

# NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 22

October 8, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

## AS WE GATHER

We all have a past. From the people whose names are known to all to the anonymous known only to God, we all come with history that has marked us for sin and death. The gift of God is that He forgives that sinful past, removes all condemnation, and bestows a future upon us. Nowhere is this more obvious than in the story of Paul. The Lord forgave his past, restored him beyond every expectation, and gave him a future serving as an apostle in life with the prize of eternal life in death. No matter who we are, we have the same promise. God forgives all our sin, restores us to be His own and live under Him in His kingdom, and bears in us the fruit of the Kingdom now and the prize of everlasting life in His own time. All of this we know now by faith, trusting in the righteousness that God has given to us in Christ and not in ourselves.

**PRELUDE** “Things We Leave Behind” -Paul and Betsy Hanson

**HYMN** “Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses” *LSB* 667

1 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!”

2 These saints of old received God’s commendation;  
They lived as pilgrim-heirs of His salvation.  
Through faith they conquered flame and sword and gallows,  
God’s name to hallow.

3 They call to us, “Your timid footsteps lengthen;  
Throw off sin’s weight, your halting weakness strengthen.  
We kept the faith, we shed our blood, were martyred;  
Our lives we bartered.”

4 Come, let us fix our sight on Christ who suffered,  
He faced the cross, His sinless life He offered;  
He scorned the shame, He died, our death enduring,  
Our hope securing.

5 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.

6 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!

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## INVOCATION

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

**People: Amen.**

**OPENING SENTENCES** *Psalm 80:7, 18*

Pastor: Restore us, O God of hosts;

**People: let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Pastor: Then we shall not turn back from You;

**People: give us life, and we will call upon Your name!**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: Holy and gracious God,

**People: I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness for all my sin. Deliver and restore me that I may rest and live in Your peace.**

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.

**People: Amen.**

**INTROIT** *Psalm 118:22–24; antiphon: v. 1*

Leader: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

**People: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.**

Leader: This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

**People: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**All: 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.**

Leader: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

**HYMN OF PRAISE** "Christ Is Our Cornerstone" *LSB 912*

1 Christ is our cornerstone,  
On Him alone we build;  
With His true saints alone  
The courts of heav'n are filled.  
On His great love  
Our hopes we place  
Of present grace And joys above.

2 Here may we gain from heav'n  
The grace which we implore,  
And may that grace, once giv'n,  
Be with us evermore  
Until that day  
When all the blest  
To endless rest  
Are called away.

△ 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise  
These hallowed courts shall ring;  
Our voices we will raise  
The Three in One to sing  
And thus proclaim  
In joyful song,  
Both loud and long,  
That glorious name. Text: Public domain

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Isaiah 5:1–7* (The Lord planted His people to be His vineyard, but they produced wild grapes worthy only of judgment.)

Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** *Psalms 80:7–19; antiphon: v. 7*

Leader: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

**People: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Leader: You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

**People: You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.**

Leader: The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.

**People: It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.**

Leader: Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

**People: The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.**

Leader: Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see;

**People: have regard for this vine, the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself.**

Leader: They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your face!

**People: But let your hand be on the man of your right hand, the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself!**

Leader: Then we shall not turn back from you; give us life, and we will call upon your name!

**People: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts! Let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

**All: 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.**

Leader: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

**EPISTLE** *Philippians 3:4b–14* (“I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God.”) If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For

his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE** *Matthew 21:42b*

Pastor: Alleluia. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;

**People: this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 21:33–46* (The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.” When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “Fight the Good Fight” *LSB* 664

1      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.

2      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.

3 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.

4 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.  
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## **SERMON**

### **CREED**

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.

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

### **OFFERING** “Press On”

*We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you leave the sanctuary.*

### **PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22**

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, 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 saying:

### **SANCTUS**

Holy holy holy Lord  
God of power and might  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory  
Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes  
In the name of the Lord  
Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna in the highest

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Holy and mighty Lord, we give You thanks for having made all things and for Your patient mercy in dealing with us sinners who deserved nothing of Your kindness. Grant us grace in Christ that all our sins be forgiven and that we be covered with the righteousness of Christ and may worthily approach the Table of our Lord today and in eternity be welcomed into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom without end.

**People: Amen.**

## **WORDS OF OUR LORD** *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: 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 cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## **PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST** *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## **LORD’S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9–13*

**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.**

## **PAX DOMINI**

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

**People: Amen.**

## **AGNUS DEI**

Lamb of God you take away

All the sin of the world

Oh Lamb of God have mercy on us

And grant to us your peace

*You are invited to receive the Lord’s Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

*Communion is offered in two ways: the individual cup and the common cup. If you would like the individual cup, please partake as the assistant minister passes by after Pastor gives the bread. If you would like the common cup, let the assistant minister pass by, and Pastor will give you the common cup. When he serves it to you, you are welcome to grab the chalice from the bottom while he holds it from the top. He will rotate and wipe the chalice between people.*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“The Church’s One Foundation” *LSB* 644

1       The Church’s one foundation  
      Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
She is His new creation  
      By water and the Word.  
From heav’n He came and sought her  
      To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her,  
      And for her life He died.

2       Elect from ev’ry nation,  
      Yet one o’er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation:  
      One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name she blesses,  
      Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses  
      With ev’ry grace endued.

3       Though with a scornful wonder  
      The world sees her oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder,  
      By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping;  
      Their cry goes up, “How long?”  
And soon the night of weeping  
      Shall be the morn of song.

4       Through toil and tribulation  
      And tumult of her war  
She waits the consummation  
      Of peace forevermore  
Till with the vision glorious  
      Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
      Shall be the Church at rest.

