

October 19, 2025

After Pentecost, Lectionary 29, Yr C



Ringling of Bell

PRELUDE - BELL CHOIR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

◆ Please Stand

◆ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful and loving God,

**C: Against you, and you alone, we have sinned.
In your compassion, cleanse us from our
sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a
new heart and give us a steadfast spirit.
Do not cast us away, but fill us with your
Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us.**

P: As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's
compassion for us. As high as heaven is above
earth, so vast is God's love for us. As far as
east is from west, so far God removes our sin
from us, renewing our life through Jesus Christ.
Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy
and love.

C: Blessed be God forever.

GATHERING SONG WOV # 778

O Christ the Same

**1 O Christ the same, through all our story's
pages--our loves and hopes, our failures and our
fears; eternal Lord, the king of all the ages,
unchanging still amid the passing years: O living
Word, the source of all creation, who spread the
skies and set the stars ablaze; O Christ the same,
who wrought our whole salvation, we bring our
thanks for all our yesterdays.**

**2 O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing
our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide;
still as of old upon your body bearing the marks of
love in triumph glorified. O Son of Man, who
stooped for us from heaven--O Prince of life, in all
your saving power; O Christ the same, to whom
our hearts are given: we bring our thanks for this
the present hour.**

**3 O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping
our lives and loves, our days and years remain; our
work and rest, our waking and our sleeping, our
calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain: O Lord
of love, for all our joys and sorrows, for all our
hopes when earth shall fade and flee; O Christ the
same, beyond our brief tomorrows, we bring our
thanks for all that is to be.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY *We pray together*

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people,
you are always ready to hear our cries.

**C: 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.**

Please be seated

FIRST READING: GENESIS 32:22-31

*Jacob's struggle with the angel: 'I'll not let go until you
bless me'*

²² The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two
wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and
crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and
sent them across the stream, and likewise
everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and
a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the
man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he
struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was
put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he
said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob
said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless
me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And
he said, Jacob. ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no
longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have
striven with God and with humans and have
prevailed." ²⁹ 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. ³⁰ So Jacob
called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen
God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The
sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping
because of his hip.

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

PSALM 121 We read responsively

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

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

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

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

⁵ the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

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

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

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

SECOND READING: 2 TIMOTHY 3:14—4:5

In the presence of Christ, the judge, proclaim the message

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.**

◆ GOSPEL: LUKE 18:1-8

C: Glory to you, O Lord

The widow begs for justice; God grants justice to those who cry to him

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.**

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON *Dr. Margaret (Marggi) Pleiss-Sippola*

HYMN OF THE DAY

No. 769

If You but Trust in God to Guide You

1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gentle hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there beside you when crosses come, in trying days. Trust then in God's unchanging love; build on the rock that will not move.

2 What gain is there in anxious weeping, in helpless anger and distress? If you are in your Savior's keeping, in sorrow will he love you less? For Christ who took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev'ry loss.

3 The Lord our restless hearts is holding, in peace and quietness content. We rest in God's good will unfolding, what wisdom from on high has sent. God, who has chosen us by grace, knows very well the fears we face.

4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving, offer your service faithfully. Trust heaven's word; though undeserving, you'll find this promise true to be. This is our confidence indeed: God never fails in time of need.

◆ 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 INTERCESSION

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

SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING—*BELL CHOIR*—GLOBE OFFERING

Children are invited to bring an offering to the globe at the front of the church

◆ OFFERING PRAYER

P: Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.

C: Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *Spoken*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

The Lord's table is set. Come to this meal of mercy.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION & HYMN

Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ No.402

1 **Eternal Spirit of the living Christ, I know not how to ask or what to say; I only know my need, as deep as life, and only you can teach me how to pray.**

2 **Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day; help me to see your purpose and your will, where I have failed, what I have done amiss; held in forgiving love, let me be still.**

3 **Come with the vision and the strength I need to serve my God and all humanity; fulfillment of my life in love outpoured: my life in you, O Christ, your love in me. Amen.**

Thy Holy Wings No. 613

1 **Thy holy wings, O Savior, spread gently over me, and let me rest securely through good and ill in thee. Oh, be my strength and portion, my rock and hiding place, and let my ev'ry moment be lived within thy grace.**

2 **Oh, let me nestle near thee, within thy downy breast where I will find sweet comfort and peace**

within thy nest. Oh, close thy wings around me and keep me safely there, for I am but a newborn and need thy tender care.

3 **Oh, wash me in the waters of Noah's cleansing flood. Give me a willing spirit, a heart both clean and good. Oh, take into thy keeping thy children great and small, and while we sweetly slumber, enfold us one and all.**

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants.

C: Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoner's free, + bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

◆ SENDING SONG No. 765

Lord of All Hopefulness

1 **Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy: be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**

2 **Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**

3 **Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace: be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

4 **Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm: be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

Ring of Bell

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE - *BELL CHOIR*

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PARTICIPANTS

PRESIDER—Dr. Margaret (Marggi) Pleiss-Sippola
BELL CHOIR—Tanya Short, Dir.
ACOLYTE—Quinn Hanson
WORSHIP ASSISTANT—TBD
KEYBOARD/PIANO—Annette Thunhorst
GREETERS—Darvin & Anne Laue
COMMUNION SET-UP—Erica Aronson
SERVERS—Erica Aronson, Dee Kimmel + 1
COFFEE—Wayne & Marie Spidahl
TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Steve Johnson, Holly Aldorfer, Jack Aronson, Luke Cordes.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jennifer Lurfald, Lavon Underdahl, Jim Fountaine, Dax Eggert, Larry Walker, Renee Spidahl-Carmichael.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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OL/SKU#61631 *If You but Trust in God to Guide You* ELW 769
OL/SKU #04301 *Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ* ELW 402
OL/SK#25950 & OL/SKU# 02378 *Thy Holy Wings* ELW 613
OL/SKU #46796 *Lord of All Hopefulness* ELW 765

CALENDAR

Su 10-19	9 am WORSHIP NO Sunday School (MEA) 10 AM Coffee
Th 10-23	1 PM Love Day
Su 10-26	<i>Reformation Sunday – CONFIRMATION</i> 9 AM WORSHIP – <i>Noisy Offering</i> 10 AM Sunday School 10 AM Coffee

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