

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

October 18-19, 2025

4:00 p.m. Saturday and 8:00 a.m. Sunday



NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PERSISTENCE PAYS

AS WE GATHER

From an early age, many of us learned that persistent pestering is rude, as parents make this clear to children who repeatedly ask for the same things over and over. We are thankful that our heavenly Father never grows weary of our asking Him for what we need, no matter how repetitive our requests may be. As we see in Jacob's persistent proclamation, "I will not let You go unless You bless me" (Genesis 32:26), in Paul's exhortation to continually persist in what we have learned and believed (2 Timothy 3:14), and in Jesus' parable of the persistent widow (Luke 18:1–8), we know we can bring all things to our heavenly Father persistently in prayer, trusting through it all that His will would be done.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Prelude "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" Edward Broughton

Pastoral Greeting

Opening Hymn "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty" *LBW 901*
Verses 1-4

Invocation

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

1 Thessalonians 5:16–18; Philippians 4:6; 1 John 5:14; Jeremiah 29:12; Hebrews 4:16; Psalm 145:18

Pastor: Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

People: **Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.**

Pastor: This is the confidence that we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us.

People: **Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will hear you.**

Pastor: Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

People: **The LORD is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 34:17; 1 John 1:8–9*

Pastor: As the Psalmist writes, "When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles." Our Lord hears our cries and invites us to speak to Him in our words and thoughts—to speak to Him in prayer.

People: **We confess that we have failed to bring all things to You in persistent and persevering prayer, instead seeking our own devices and other means for the guidance, direction, and answers we seek.**

Pastor: Our Lord also invites us to bring to Him our faults and failings, our sins of what has been done and left undone, against Him and against our neighbors. We are reminded, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."

People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: Unlike Jacob, we have been quick to give up and to discount the blessings held in store for us by Your grace.

People: Forgive us, Lord.

Pastor: As Paul writes, we confess we have not always endured sound teaching; rather, our itching ears have been opened to things that suit our own passions and desires.

People: Forgive us, Lord.

Pastor: As in Jesus' parable, we seek out our own justice and even retribution for times we are wronged, impatient in our waiting and unrighteous in our trust in the perfect justice assured at Your time.

People: Forgive us, Lord.

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.



KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.

6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.
[To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.]

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✂ WORD ✂

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 32:22-30

(Jacob wrestles with God.)

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.””

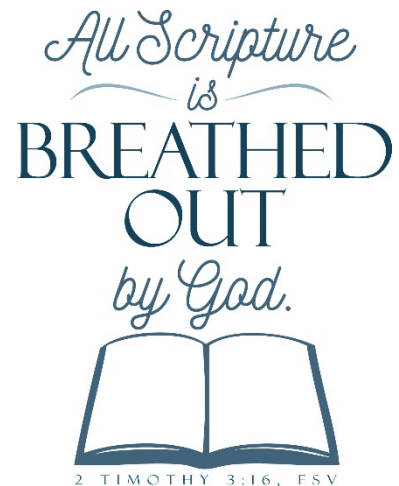
Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

(Continuing in and preaching the Word)

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. But as for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please rise for the Verse and the Holy Gospel.

VERSE *John 6:68*



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

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

Holy Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

(The parable of the persistent widow)

And he 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?”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn of the Day “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

LSB 770

Sermon “The Life of Jacob”

Pastor John Larson
Text: Genesis 32:22-30

The Apostles’ Creed

(found in the back of the hymnal)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy ...

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing of the Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

*You may now greet one another in the name of the Lord using...***Peace be with you!**

Offering *(4:00 pm and 10:30 am - collected in back; 8:00 am – collected in the pews)*

Offering Music (8:00) “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” Herbert Gotsch

✠ 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.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Preface **(Divine Service, Setting One)**

LSB 160

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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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 (Divine Service, Setting One)

LSB 161

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer *Matthew 6:9-13*

People: **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.**



Agnus Dei (Divine Service, Setting One) *LSB 163*

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Special Organ Music "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray" Johann Gottfried Walther

Hymn "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray" *LSB 623*

Hymn "Come, My Soul, with Every Prayer" *LSB 779*

General Communion Blessing

Benediction (Divine Service, Setting One)

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**

Closing Hymn "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" *LSB 793*

Congregational Concerns

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace.
 Serve the Lord.

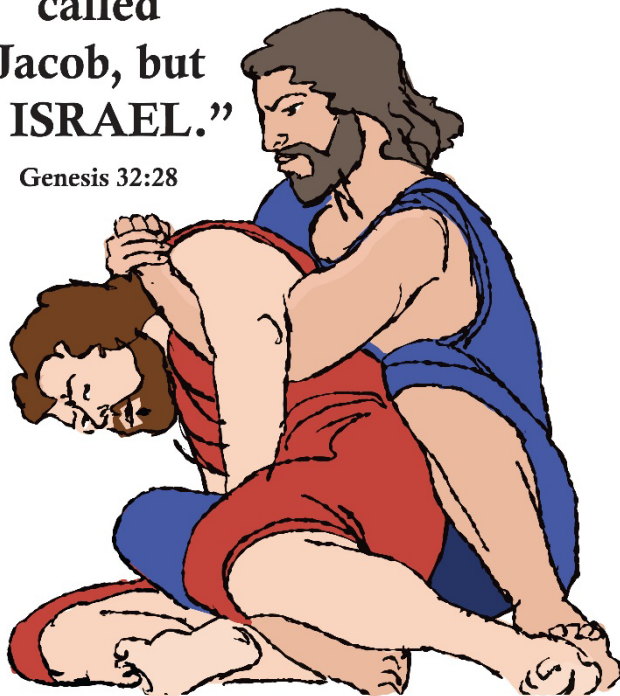
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

Lani Smith

**“Your name
shall no
longer be
called
Jacob, but
ISRAEL.”**

Genesis 32:28



SERVING IN WORSHIP

PREACHER / CELEBRANT

Pastor John Larson

MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP

Michael Zehnder

ORGANIST

Linda Olsen

ELDERS

4:00 pm Benjamin Dallet; 8:00 am Arvin Michel; 10:30 am Michael Lawrenz

ACOLYTE

8:00 am Juliette Dallet; 10:30 am Abby Williams

LECTORS

4:00 pm Dick Castleman; 8:00 am Margo Pasha; 10:30 am Roland Scott

COMMUNION SERVERS

4:00 pm Dick Castleman; 10:30 am Roland Scott

ALTAR GUILD

Tanya Schmitt, Sharon Seible



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