

St. Luke 18:8b

“Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes,  
will He find faith on earth?”



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

# NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 19, 2025

Weekly Service 11:00 am

Prelude

\*The Processional Hymn *Day by Day* (ELW) No. 790

\*The Confession and Forgiveness (ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

\*The Apostolic Greeting (ELW) page 138

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

\*The Kyrie (*sung response*) (ELW) page 138

P: ....., let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Amen.**

\*The Hymn of Praise *Jesus, Priceless Treasure* (ELW) page 775

\*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

**C: O God, our refuge and strength, since You Yourself are the author of our devotion, graciously consider the devout prayers of Your Church. May those things which we ask in faith effectively follow by Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading

Genesis 32:22-30

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalm 121

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

**<sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.

**<sup>4</sup>Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

<sup>5</sup>The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

**<sup>6</sup>The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD will keep you from all evil; He will keep your life.

**<sup>8</sup>The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.**

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\*The Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

**C: Allelula, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.  
Allelula. Allelula.**

\* The Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.** (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.** (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

\*The Hymn of the Day

*Unto the Hills Around*

(SBH) No. 488

\*The 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection<sup>+</sup> of the body, and the Life everlasting.  
Amen.**

\*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

\*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

\*The Offertory

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

(SBH) No. 27

\*The Lord's Prayer

**C: 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.**

Announcements

\*The Benediction (*sung response*)

**C: Amen, Amen, Amen.**

\*The Recessional Hymn

*Blest Be The Tie That Binds*

(ELW) No. 656

\*The Dismissal (*response*)

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\*Sending Hymn

*Be the Love of Christ*

Postlude

1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort  
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and  
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens

to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you send me  
 wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me  
 grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me

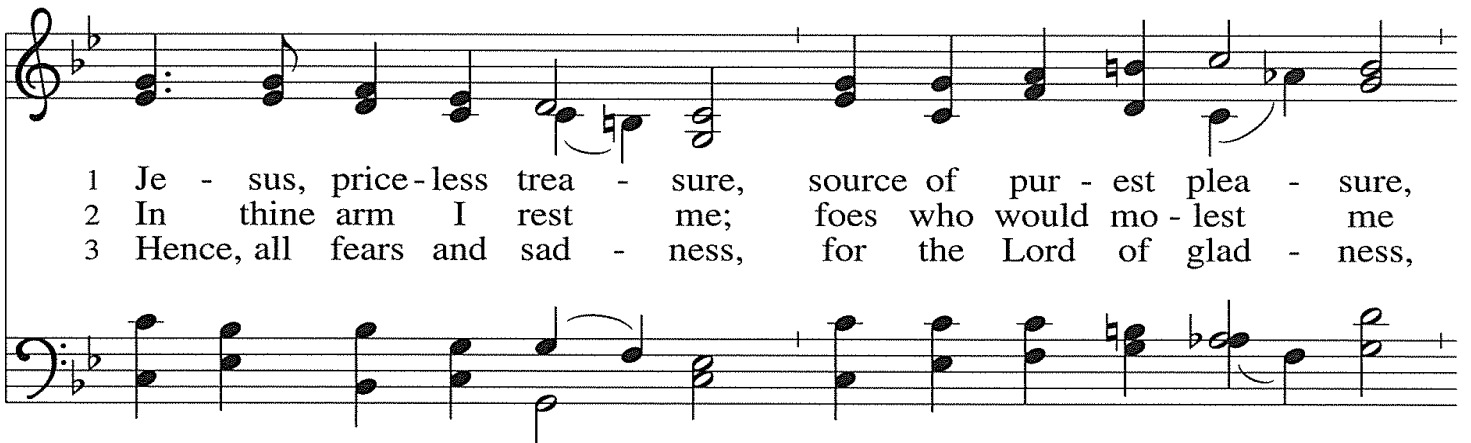
draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all  
 o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil  
 when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter

mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior,  
 of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior,  
 what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior,

