

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 19 and 20, 2025



A God Who Demonstrates Love Unlike Any Other



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Pastor Kirk Lahmann | Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

Prepare for Worship

To prepare for worship, read through the service focus and the Scripture readings. Ponder the words of the Psalm of the Day. Spend time in prayer, using the prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal or on pages 255-258. For those intending to receive the Lord's Supper, read through the "Christian Questions" on pages 295-296. Consider reading through portions of the Small Catechism on pages 286-293.

Today's Focus for Worship – A God Who Demonstrates Love Unlike Any Other

Jesus tells us repeatedly, "I have come to seek and to save the lost." What do the lost look like to you? Maybe when we think of the lost we think of people living in far off lands, with a far off culture and religion. Maybe we think of someone in our social circle we would like to get to church. Maybe we remember a time in our own lives. Today gives us an opportunity to see God's unique and unconditional love in action: seeking and saving the lost. And today we get to see again how God graciously involves us in the mission of sharing his message of grace with the lost in our lives.

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue
Guest Preacher: Pastor Dan Heiderich
Accompanist: Cindy Klink

Acknowledgments

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Gathering Rite

on the Word of God



Stand

Invocation

Matthew 18:20; 28:19-20

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

Amen.

Gathering Rite Hymn

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word | 919

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at your Word we are gath - ered

all to hear you. Let our hearts and souls be stirred

now to seek and love and fear you, by your teach - ings,

sweet and ho - ly, drawn from earth to love you sole - ly.

Oh, how I love your law!

I meditate on it all day long.

Psalms 119:97-99, 103

Your commands are always with me
and make me wiser than my enemies.

I have more insight than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes.

How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!



All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking,
correcting, and training in righteousness,
so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it.
For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light from Light, from
 God pro - ceed - ing, o - pen now our heart and mind;
 help us by your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry your
 Church now rais - es; hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.

God gave his Word so “that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (*John 20:31*). The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. Therefore, as a called 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.
Amen.

4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we your Word may trust,
 con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, while we here be -
 low must wan - der, till we sing your prais - es yon - der.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Merciful Father, your kindness caused the light of the gospel to shine among us. Use us now as instruments of your love to reach out with the message of salvation to all people. Bless those who labor in the mission fields far off and near, and grant success to their witness that many may be freed from sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Micah 7:18-20

¹⁸Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. ¹⁹You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea. ²⁰You will be faithful to Jacob, and show love to Abraham, as you pledged on oath to our ancestors in days long ago.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

In the Morning I Will Sing | 63-A

Refrain

In the morn-ing I will sing, I will
sing glad songs to you, I will sing glad songs of praise to
you. I will sing glad songs of praise to you.

Verse

1 O God, you are my God; for you I long; for
 you my soul is thirst-ing. My bod-y pines for you like a
 dry, wea-ry land with-out wa-ter. So I gaze on you in the
 sanc-tu-ar-y to see your strength and your glo-ry. *Refrain*

Verse

2 For your love is bet-ter than life, my lips will speak your
 praise. So I will bless you all my life, in your
 name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a
 ban-quet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. *Refrain*

Verse

3 On my bed I re-mem-ber you. On you I
muse through the night, for you have been my help; in the
shad-ow of your wings I re-joice. My soul clings to
you; your right hand holds me fast. *Refrain*

Refrain

In the morn-ing I will sing, I will
sing glad songs to you, I will sing glad songs of praise to
you. I will sing glad songs of praise to you.

Second Reading

Romans 5:6-11

⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem (8:00)

Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord | 724

Sung by grades 5-8.

Be still, my soul, before the Lord, for God is always near.
Before your mind is moved to pray, God listens and will hear.

You need not multiply your words nor pray with practiced art.
Beyond all speech, God understands the hunger of your heart.

Wait, then, in quiet confidence, your anxious thoughts at rest.
God knows your needs before you ask and works for what is best.

Be still, my soul, before the Lord; on God in patience wait.
God's love, unseen, surrounds your life; God's help will not be late.

Hymn (10:30 & Monday)

Christ High-Ascended | 747

Stand

Gospel

Luke 19:1-10

¹Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ²A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. ³He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

⁵When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." ⁶So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

⁷All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”

⁸But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.”

⁹Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

Rise, Shine, You People | 744

Sermon

Who Is a God Like You Who Seeks the Lost

Stand

Apostles' Creed *Credo*

Matthew 16:15; Luke 12:8; 2 Corinthians 4:13

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

1 Timothy 2:1-4

O most merciful God and Father, you looked upon the sins and suffering of a fallen world and gave your only Son as a Savior for all people.

You called us into the kingdom of your grace and brought us to the knowledge of the truth.

By faith in your dear Son we have forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation. You have given your Church the task to proclaim your message of peace to all people.

Increase our love and zeal for the work of spreading your saving Gospel.

Billions are still sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that we may be moved by your unbounded grace to show compassion for all who are in the bonds of sin and have not heard your Word of grace.

Teach us to love not only with words or speech, but with actions and in truth.

Make us willing to serve you, and to return what you have given us to support your work. Do not let us become weary in doing good, so that we may reap a harvest at the proper time for your glory. As long as we have opportunity we must do the work you have given to us.

Whatever we do for the least of your brothers and sisters, we do for you.

O Lord, the harvest truly is plentiful, but the workers are few. Send forth workers into your harvest and give success to their efforts for the promotion of your kingdom. Let your gracious Gospel be proclaimed everywhere and open the hearts of people to accept the good news, that from the rising of the sun to its setting, your ways may be known upon the earth, your salvation among all nations, and heaven and earth may be full of your glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Offering

2 Corinthians 9:7

Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshipers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.

Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story | 746:1, 7, 3

Stand

Closing Collect

Gracious Father, unite us in the gospel of your Son, that we may follow him and share the kingdom of God in all the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer *Pater Noster*

Matthew 6:9-13

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Blessing *Aaronic Benediction*

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

Go Forth and Preach the Gospel | 908