



THE PARABLE OF THE PERSISTENT WIDOW

LUKE 18:1-8

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 19TH, 2025

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 19th, 2025

8 am and 11 am Worship Service

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.

Welcome and Announcements

With the Lord Begin Your Task

LSB 869 (vs. 1-4)

With the Lord begin your task;
Jesus will direct it.
For His aid and counsel ask;
Jesus will perfect it.
Ev'ry morn with Jesus rise,
And when day is ended,
In His name then close your eyes;
Be to Him commended.

Let each day begin with prayer,
Praise, and adoration.
On the Lord cast ev'ry care;
He is your salvation.
Morning, evening, and at night
Jesus will be near you,
Save you from the tempter's might,
With His presence cheer you.

With your Savior at your side,
Foes need not alarm you;
In His promises confide,
And no ill can harm you.
All your trust and hope repose
In the mighty Master,
Who in wisdom truly knows
How to stem disaster.

If your task be thus begun
With the Savior's blessing,
Safely then your course will run,
Toward the promise pressing.
Good will follow ev'rywhere
While you here must wander;
You at last the joy will share
In the mansions yonder.

Invocation

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

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son 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.

Amen.

With the Lord Begin Your Task

LSB 869 (v. 5)

Thus, Lord Jesus, ev'ry task
Be to You commended;
May Your will be done, I ask,
Until life is ended.

Jesus, in Your name begun
Be the day's endeavor;
Grant that it may well be done
To Your praise forever.

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Service of the Word

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord, almighty and everlasting God, You have commanded us to pray and have promised to hear us. Mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may direct and govern our hearts in all things that we may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 32:22-30

(Jacob wrestles with God; his name becomes Israel.)

²² 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. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴ And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." ²⁷ And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ 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." 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 name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

(Scripture is God-breathed and makes us wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.)

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

⁴ 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: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ 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,

⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

(In Jesus' parable, a persistent widow is eventually granted her request from even a godless judge.)

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

18 And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.' " ⁶And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

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.

O God, Forsake Me Not

LSB 731

O God, forsake me not!
Your gracious presence lend me;
Lord, lead Your helpless child;
Your Holy Spirit send me
That I my course may run.
O be my light, my lot,
My staff, my rock, my shield—
O God, forsake me not!

O God, forsake me not!
Take not Your Spirit from me;
Do not permit the might
Of sin to overcome me.
Increase my feeble faith,
Which You alone have wrought.
O be my strength and pow'r—
O God, forsake me not!

O God, forsake me not!
Lord, hear my supplication!
In ev'ry evil hour
Help me resist temptation;
And when the prince of hell
My conscience seeks to blot,
Be then not far from me—
O God, forsake me not!

O God, forsake me not!
Lord, I am Yours forever.
O keep me strong in faith
That I may leave You never.
Grant me a blessed end
When my good fight is fought;
Help me in life and death—
O God, forsake me not!

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Message

Pastor Nathan McCarty

Prayers of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

LSB 195

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna. hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He
That cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

The Words of Our Lord

The Peace

The peace of the ☩ Lord be with you always.
Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

LSB 739

Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call;
Hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

When the darkness appears
And the night draws near
And the day is almost gone,
At the river I stand;
Guide my feet, hold my hand,
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

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Dismissal

Post-Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

Thanks to You, Lord our God, for in this Sacrament You have answered our deepest prayers and nourished us with the body and blood of Your Son, assuring us of sins forgiven. Strengthen us thereby and accompany us each day that we may meet whatever the future holds with the sure and certain hope of one day joining all Your saints in glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing of God's People (Benediction)

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

LSB 924

Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us; O refresh us,
Trav'ling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration
For Your Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
To Your truth may we be found.

Savior, when Your love shall call us
From our struggling pilgrim way,
Let not fear of death appall us,
Glad Your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
Reign with You in endless day.

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Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Contemporary Service

October 19th, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Song of Praise

Invocation

Old Testament Reading

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Praise Song

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Amen.

Holy Communion

Distribution Song(s)

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Blessing of God's People (Benediction)

Closing Song of Praise

Acknowledgments

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