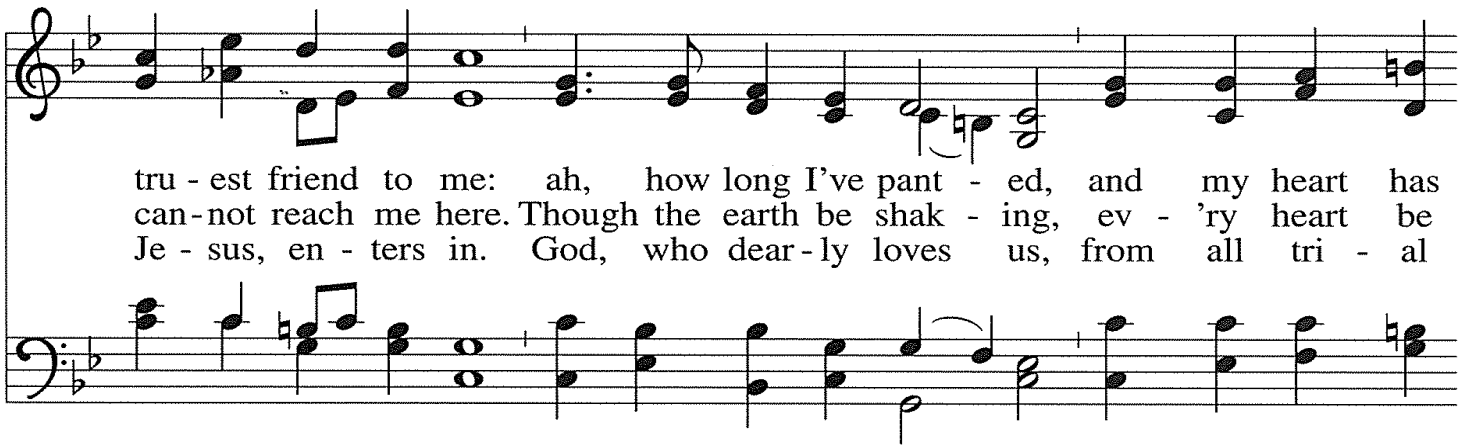
lead me to the home I trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.  
 help me bear life's pain and sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.  
 with your pres - ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

# Jesus, Priceless Treasure

775



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, source of pur - est plea - sure,  
2 In thine arm I rest me; foes who would mo - lest me  
3 Hence, all fears and sad - ness, for the Lord of glad - ness,



tru - est friend to me: ah, how long I've pant - ed, and my heart has  
can-not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing, ev - 'ry heart be  
Je - sus, en - ters in. God, who dear-ly loves us, from all tri - al



faint - ed, thirst - ing, Lord, for thee! Thine I am, O spot - less Lamb;  
quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear. Light-nings flash and thun - ders crash;  
saves us, gives sweet peace with-in. I have borne this world - ly scorn;



no - thing in this world can hide thee, naught I ask be-side thee.  
yet, though sin and hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.  
still in thee lies pur - est plea - sure: Je - sus, price-less trea - sure!

SANDON. 10 4, 10 4, 10 10.

CHARLES HENRY PURDAY, 1799-1885

*Slowly, with dignity*

1. Un - to the hills a - round do I lift up My long - ing eyes;  
 2. He will not suf - fer that thy foot be moved; Safe shalt thou be.  
 3. Je - ho - vah is him - self thy keep - er true, Thy change - less shade;

O whence for me shall my sal - va - tion come, From whence a - rise?  
 No care - less slum - ber shall his eye - lids close, Who keep - eth thee,  
 Je - ho - vah thy de - fence on thy right hand Him - self hath made.

From God the Lord doth come my cer - tain aid,  
 Be - hold, he sleep - eth not, he slum - bereth ne'er,  
 And thee no sun by day shall ev - er smite;

From God the Lord who heaven and earth hath made,  
 Who keep - eth Is - rael in his ho - ly care.  
 No moon shall harm thee in the si - lent night. A - men,

- 4 From every evil shall he keep thy soul,  
 From every sin;  
 Jehovah shall preserve thy going out,  
 Thy coming in,  
 Above thee watching, he whom we adore  
 Shall keep thee henceforth, yea, for evermore. Amen.

