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**19th Sunday after Pentecost**

“He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!” *Psalm 91:11; 103:1*

**AS WE GATHER**

Although the Old Testament Reading and Gospel teach us about our accountability to truth, the Epistle identifies that as God and His justice in time and eternity; grace as proclaimed through His Word. Paul calls that Word, Scripture, God-breathed and thereby reminds us of the breath of God in creation, Jesus’ breathing on the disciples on Easter, and the clear witness that Scripture gives about salvation. In this that is truth, we find confidence. Today’s Readings provide examples of contending for that truth: Jacob receives the blessing for seeking it and a woman in Jesus’ parable obtains justice in her persistence for it. We now hear and contend with that Word of truth also; and receive in it peace and joy.

**PSALM** 121

**+ PREPARATION +**

**INVOCATION and OPENING SENTENCES** *Genesis 2:7; Ezekiel 37:5;*

*John 20:22; 2 Timothy 3:16*

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: The Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life,

**People: and the man became a living creature.**

Pastor: Thus says the Lord God to these bones:

**People: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live.**

Pastor: And when [Jesus] had said this, He breathed on them and said to them,

**People: “Receive the Holy Spirit.”**

Pastor: All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable

**People: for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.**

**CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: Confident of His grace and mercy, let us confess our sins to our heavenly Father.

**People: Merciful Father, we confess that we have erred and wandered from Your ways like stray sheep. We have followed the desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your laws. We have left undone those things we ought to have done; we have done those things we ought not to have done; we cannot help ourselves.

O Lord, have mercy on us. Breathe new life upon us; teach, reprove, correct, and restore us through Your Word that we may live in praise of Your holy name.**

Pastor: In the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, all your sins were atoned for and your sinfulness forgiven. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**HYMN** *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”* (*LSB* 790)

**COLLECT OF THE DAY** *(bulletin insert)*

**OLD TESTAMENT** Genesis 32:22-30 *(bulletin insert)*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** *(bulletin insert, below the Collect)*

**EPISTLE** 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5 *(bulletin insert)*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 18:1-8 *(bulletin insert)*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**NICENE CREED** (*back, inside cover*)

**HYMN** *“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”* (*LSB* 739)

**SERMON “*Justice”***

**RETURNING OF OUR FIRST FRUITS**

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*(after each petition):* Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

 **People: hear our prayer.**

**LORD’S PRAYER, SUNG** (*LSB*,front inside cover)

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**Divine Service and the Close Fellowship of Holy Communion**

*Our Lord speaks and we listen. His Word bestows what it says. Faith that is born from what is heard acknowledges the gifts received with eager thankfulness and praise. The gifts include the Holy Supper in which we receive His true body and blood to eat and drink. Those welcome to the table acknowledge the real presence of the body and blood of Christ, confess their own sinfulness, and in true faith wish to receive the forgiveness and strength promised through this Holy Sacrament, as* ***instructed*** *… and* ***in unity of faith*** *… with God’s people here in this congregation. It is our sincerest desire that you join in the intimacy of this fellowship. However,* ***if you are not, yet, an instructed and confirmed member-in-good-standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please visit with the pastor about such a fellowship before communing****. If you wish to come forward for a blessing, you are welcome to join us at the rail to receive such. Please cross your arms in front of you to indicate that desire.*

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**DISTRIBUTION**

 *“What Is This Bread”* (*LSB* 629)

 *“I Know That My Redeemer Lives”* (*LSB* 461, vs. 1-2, 7-8)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. Thanks to You, Lord our God, for again assuring us of sins forgiven for Jesus’ sake. Breathe on us with Your grace and power, we pray, that, relying on Your Word and promise, we may produce good works to the glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

**HYMN** *“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”* (*LSB* 924)

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH,**

Rev. Curt Hoover, Rev. Alebachew Teshome,

Rev. Craig Fiebiger, Rev. Doug DeWitt

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 **All are welcome …**

 **… Christ is honored.**