

## AS WE GATHER

Do Not Give Up--Except Your Self-Reliance! [Luke study, part 15]

As our Luke study reaches chapter 18, we are one chapter away from Jesus' last week before the cross. As the time shortens and the tension heightens, Jesus talks about giving up our self-reliance and NEVER giving up our God-reliance!

### + GLORIFY THE LORD +

*LSB 807 WHEN MORNING GILDS THE SKIES*        sts. 1–2, 4

1     When morning gilds the skies, My heart, awaking, cries,  
      “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

When evening shadows fall, This rings my curfew call:  
      “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

2     When mirth for music longs, This is my song of songs:  
      “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

God’s holy house of prayer Hath none that can compare  
      With “Jesus Christ be praised!”

4     Ye nations of mankind, In this your concord find:  
      “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

Let all the earth around Ring joyous with the sound:  
      “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

Text: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1828, Würzburg; tr. Robert S. Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.

Text: Public domain

## INVOCATION

**P**     In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*OPENING SENTENCES* Deuteronomy 6:4–5; Proverbs 3:3–6

**P** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

**C** You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

**P** Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

**C** In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION*

**P** As we cry to the Lord, and as He hears our voices, we come in confession of our sins and iniquities. We confess that we have not always trusted God in faith.

**C** We have been impatient with others, leading us to not love our neighbors as ourselves. We have been impatient with You, leading us to doubt Your love for us, Your power, and Your presence.

**P** We have sinned against others and against You in thought, word, and deed.

**C** We deserve nothing but Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

**P** With the LORD there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to take upon Himself the sins of the world, 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.

**C** Amen.

*LSB 794 THE LORD, MY GOD, BE PRAISED* sts. 1–2, 4

1 The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heaven;  
My maker, who to me Has soul and body given;  
My Father, who will shield And keep me day by day  
And make each moment yield New blessings on my way.

2 The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heaven,  
The Father's own dear Son, Whose life for me was given,  
Who for my sin atoned With His most precious blood  
And gives to me by faith The highest heav'nly good.

△ 4 The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ever-living,  
To whom the heav'nly host Their laud and praise are giving.  
The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,  
God Father, God the Son, And God the Holy Ghost.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Text: Public domain

## *SALUTATION*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

## *PRAYER OF THE DAY*

### **+ GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY+**

## *EPISTLE*

1 Timothy 1:12–17

<sup>12</sup> I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. <sup>13</sup> Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. <sup>14</sup> The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

<sup>15</sup> Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. <sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. <sup>17</sup> Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## *HOLY GOSPEL*

Luke 18

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighteenth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>18:1</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. <sup>2</sup> He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. <sup>3</sup> And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

<sup>4</sup> “For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, <sup>5</sup> yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’”

<sup>6</sup> And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup> And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? <sup>8</sup> I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

<sup>9</sup> To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: <sup>10</sup> “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’

<sup>13</sup> “But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’

<sup>14</sup> “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

<sup>15</sup> People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. <sup>16</sup> But Jesus called the children to him and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. <sup>17</sup> Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”

<sup>18</sup> A certain ruler asked him, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

<sup>19</sup> “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. <sup>20</sup> You know the commandments: ‘You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.’”

<sup>21</sup> “All these I have kept since I was a boy,” he said.

<sup>22</sup> When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

<sup>23</sup> When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy.

<sup>24</sup> Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

<sup>26</sup> Those who heard this asked, “Who then can be saved?”

<sup>27</sup> Jesus replied, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

<sup>28</sup> Peter said to him, “We have left all we had to follow you!”

<sup>29</sup> “Truly I tell you,” Jesus said to them, “no one who has left home or wife or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God <sup>30</sup> will fail to receive many times as much in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.”

<sup>31</sup> Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, “We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. <sup>32</sup> He will be delivered over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him and spit on him; <sup>33</sup> they will flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again.”

<sup>34</sup> The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about.

<sup>35</sup> As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. <sup>36</sup> When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. <sup>37</sup> They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.”

<sup>38</sup> He called out, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

<sup>39</sup> Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

<sup>40</sup> Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, <sup>41</sup> “What do you want me to do for you?”

“Lord, I want to see,” he replied.

<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has healed you.”

<sup>43</sup> Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*LSB 611 CHIEF OF SINNERS THOUGH I BE* sts. 1, 3–4

1 Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.  
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

3 Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart,  
Peace that flows from sin forgiv’n, Joy that lifts the soul to heav’n,  
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.

4 Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;  
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.  
He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.

Text: Public domain

**MESSAGE:** DO NOT GIVE UP--EXCEPT YOUR SELF-RELIANCE!

Luke study, part 15

## *APOSTLES' 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.**

## *OFFERING*

*LSB 588 JESUS LOVES ME*

sts. 1, ref, 2

1 Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.

**Refrain**

**ref Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.**

2 Jesus loves me! He who died Heaven's gates to open wide.  
He has washed away my sin, Lets His little child come in.

### **Refrain**

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.

Text: Public domain

## *OUR PRAYERS*

### **+ SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION+**

#### *INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION*

#### *LORD'S PRAYER*

**☐ 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.**

## *THE WORDS OF OUR LORD*

**P** 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.”

## *PAX DOMINI*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

*AGNUS DEI (LSB, page 163)*

## **+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +**

### *LSB 628 YOUR TABLE I APPROACH*

- 1 Your table I approach; Dear Savior, hear my prayer.  
Let not an unrepentant heart Prove hurtful to me there.
- 2 Lord, I confess my sins And mourn their wretched bands;  
A contrite heart is sure to find Forgiveness at Your hands.
- 3 Your body and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,  
Are taken at Your table, Lord, In blest reality.
- 4 Search not how this takes place, This wondrous mystery;  
God can accomplish vastly more Than what we think could be.

5 O grant, most blessed Lord, That earth and hell combined  
May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

6 Oh, may I never fail To thank You day and night  
For Your true body and true blood, O God, my peace and light.

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.

Text: Public domain

*LSB 633 AT THE LAMB'S HIGH FEAST WE SING* sts. 1–4, 8

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His pierced side.

Alleluia!

2 Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,  
Gives His body for the feast—Christ the victim, Christ the priest.

Alleluia!

3 Where the paschal blood is poured, Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe.

Alleluia!

4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, paschal bread;  
With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above.

Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise.

Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.

Text: Public domain

*BENEDICTION*

**P** 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.

**C Amen.**

## *LSB 692 PRAISE TO YOU AND ADORATION*

- 1 Praise to You and adoration, Blessèd Jesus, Son of God,  
Who, to serve Your own creation, Came to share our flesh and blood.  
Guide me that I never may From Your fold or pastures stray,  
But with zeal and joy exceeding Follow where Your steps are leading.
- 2 Hold me ever in Your keeping; Comfort me in pain and strife.  
In my laughter and my weeping Be with me throughout my life.  
Give me greater love for You, And my faith and hope renew  
In Your birth, Your life, and passion, In Your death and resurrection.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; (st. 1): tr. Kristen Kvamme, 1866–1938, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Christian Worship, 1993  
Text: Public domain

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