John Campbell, 1845-1914

# The Communion

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -

The first system of musical notation for 'The Communion'. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are 'Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -'.

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

The second system of musical notation. The melody continues with the lyrics 'new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -'.

way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly

The third system of musical notation. The melody continues with the lyrics 'way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly'.

Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of

The fourth system of musical notation. The melody continues with the lyrics 'Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of'.

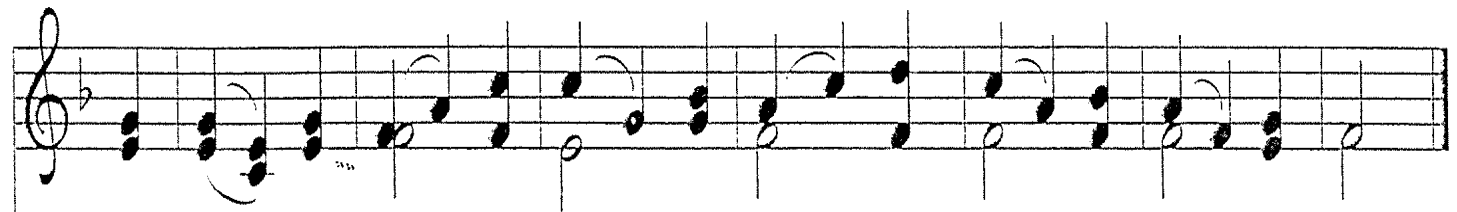
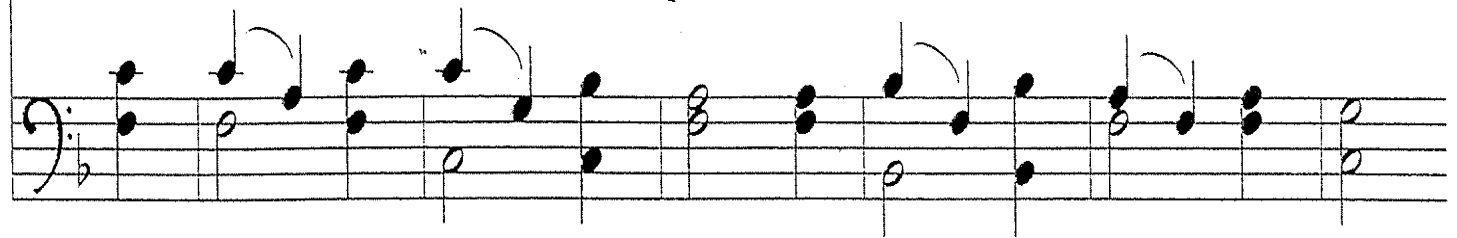
thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.

The fifth and final system of musical notation. The melody concludes with the lyrics 'thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.'

## Blest Be the Tie That Binds



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers:  
 3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,  
 4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.  
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares,  
 and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
 and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.



## **First Lutheran Church**

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724-225-4040

e-mail: secretary@flcwash.church

Online services posted weekly on website:

<https://firstlutheranwashington.church/>

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Mark Black, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Matthew Cimino, Organist and Music Director

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**The Flowers on the Chancel** are given to the glory of God.

**The Lay Reader** is Heather Quedenfeld.

**Acolytes** are Heidi and Denico Walsh.

**Counters/Greeters** today are C. Group and V. Group.

**Welcome to our Visitors!** The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

**Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church?** Please contact Pastor Grewe.

**Nursery:** We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs for infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

**The Flower Chart for 2025** is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

**Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2025.** Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

**Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2025.** Please sign up.

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**Please pray for those in need of healing:**

