

19th Sunday After Pentecost

October 19, 2025; 9 a.m.



St John's
Lutheran Church

(An usher rings the church bell at 8:55 a.m.)

Welcome and Announcements

Temple Talk

Patti Sontag, Imani School

Prelude

(Acolytes light the candles)

Take My Life arr. ____

JuBellation Handbell Choir

Gathering Hymn *(please stand)*

ELW #669; *Rise Up O Saints of God*, vs. 1, 2, 5

- 1 Rise up, O saints of God!
 From vain ambitions turn;
 Christ rose triumphant that your hearts
 with nobler zeal might burn.

- 2 Speak out, O saints of God!
 Despair engulfs earth's frame;
 as heirs of God's baptismal grace,
 the word of hope proclaim.

- 5 Commit your hearts to seek
 the paths which Christ has trod;
 and, quickened by the Spirit's pow'r,
 rise up, O saints of God!

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie



Music: *Mass of Creation*, Marty Haugen, © 1984, GIA Publications, Inc.

Canticle of Praise

(Assembly sings refrains, Choir sings vs. 1-3)



- 1 Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain*
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer. *Refrain*
- 3 For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father. Amen, Amen! *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O Lord God, **tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Reading: Psalm 121 *(please sit, read responsively)*

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills;

from where is my help to come?

**²My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

³The Lord will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

**⁴Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵the Lord watches over you;

the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

**⁶the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

⁷The Lord will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.

**⁸The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1} In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the

truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Time

Gospel Acclamation (*please stand*)

Choir: Assembly:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 18th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon (*please sit*)

Rev. Eric Nielsen

Hymn of the Day *(please stand)*

ELW #514; *O Word of God Incarnate*

- 1 O Word of God incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance
that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps,
shines on from age to age.
- 2 The church from you, dear Master,
received the gift divine;
and still that light is lifted
o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass
that, all life's voyage through,
mid mists and rocks and quicksands
still guides, O Christ, to you.
- 3 Oh, make your church, dear Savior,
a lamp of burnished gold
to bear before the nations
your true light, as of old;
oh, teach your wand'ring pilgrims
by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended,
they see you face to face.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the
third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the
right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the**

dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Petition: God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always!
And also with you.

Offering

(Ushers take up the collection)

Bonse Aba Zambian Worship Song arr. Victor C. Johnson
St. John's Choir

Offertory *(please stand)*

(Ushers bring collection forward for acolytes to receive)

ELW #726; *Light Dawns on a Weary World*, vs. 1, 3

- 1 Light dawns on a weary world
 when eyes begin to see
 all people's dignity.
 Light dawns on a weary world:
 the promised day of justice comes.

Refrain

- The trees shall clap their hands;
the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy,
and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.
- 3 Hope blooms in a weary world
 when creatures, once forlorn,
 find wilderness reborn.

Hope blooms in a weary world:
the promised green of Eden comes. *Refrain*

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. Blessed are you, **O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might:
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high-est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na
in the high-est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Table

(acolytes prepare for communion distribution; ushers come forward to invite assembly by pew)

Lamb of God

Cantor:



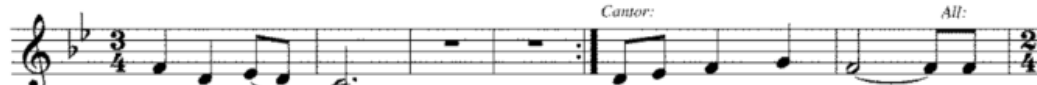
1. Je-sus, Lamb of
2. Je-sus, Bread of
3. Je-sus, Prince of

All:



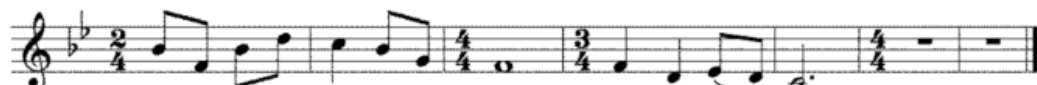
God,
Life, you take a-way the sins of the world: have
Peace,

Last time
Cantor:



mer-cy on us. Je-sus, Lamb of God; you

All:



take a-way the sins of the world: grant us your peace.

Communion Hymn

ELW #715; *Christ, Be Our Light*

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

Post-Communion Blessing & Prayer *(please stand)*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray. O God, **through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Benediction

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,

✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

(Acolytes extinguish the candles)

ELW #550; *On What Has Now Been Sown*

- 1 On what has now been sown
 your blessing, Lord, bestow;
 the pow'r is yours alone
 to make it sprout and grow.
 O Lord, in grace the harvest raise,
 and yours alone shall be the praise!
- 2 To you our wants are known,
 from you are all our pow'rs;
 accept what is your own
 and pardon what is ours.
 Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive
 and to your word a blessing give.
- 3 Oh, grant that each of us,
 now met before you here,
 may meet together thus
 when you and yours appear,
 and follow you to heav'n, our home.
 E'en so, Amen! Lord Jesus, come!

Sending

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Linda Ranney

Altar & Chancel Flowers

In Memory of Joyce Ritsch by her husband, Jim

Serving at Worship Today

Presider	Rev. Eric Nielsen
Assistant	Cora Klawiter
Lector	Kathy Freitag
Acolytes	Eric Dahl, Vincent Dahl
Ushers	Jeff Putnam, Larry Schaefer
Greeters	Ron Norby, Mike Torud
Communion Servers	Becky Cater, Diana Hogenson, Cheryl Mattison, Julie Kersten
Media & Streaming	Scott Olsen
Screen Operator	Lois Mai
Musicians	Linda Ranney, piano/organ; Mark Lundin, Director of Music; St. John's Choir

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