

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

October 13, 2019

8:00 a.m.



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Were Not Ten Cleansed?

AS WE GATHER

We have heard the Gospel account of the ten lepers so often we know it by heart. But we may still struggle to see clearly God's mercy in our hour of need, the full expression of His healing grace even to everlasting life, and how to respond with gratitude and thanksgiving. Christians, the Lord knows our need, and He will not abandon us in our hour of need. For us the goal remains to keep our eyes focused upon Jesus and to trust that His grace is sufficient for all our need. We pray the Lord to give us a grateful heart to rejoice in His gracious favor and not to forget all His benefits.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PRELUDE “Theme from the Partita ‘O God, Thou Faithful God’” J. S. Bach

PASTORAL GREETING

TOLLING OF THE BELL

HYMN “All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine” *LSB 815*

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: The LORD has sent redemption to His people;

People: **He has commanded His covenant forever.**

Pastor: The LORD has sent redemption to His people;

People: **Holy and awesome is His name!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins unto God and implore His forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ.

People: **I, a poor sinner, plead guilty before God of all sins. I have lived as if God did not matter and as if I mattered most. I have spent my time and money as if I mattered the most. My Lord’s name I have not honored as I should; my worship and prayers have faltered. I have not let His love have its way with me, and so my love for others has failed. There are those whom I have hurt, and those whom I have failed to help. My thoughts and desires have been soiled with sin. I am sorry for all of this and ask for grace to forgive my sins and for the Holy Spirit so that I may amend my sinful life.**

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and given to us His only Son to suffer and die for our salvation. 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.**

Pastor: May He who began this good work in you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

People: **And also with you.**



Holy Baptism

Callum Koa Potts

LSB 268 – 271

Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
Nest - ling bird or star in heav - en Such a ref - uge ne'er was giv - en.

✘ WORD ✘

Kyrie (spoken)

Pastor Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
People Have mercy on us sinners.
Pastor Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
People Have mercy on us sinners.
Pastor Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
People Have mercy on us sinners, and grant us Your peace. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart”

LSB 806

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.
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, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY

Pastor: Today is the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost as we journey through the final third of the Pentecost season of life and growth. Today we are called to remember the goodness of the Lord and to be grateful for the mercies He provides for all our needs of this body and life and for everlasting life. Today we are reminded that having a grateful heart means sharing our time and our treasure for the work of the Lord. In the Old Testament Reading from Ruth, we hear the introduction to the life of Ruth and her pledge to Orpah and the Lord. In the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy, read as our Epistle, we hear the apostle call Timothy to be strong in the Lord and trust in Him for all things. In the Gospel of Luke, we hear the familiar account of ten lepers who were cleansed but only one who returned to the Lord with thanksgiving and faith.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Ruth 1:1–19a

(Where you go, I will go.)

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. The man's name was Elimelech, his wife's name Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there. Now Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband. When she heard in Moab that the LORD had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, Naomi and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there. With her two daughters-in-law she left the place where she had been living and set out on the road that would take them back to the land of Judah. Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the LORD show kindness to you, as you have shown to your dead and to me. May the LORD grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband." Then she kissed them and they wept aloud and said to her, "We will go back with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me--even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons-- would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you, because the LORD's hand has gone out against me!" At this they wept again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-bye, but Ruth clung to her. "Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go

back with her." But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me." When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her. So the two women went on until they came to Bethlehem.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: 2 Timothy 2:1–13

(If we have died with Him, we shall also live with Him.)

You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs--he wants to please his commanding officer. Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules. The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this. Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him. If we disown him, he will also disown us; if we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Congregation, please rise for the Alleluia verse and the Holy Gospel.

VERSE *Luke 5:15*

ALL: Alleluia. Now even more the report about Him went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear Him and to be healed of their infirmities. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 17:11–19

(Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine?)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed.

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him--and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"We Praise You, O God"

LSB 785

SERMON

"A Good Return"

Pastor John Larson
TEXT: Psalm 116:12

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Welcomed by the Lord, we come to present before Him the prayers of His people, trusting in His wisdom and grace to grant us all things in Christ for our good and for the good of all people.

Blessed Lord, You led Ruth to know You and by Your Spirit taught her fearful heart to trust in You for the future You had prepared. Grant us the same Spirit so that we, who know Your mercy in Christ, trust in Your eternal mercy in Jesus Christ for this life, for our forgiveness, and for our eternal salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Mighty Lord, You hold all things in Your hand, including all the might of man. Give to us wise and faithful leaders who will guide and govern Your people according to Your commands and protect the weak and most vulnerable, including the unborn, the orphaned, the widowed, and the infirm. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Merciful Lord, You granted hope to lepers and gave them healing according to Your will and purpose. Grant to all the sick and suffering, the troubled in mind and heart, the grieving and dying the full measure of Your grace and strength, [*especially* . . .]. Guard them against the temptation to doubt or despair, and keep them by Your Word through the days of their affliction

when all the ills of this mortal life shall cease and we shall live fully the abundant life of Your promise. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: *Special intercessions may be added here...* Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Generous Lord, You daily provide mercies new and continue to nourish and nurture us in Your favor through all adversity. Help us to serve You with grateful hearts, knowing that all the good things we have in life – health, wealth, time, and talent – are gifts from You. Give us cheerful hearts to return to You a good portion of what You have so freely first given to us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O Father of all mercies and God of our salvation, give to us all things good and holy and true, and build us up in these things, that knowing Your saving grace in Christ, we not fall victim to pride, temptation, or doubt, but endure all the changes of this mortal life with hope and peace through Jesus Christ, to whom we commend ourselves and all our prayers, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**



OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Take My Life, That I May Be"

Patricia Harlbutt
Gloria Dei Handbell Ringers

Offertory (Divine Service, Setting Two)



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

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.

Holy Communion



✠ 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.**

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n 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!

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.”

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of
God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| “O Spirit of Life” | WOV 680 |
| “Take My Life and Let it Be” | LSB 784 |
| “Praise and Thanksgiving” | LSB 789 |

GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

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.

HYMN “For the Fruits of His Creation” *LSB 894*

Sunday School children, please come forward during the last verse of the Hymn.

“El Shaddai” & “God is Good, All the Time”

Sunday School Children’s Choir

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE “A Festal Fanfare from the Fourth Concerto”

J.S. Bach



Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES
ORGAN ASSISTANT
AGAPE

Pastor John Larson
Michael Zehnder
Gwen Geisler
Rose Berger, Bri Fort, Lisa O'Neal, Ken
Price, Bob Shiflet

ELDER	8:00	Roger Gaide
	10:30	Don Loptien
LECTOR	8:00	Lynne Hanson
	10:30	Kathy Johnson
ACOLYTE	8:00	Gabe Gutierrez
	10:30	Carly Calhoun
USHERS	8:00	Hank Peepgrass, Annaliese Tunheim, Jonas Tunheim
	10:30	Jason Dierking, Nevaeh Cooper, Espen Erling
SERVER	10:30	Kathy Johnson
ALTAR GUILD		Dawn Munson, Judy Peterson, Cathy Utecht, Barb Williams
FLOWERS		Pat and Kathie Harvey, in joyous celebration of their 37 th wedding anniversary & Jerry and Jean Gerdes in joyous celebration of their 60 th wedding anniversary.

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