

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
LITTLETON, COLORADO

*September 30, 2018*

10:30 am



## **NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

A New End Gives New Hope

### **AS WE GATHER**

“And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.” Do you actually look forward to the Last Day? There are many things or events to which we look forward with anticipation. We may even say, “I can’t wait!” for the day of graduation from high school or college; the wedding day; the first day on a new job. Yet we don’t say that when anticipating major surgery or the dentist or the loss of a loved one. Today Jesus has us look forward to a reward laid up for us on that day. James chimes in, saying whatever our circumstances, the Christian faith enables us to live with the hope and light of our promised deliverance.



**SING  
SONGS  
OF PRAISE**  
James 5:13

## GATHERING SONGS

### THE LION AND THE LAMB

Brown/Johnson/Mooring

He's coming on the clouds, kings and kingdoms will bow down  
And every chain will break, as broken hearts declare His praise  
Who can stop the Lord Almighty?

**CHORUS: Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah  
He's roaring with power and fighting our battles  
And every knee will bow before You  
Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain  
For the sin of the world, His blood breaks the chains  
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb  
Oh every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb**

So open up the gates, make way before the King of kings  
Our God who calls the saved is here to set the captives free  
Who can stop the Lord Almighty? **CHORUS**

### THE RIVER

Jordan Feliz

I know a place where we can go To lay the troubles down eating your soul  
I know a place where mercy flows Take the stains make you whiter than snow  
Like a tide, it is rising up deep inside a current that moves and makes you come alive  
Living water that brings the dead to life, oh-oh-oh-oh

**CHORUS: We're going down to the river  
Down to the river, down to the river to pray  
Let's get washed by the water  
Washed by the water and rise up in amazing grace  
Let's go down, down, down to the river (You will leave changed)  
Let's go down, down, down to the river (Never the same)**

I've seen it move in my own life Took me from dusty roads into paradise  
All of my dirt, all of my shame Drowned in the streams that've made me born again  
Like a tide, it is rising up deep inside a current that moves and makes you come alive  
Living water that brings the dead to life, oh-oh-oh-oh **CHORUS**

✘ PREPARATION ✘

PASTORAL GREETING

OPENING SONG

FOREVER REIGN

Morgan—Ingram

You are good, You are good, when there's nothing good in me.  
You are love, You are love, on display for all to see.  
You are light, You are light, when the darkness closes in.  
You are hope, You are hope, You have covered all my sin.

You are peace, You are peace, when my fear is crippling.  
You are true, You are true, even in my wandering.  
You are joy, You are joy, You're the reason that I sing.  
You are life, You are life, in You death has lost its sting.

**CHORUS: Oh, I'm running to your arms, I'm running to your arms.  
The riches of Your love will always be enough.  
Nothing compares to Your embrace. Light of the world, forever reign.**

You are more, You are more, than my words will ever say.  
You are Lord, You are Lord, all creation will proclaim.  
You are here, you are here, in Your presence I'm made whole.  
You are God, You are God; Of all else I'm letting go. **CHORUS**

I'm running to your arms, I'm running to your arms.  
The riches of Your love will always be enough.  
Nothing compares to Your embrace. Light of the world, forever reign.

My heart will sing, no other Name, Jesus, Jesus.  
My heart will sing, no other Name, Jesus, Jesus. **CHORUS**

INVOCATION

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the ✘ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**People:** Amen.

**FORGIVEN**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**      *James 5:16*

**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.**

**✠ WORD ✠**

**Old Testament Reading: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29**

(The people complain.)

**The rabble with them began to crave other food, and again the Israelites started wailing and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we ate in Egypt at no cost--also the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic. But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!"**

**Moses heard the people of every family wailing, each at the entrance to his tent. The LORD became exceedingly angry, and Moses was troubled. He asked the LORD, "Why have you brought this trouble on your servant? What have I done to displease you that you put the burden of all these people on me? Did I conceive all these people? Did I give them birth? Why do you tell me to carry them in my arms, as a nurse carries an infant, to the land you promised on oath to their forefathers? Where can I get meat for all these people? They keep wailing to me, 'Give us meat to eat!' I cannot carry all these people by myself; the burden is too heavy for me. If this is how you are going to treat me, put me to death right now--if I have found favor in your eyes--and do not let me face my own ruin."**

**The LORD said to Moses: "Bring me seventy of Israel's elders who are known to you as leaders and officials among the people. Have them come to the Tent of Meeting, that they may stand there with you."**

**So Moses went out and told the people what the LORD had said. He brought together seventy of their elders and had them stand around the Tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke with him, and he took of the Spirit that was on him and put the Spirit on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied, but they did not do so again.**

**However, two men, whose names were Eldad and Medad, had remained in the**

camp. They were listed among the elders, but did not go out to the Tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on them, and they prophesied in the camp. A young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp."

Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' aide since youth, spoke up and said, "Moses, my lord, stop them!"

But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the LORD's people were prophets and that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!"

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**Epistle: James 5:13-20**

(The prayer of faith.)

Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Congregation, please rise for the Gospel.*

**HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 9:38–50**

(Temptations to sin)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

"Teacher," said John, "we saw a man driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us."

"Do not stop him," Jesus said. "No one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, for whoever is not against us is for us. I tell you the truth, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his reward.

"And if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would

be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around his neck. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, where

"`their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.'

Everyone will be salted with fire.

"Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Larson

## SONG OF THE DAY

## WHEN PEACE LIKE A RIVER

LSB 763

## SERMON

"Powerful and Effective"

Pastor John Larson  
Text: James 5:13-30

## APOSTLES' CREED

*Text found in the back of the Hymnal.*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

## THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

*We share the Lord's peace with one another, saying, "Peace be with you."*



## OFFERING

## I LIFT MY HANDS

Tomlin

Be still, there is a healer His love is deeper than the sea  
His mercy is unfailing His arms are a fortress for the weak  
Let faith arise, Let faith arise

**CHORUS:** I lift my hands to believe again  
You are my refuge, You are my strength  
As I pour out my heart, these things I remember  
You are faithful, God, forever

Be still, there is a river That flows from Calvary's tree  
A fountain for the thirsty Your grace that washes over me.  
Let faith arise, let faith arise. **CHORUS**

Let faith arise, Let faith arise Open my eyes, Open my eyes  
Let faith arise, Let faith arise Open my eyes, Open my eyes **CHORUS**

## HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION

*The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with "Amen!", a word of affirmation and belief.*

# Communing TOGETHER



## ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

### PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*  
**People: And also with you.**  
Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *[Colossians 3:1]*  
**People: We lift them to the Lord.**  
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *[Psalm 136]*  
**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### THE 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.”

**LORD’S PRAYER** *Text found in the back of the Hymnal. (Matthew 6:9–13)*

### DISTRIBUTION SONGS

#### COME TO THE TABLE

**Sidewalk Prophets**

We all start on the outside The outside looking in  
This is where grace begins We were hungry, we were thirsty  
With nothing left to give Oh the shape that we were in  
Just when all hope seemed lost Love opened the door for us, He said:

**CHORUS: “Come to the table Come join the sinners who have been redeemed  
Take your place beside the Savior Sit down and be set free  
Come to the table”**

Come meet this motley crew of misfits These liars and these thieves  
There's no one unwelcome here So that sin and shame that you brought with you  
You can leave it at the door Let mercy draw you near **CHORUS**

**Come to the table Come join the sinners who have been redeemed  
Take your place beside the Savior Sit down and be set free Whoa...  
Sit down and be set free Come to the table Come to the table  
Sit down and be set free Come to the table**

## WE BELIEVE

The Newsboys

In this time of desperation—When all we know is doubt and fear  
There is only one foundation—We believe we believe  
In this broken generation—When all is dark You help us see  
There is only one salvation—We believe we believe

**CHORUS: We believe in God the Father—We believe in Jesus Christ  
We believe in the Holy Spirit—And He's given us new life  
We believe in the crucifixion—We believe that He conquered death  
We believe in the resurrection—And He's coming back again**

So let our faith be more than anthems—Greater than the songs we sing  
In our weakness and temptations—We believe we believe **CHORUS**

**Let the lost be found—and the dead be raised  
In the here and now let love invade  
Let the church live loud our God we'll say—We believe we believe  
And the gates of hell will not prevail For the pow'r of God has torn the veil  
Now we know Your love will never fail  
We believe we believe**

**He's coming back again—He's coming back again  
We believe we believe**

## ONE THING REMAINS

Higher than the mountains that I face,  
stronger than the power of the grave.  
Constant in the trial and the change.  
One thing remains, one thing remains

**CHORUS: Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me.  
Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me.  
Your love never fails, it never gives up, never runs out on me.  
Your love.**

On and on and on and on it goes.  
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul.  
And I never, ever have to be afraid.  
One thing remains, one thing remains. **CHORUS**