5       Yet she on earth has union  
      With God, the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
      With those whose rest is won.  
O blessèd heav’nly chorus!  
      Lord, save us by Your grace  
That we, like saints before us,  
      May see You face to face.

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“God Loved the World So That He Gave” *LSB 571*

1 God loved the world so that He gave  
His only Son the lost to save,  
That all who would in Him believe  
Should everlasting life receive.

2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,  
Who was made flesh and suffered death;  
All then who trust in Him alone  
Are built on this chief cornerstone.

3 God would not have the sinner die;  
His Son with saving grace is nigh;  
His Spirit in the Word declares  
How we in Christ are heaven’s heirs.

4 Be of good cheer, for God’s own Son  
Forgives all sins which you have done;  
And, justified by Jesus’ blood,  
Your Baptism grants the highest good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,  
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessèd Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!  
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**BLESSING**

Pastor: May our Lord’s body and blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace and with joy.

**People: Amen.**

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING** *Psalm 107:1*

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son’s body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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** *Numbers 6:24–26*

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.**



**HYMN** “If Your Beloved Son, O God” *LSB* 568

1 If Your beloved Son, O God,  
Had not to earth descended  
And in our mortal flesh and blood  
Had not sin’s power ended,  
Then this poor, wretched soul of mine  
In hell eternally would pine  
Because of my transgression.

2 But now I find sweet peace and rest;  
Despair no more reigns o’er me.  
No more am I by sin oppressed,  
For Christ has borne sin for me.  
Upon the cross for me He died  
That, reconciled, I might abide  
With You, my God, forever.

3 I trust in Him with all my heart;  
Now all my sorrow ceases.  
His words abiding peace impart;  
His blood from guilt releases.  
Free grace through Him I now obtain;  
He washes me from ev’ry stain,  
And pure I stand before Him.

4 All righteousness by works is vain;  
The Law brings condemnation.  
True righteousness by faith I gain;  
Christ’s work is my salvation.  
His death, that perfect sacrifice,  
Has paid the all-sufficient price;  
In Him my hope is anchored.

△ 5 My guilt, O Father, You have laid  
On Christ, Your Son, my Savior.  
Lord Jesus, You my debt have paid  
And gained for me God’s favor.  
O Holy Spirit, Fount of grace,  
The good in me to You I trace;  
In faith and hope preserve me.  
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**POSTLUDE** “The Building Block” -Paul and Betsy Hanson

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 4.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship 9:30 a.m.

**GENEROSITY THOUGHTS:** *Matthew 21:43* – “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.” The Pharisees were not bearing fruit. Though they were faithful to the letter of the Law in keeping the Sabbath, tithing, and all the rest, they neglected the heart of God’s will. The grace of God belongs at the center. Our giving and all our other good works flow forth from receiving God’s grace and living in that grace on a daily basis.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** Emmaus will have a congregational meeting on Sunday, October 15.

**75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY RSVP:** Please turn in your RSVP and payment for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meal by October 9. Invitations and RSVP cards were sent out to each Emmaus household. They are also available in the office.

**DINNER/POTLUCK WITH THE KOOIS:** We are starting a new series of events where up to 8 people can sign up to have an afternoon potluck with the Kooi family. These will be occurring most months (skipping at least Advent/Lent). The sign up is in the narthex for the next event Nov 11th at 3:00 p.m. Todd P. will be hosting the event at his house and providing the entree, Pesto Chicken.

**GUYS’ GAME AFTERNOON:** We are reviving the guys’ game afternoon November 18th 12-4 p.m. in the Social Hall. Please RSVP to Todd P.

**LWML MITES** will be collected on Sunday, October 15. Please bring your coins!

**LWML:** The St. Paul Metro zone will be the hosts for the Capitol Conference Fall Rally on Saturday, October 14 at Gathering Place Lutheran Ministries 3245 New Brighton Road, Arden Hills. 9:00 am registration, 9:30 - 11:30 program followed by lunch, “A Taste of SE Asia.” The presenter will be Pastor Yia Lor—“Mission Impossible: The Upside-Down Mission to the Lost in the Mountains of Southeast Asia.” Registration \$10. Collections will be taken for offering, and Gifts from the Heart: items for homeless shelters/homeless. Join us for food, fellowship, singing, Bible study, convention recap and LWML news.

**HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR”** on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week’s broadcast: “Help the World Rejoice” Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. A musical about a choir of nuns led by a lounge singer provides the setting for Dr. Michael Zeigler's message, based on Psalm 80. (Psalm 80)

**WINTER COAT DRIVE - OCTOBER 14:** The St. Paul Outreach Center is hosting a giveaway event on Saturday, October 14, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Jehovah Lutheran Church (1566 Thomas Avenue, St. Paul). This new ministry, a partnership of the St. Paul Circuit LCMS churches sponsored by the MN South District, had a great start on September 8 with 100 people present for the kick-off International Potluck.

We are looking for donations of winter wear (coats, hats, scarves, gloves, mittens) in clean, good condition. Donations can be dropped off at Jehovah every Friday 9-11 a.m. or at our own site for later delivery. We also need volunteers at Jehovah for set-up, help that day, and take down. Here’s the link and a QR code to the form to sign up donations and volunteer slots:

<https://forms.gle/dHeEMMhV5bajb25Y7>

For more information please email [spoc@jehovahlutheran.org](mailto:spoc@jehovahlutheran.org) or call David Mennicke, coordinator, at 651-636-3271. Thanks for your partnership in this exciting new sharing of the Gospel!