

Welcome

We are thankful you have joined us today!

Hymn

Entrance Psalm

☞ I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

☑ **My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

**Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

**The sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

**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 LORD will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.

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]

Nineteenth Sunday after
Pentecost

How Can I Thank You Lord? | 703

[Psalm 121:1-8]

October 19, 2025-Setting 4

Have you ever felt like giving up? Throwing in the towel? Leaving the ministry, or quitting the faith? In telling the parable of the persistent widow, Jesus acknowledges that quitting the journey is a real possibility. He was, after all, a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief. His own cry of dereliction expressed the specter of defeat.

People quit the faith for many reasons – hypocrisy, boredom, legalistic pettiness, superficial platitudes, unanswered prayers, bitter disappointments, and intellectual doubts. In Luke 18 Jesus encourages us “always to pray and not give up.” He tells a story about a persistent widow who importuned a corrupt judge. She never gave up, despite the many injustices she experienced at the hands of the judge who “neither feared God nor cared about men.”

In JRR Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings, the elves of Lothlorien admit that they're losing their forest lands. But they battle on. They describe their struggle as “fighting the long defeat.” In Letters of Tolkien (195), Tolkien describes our human struggle using identical language: “Actually, I am a Christian, and indeed a Roman Catholic, so that I do not expect ‘history’ to be anything but a ‘long defeat’ – though it contains ... some samples or glimpses of final victory.”

... In persistence we savor small victories. We acknowledge our limited options and make the best of a bad situation. We resist despair.

Most of all, says Jesus, we keep praying, and don't give up.

—Daniel B. Clenden



Lord, Have Mercy

[Mark 10:47; Setting IV]

Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Glory to God

[Luke 2:14; John 1:29]

1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.

Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;

We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,

Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray...[silence for individual prayer] O Lord, almighty and everlasting God, you have commanded us to pray and have promised to hear us. Mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may direct and govern our hearts in all things that we may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, 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 Genesis.

The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered."

[Genesis 32:22-30]

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

The Epistle Reading is from 2 Timothy.

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. [2 Timothy 3:14-4:5]

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

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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to You, O God.

And [Jesus] told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" [Luke 18:1-8]

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

O Word of God Incarnate | 523

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

...let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

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]

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

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

Precious Lord, Take My Hand | **739**
Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing | **686**
On Eagles' Wings | **727**

When all have communed, please stand.

Post Communion Song

[Luke 2:29-32]

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant, De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

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 God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven | **877**

Postlude

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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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