In death, in life, I'm confident and covered  
by the power of Your great love.  
My debt is paid; there's nothing that can separate  
my heart from Your great love. **CHORUS**

## GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

**SPOKEN BENEDICTION**    *Psalm 104:31, 33–34*

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.    *Numbers 6:24–26*

**People:**    **Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG**

**ALL THE PEOPLE SAID AMEN!**

**Maher**

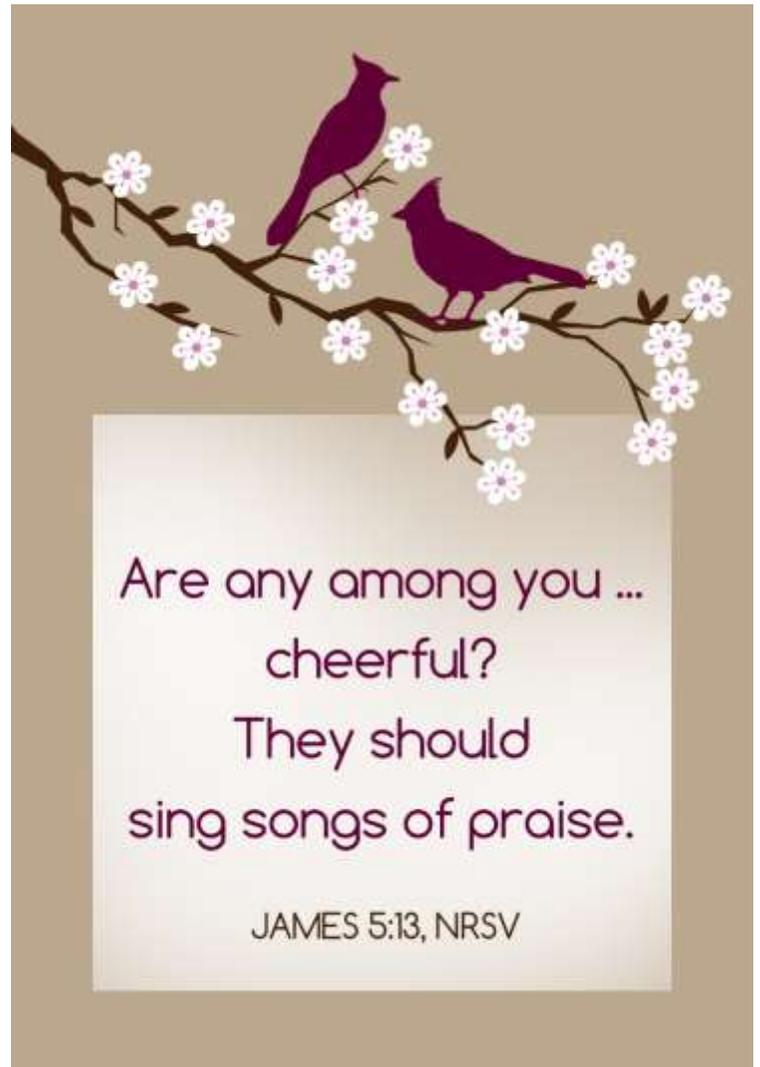
You are not alone if you are lonely.  
When you feel afraid, you're not the only.  
We are all the same, in need of mercy,  
To be forgiven and be free.  
It's all you got to lean on, But thank God,  
it's all you need.

