give thanks for it to boot.

So let's get one thing straight. When it comes to God, we are not entitled to anything. If we ever were, we gave it up when we fell into sin. After which it's a good thing every day that we don't get what we deserve, what we're entitled to. So if we're living and breathing, that in itself is a sign of God's goodness and grace.

But of course we're doing better than just living and breathing. Even in these tough economic times, we have food on our tables, clothes on our backs, a roof over our heads. This may not be everything we want. But our wants are limitless, and we shouldn't fault God for not supplying them all. Our needs are much more modest, and as God meets them, let us be content - and grateful.

—Rev. John E. Priest

Welcome

We are thankful you have joined us today!

**Hymn** Once He Came in Blessing | **333**

Entrance Psalm

[Psalm 111:1-10]

☞ Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

☞ **Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.**

Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

**He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

**He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy;

**they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

*Please stand.*

**Confession & Absolution**

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [Matt 28:19b; 18-20]

Our help is in the name of the Lord, **who made heaven and earth.** [Psalm 124:8]

*Quiet time for self-examination and confession*

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.** [Psalm 130:3-4]

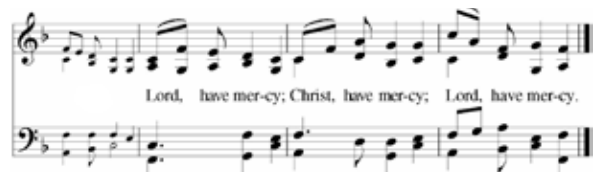
Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying God, be merciful to me, a sinner. [Luke 18:13]

**Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

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. **Amen.** [John 20:19-23]

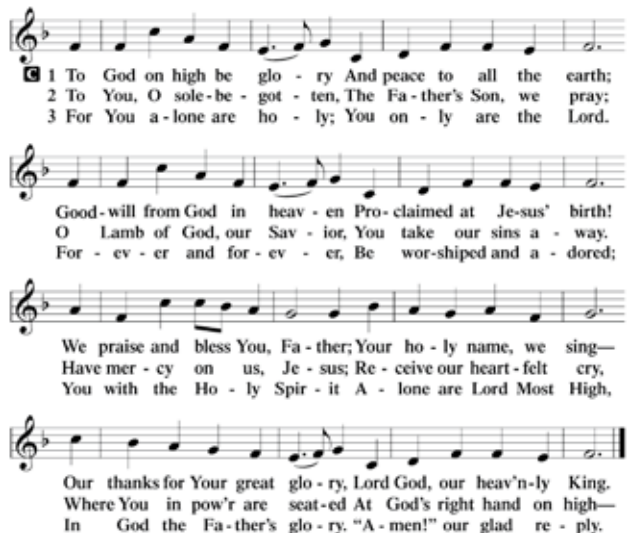
## Lord, Have Mercy

[Mark 10:47; Setting IV]



## Glory to God

[Luke 2:14; John 1:29]



## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray...[*silence for individual prayer*] Almighty God,  
You show mercy to Your people in all their troubles. Grant  
us always to recognize Your goodness, give thanks for Your  
compassion, and praise Your holy name; through Jesus Christ  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## Readings from God's Word

The Old Testament Reading is from Ruth.

**I**n the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the Lord had visited his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The Lord grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they

may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the Lord has gone out against me." Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more. So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. [Ruth 1:1-19a]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading is from 2 Timothy.

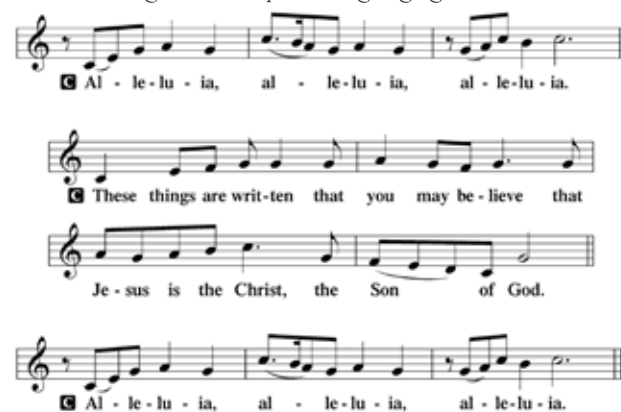
**Y**ou then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;  
if we endure, we will also reign with him;  
if we deny him, he also will deny us;  
if we are faithless, he remains faithful—  
for he cannot deny himself. [2 Timothy 2:1-13]

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand to greet the Gospel reading singing the Alleluia verse.*



The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

## Glory to You, O God.

On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well." [Luke 17:11-19]

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## Praise to You, O Christ.

*Please sit.*

### Children's Talk

[Mark 10:14-16; Matt 19:14; Luke 18:16-17]

*Please sit. The children are invited forward for a message based on today's Scripture readings led by Pastor Fitch.*

## Hymn Love in Christ is Strong and Living | 706

Sermon

### Our Confession of Faith

*Please stand to confess the Apostles' Creed printed on the inside back cover of the hymnal.*

### Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

### Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay ▶

*Those for whom we pray are listed on the Life at Faith insert. Please stand.*



### Offertory

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the  
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your  
pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### Sacrament of the Altar

[2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136]

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

### It is right to give Him thanks and praise

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 who on this day 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:

The Holy, Holy, Holy

[Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9]

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san-na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**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. [Matt 6:9-13]

## The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat: this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup after supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this is My + blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

[Matt 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25]

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

## Lamb of God

[John 1:29]



*Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.*

## Distribution of Holy Communion/Hymns

*The Lord's Supper is a meal for disciples of Jesus who have been baptized and taught (as our Lord says in Matthew 28). Those who have confessed their sins, acknowledge Jesus as their Savior from sin, believe that with the bread and the wine Christ truly gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, desire to commit themselves to Him in loving obedience, and share the faith confessed at this altar, are welcome to participate. If you have any doubts or questions about the gift of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you consult with the pastor or an elder. Children are invited to come to the altar with their parents to receive a blessing.*

**Hymns** Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord | **637**

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me | **683**

*When all have communed, please stand.*

## Post Communion Song

[Luke 2:29-32]



## Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray...one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Benediction

[2 Cor 13:14]

The grace of the Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Amen.**

## Hymn

Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old | **846**

## Postlude

*Acknowledgments—Artwork: Ten Lepers by James Christensen. All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ©2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. The order of service is from Lutheran Service Book, © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted under oneLicense.net #A-710394. 2025 Bulletins (Year C18aP October 12, 2025 (setting 4))*

Faith Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Childcare

*A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod*

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.

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Richard Tremain  
Pastor Emeritus

### Church Council

Tom Rafferty, Chair  
\*If you would like a  
Board Chair's email,  
contact the church office

### Church Elders

Michael Waltz, Chair  
Church Trustees  
Bill Schnackel, Chair

### Mercy Ministry

Regina Allman, Chair  
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