

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 23



At the Table of God

Conversations, Connections, Community

October 11, 2020

AS WE GATHER

“Come to the table.” In our daily experiences, there is no invitation that is more readily received and fully appreciated. To be at the table is to be assured of nourishment and refreshment. In Psalm 23, we are told of a table that is prepared under challenging circumstances. Yet, even there, the cup of God’s blessing overflows. Our gathering for worship and our coming to the Table of the Lord is a weekly experience of overflowing blessing filled with signs of God’s gracious presence. We rejoice that we are invited to His amazing table! A classic table grace uses these simple words: “Be present at our table, Lord; Be here and ev’rywhere adored; Thy creatures bless, and grant that we May feast in paradise with Thee” (*LSB 775*). The plural pronoun “we” used in the prayer reminds us of the fact that we are together in the Lord’s house and together at the Lord’s Table. Our worship here is not a solo experience but rather is experienced in community. Joyfully we celebrate God’s service to us—together!

✠ PREPARATION ✠

SOLO

Ms. Angela Henderson

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 9:2; 33:20–22; 122:1*

Pastor: I was glad when they said to me,

People: “Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

Pastor: I will be glad and exult in You;

People: I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.

Pastor: Our soul waits for the LORD;

People: He is our help and our shield.

Pastor: For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name.

People: Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

People: O God our Father, we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have transgressed Your law and have brought injury to others. We have not always shown forth our faith in every aspect of our lives. We sincerely repent of our sins. Have mercy on us and hear this, our confession, O Lord. Grant us Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit within us, lead us to amend our sinful lives that each day we grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.

Pastor: The Lord hears our pleas and accepts our prayers. To each of us our Lord promises forgiveness, life, and salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✘ WORD ✘

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You invite us to trust in You for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of Your judgment but by the greatness of Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 25:6–9* (The Lord will bring salvation to His people.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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EPISTLE *Philippians 4:4–13* (Encouragement for joyful Christian living)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Revelation 22:17*

Leader: Alleluia. The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” Let the one who hears say, “Come.” Let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 22:1–14* (The parable about the wedding feast)

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

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SERMON

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(We Will Bring Our Tithes and Offering To The Lord)

CREED 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: With full confidence that our prayers will be heard by our loving God, we offer our petitions for the Church, the world, and all people in need. O Lord,

People: in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: With hope-filled hearts we pray for the community of world nations, especially remembering the people of Canada as they observe their country's National Day of Thanksgiving. O Lord,

People: in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for the well-being of creation in our land and every land, for all coastlands and waters and for all fields and forests. Grant that we be proper stewards of all of the gifts we have received. O Lord,

People: in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for the Church, that it grow as the Spirit leads and directs, even in those places where persecution of Christian people still is a daily reality. O Lord,

People: in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for those who are in need of special petitions this day, including the injured or ill, people in hospitals or other care centers, those dealing with special challenges, the shut-in, the unemployed, and those who are grieving this day, [*especially . . .*]. Be the support of those in need and the comfort of those who are burdened. O Lord,

People: in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: As we remember with gratitude those whose earthly lives are now completed, we ask that we be blessed by the memory of all who have fallen asleep in Jesus, especially those of this community of faith who have left behind examples of joyful trust and blessed hope. O Lord,

People: in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

CLOSING SENTENCES *Philippians 3:20–22; 4:20*

Pastor: But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself.

People: **To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

Numbers 6:24–26

People: **Amen.**

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***LISTEN TO THE MESSAGE FROM GOD'S WORD.
USE THIS SHEET TO MAKE SOME PERSONAL NOTES.
GO BACK OVER THEM THROUGH THE WEEK.
THINK AND LET GOD CRYSTALIZE TRUTHS IN YOUR LIFE.***

SERMON TITLE: _____

BIBLICAL TEXT: _____

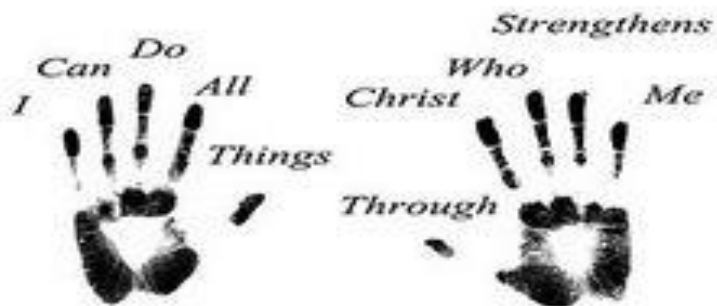
INTRODUCTION: _____

MAJOR POINTS: _____

WHAT I WILL DO AS A RESULT OF THIS MESSAGE:

“...They received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures everyday.” Acts 17:11 (NIV)

Ten Finger Prayer



Philippians 4:13