Isaac Christian, Tyler, Amy Verderber, Lou Mayne, Judy, Brooke, Debbie, Linnese, Donna B., Karen John. Phyllis Daniels, Beckie Wood, Bridgette, Alex Houck, Stacy Carroll, Ron Erdmann & Belinda, James, Lori Mauer, John, Ed Dupas, Sandy Salerno, the Gavazzi family, Janelle Henderson, Rex Gibson, Pat Dupas, Gwen Roberts, Tammy, Judi, Larry Downing, Carol Cancelmi, Amanda Laib, Sandy Hebrank, Jennifer Sasek, Elizabeth, Phyllis, Joe Kern, Lisa Wilds, Julia Jeffcoat, Richard Hager, Rob, John, Terri Newton, Holly Hiser, Shari Kienzle, Susan Westcott, Eric Group, Terry Jurkovsky, Karen Dawson, Judd Lacko, Cadence, Sandy Mannsman, Robyn Cameron, Ian, Isaiah, and Alecia, Nettie Walsh and her parents and family, Greg Mason, Kenny and Josh, and Linda, Edelgard, Wolfgang, Thomas, Lowell, Paula, Klaus and Mel Behrens, Kim, Alice Z. Lindsay Mankey, Apollos Yocca, Jackie, Mikao S, Joe McBride, Pastor Rob, Neil Bassi, Roger C., Rhonda, Anneliese, Carl Group, Raisa Rodsky, Ms. Karen and family, Myeir & Raven, and Barb Hoover, Kathleen, Sharita McIntosh & family & son Larry, Dan and family, Tammy Baker, Jackie Zeni, Bob & Anneleise Christian, Bernadette, Mr. Paul & family, Eric & family, Joanne Schultz, Amber Falosk and Sir, and Sharon.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line

1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE

1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE

724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE

724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

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Sober House Living

724-228-2203

Turning Point at Washington

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**Chess Club** meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. All are welcome from beginners to experienced. We hope that you will join us for fellowship and fun. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

**Catechism Class** meets Tuesday at 11AM and 7 PM.

**Bell Choir** rehearses Thursdays at 6:30 PM.

**Adult Choir** rehearses Sundays at 10 AM.

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**HAPPY MOMENTS, PRAISE GOD**

**DIFFICULT MOMENTS, SEEK GOD**

**QUIET MOMENTS, WORSHIP GOD**

**PAINFUL MOMENTS, TRUST GOD**

**EVERY MOMENT, THANK GOD**

**Apple/Oktoberfest will be today after the service.**

**Please join us for some fellowship and fun!**

## Listening for the Promise

### Weekly Devotional

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 24) – October 19, 2025

*“<sup>3</sup>(Jesus) told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.”*

*- Luke 18:1 -*

Certainly we've all had experiences in which someone is so persistent with us that it begins to drive us nuts, and even makes us angry. Jesus told his followers a parable that helps us to think about that a bit differently. His story also reminds us of God's infinite mercy, which is more abundant and given more freely than that of the unjust judge who ruled a favorable outcome in the widow's long-standing case.

The reality that human beings live in, now and from the beginning of time, is that justice does not always prevail on earth. We are all sinful people who have our own ideas, agendas, and political leanings, which means that there are times when we don't always see things clearly from a point of view of "what is just." The judge in Jesus' parable had no regard for God and was no lover of people either! It sounds as though he simply did as liked, and everyone else had to "like it or lump it." This happens to all of us at times, but it seems to occur more often to some than others. Many people in our world have been abused, neglected, marginalized, and held captive to so many things that they have lost the ability to advocate for themselves. Those people tend to fall through the proverbial cracks because there is no one to look out for them, least of all themselves.

That was not the case with the widow. She had no problem looking out for herself. Her courage and perseverance are to be admired. She wasn't asking for something that she didn't deserve, only what was coming to her by law. No one was there to stand in for her and make an argument on her behalf, so she did it herself. And she was relentless!

Jesus calls his followers to be relentless in the pursuit of righteousness: to show mercy, love our neighbors, advocate for those without a voice, protect children, and preach the gospel. When our prayers seem to be falling on deaf ears, he says to us, "Do not be discouraged! Keep at it! Your Father in heaven hears your cries and will answer you because he loves you!"

What confidence we can have in our Lord. By his very nature he is righteous and fair. We can count on him to hear our pleas and answer us when we call on him. In fact, he wants us to do just that.