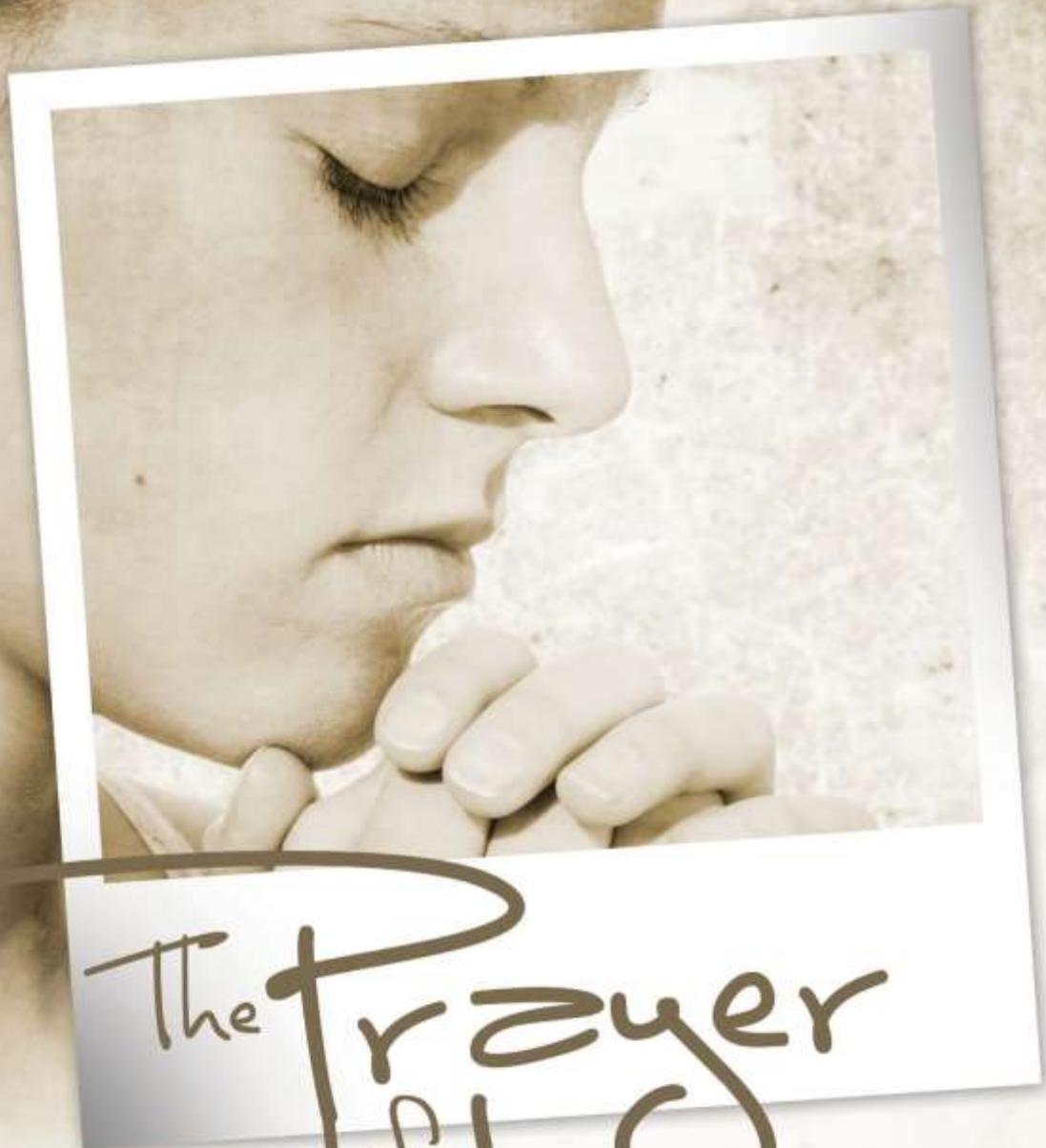
**CHORUS:**    **And all the people said,  
                  "Amen." Whoa.  
                  And all the people said,  
                  "Amen."  
                  Give thanks to the Lord, for  
                  His love never ends.  
                  And all the people said,  
                  "Amen."**

If you're rich or poor, well, it don't matter.  
Weak or strong,  
you know love is what we're after.  
We're all broken,  
but we're all in this together.  
God knows we stumble and fall,  
And He so loved the world,  
He sent His son to save us all. **CHORUS**

Blessed are the poor in spirit  
who are torn apart.  
Blessed are the persecuted  
and the pure in heart.  
Blessed are the people hungry  
for another start,  
For theirs is the kingdom,  
the kingdom of God. **CHORUS**

**CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS**





The Prayer  
of a  
Righteous

JAMES 5:16, NIV

person is powerful  
and effective.

## Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES  
YOUTH PRAISE BAND

Pastor John Larson  
Michael Zehnder  
Ashley Boeding, Brooke Boeding, Larry  
Boeding, Lilly Brinkman, Will Kopriva

ELDER  
LECTOR 8:00

Scott Luethy  
Ted Lemke

10:30

Mike Reimnitz

ACOLYTE 8:00

Ian Avedissian

10:30

Cody Urbach

USHERS 8:00

Art Gordon, Members of the  
Congregation

10:30

Jason Dierking, Members of the  
Congregation

SERVER 10:30

Jude Donovan

ALTAR GUILD

Sally Atchison, Gloria Gaudreault,  
Sharon Seible, Laurel Shurtleff

FLOWERS

Scott & Stephanie Luethy, in joyous  
celebration of their 35<sup>th</sup> wedding  
anniversary.

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*The  
prayer of  
faith  
will save the sick.*

James 5:15, NRSV