

October 11, 2020  
19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## CONCORDIA

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
725 Truxton Drive, Kingsport, TN.

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*The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything. I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*

### Collect

*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.*

### Introit

I will praise the LORD as long I as I live;\* I will sing praises to my God while I have my I being. I will greatly rejoice I in the LORD;\* my soul shall exult I in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of sal- I vation;\* he has covered me with the robe of I righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful I headdress,\* and as a bride adorns herself I with her jewels. Glory be to the Father and I to the Son\* and to the Holy I Spirit; as it was in the be- I ginning,\* is now, and will be forever. I Amen.  
I will praise the LORD as long I as I live;\* I will sing praises to my God while I have my I being.

### Selected Readings: 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

**Old Testament/Isaiah 25:6–9. Epistle/Philippians 4:4–13. Gospel/Matthew 22:1–14**  
***Clothed in the Righteousness of Christ, We Partake of His Wedding Feast***

- By His cross and resurrection, the Lord has swallowed up death forever, and by His Gospel He “will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth” (Is. 25:8). Therefore, “let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation” (Is. 25:9). On the mountain of the Lord of hosts — in His Church on earth, as in the kingdom of heaven — He has made “for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine” (Is. 25:6).
- It is the royal “wedding feast” of the Son of God, “and everything is ready” (Matt. 22:1, 4). Thus, His servants are sent into the highways and byways to invite and gather as many as they find, “both good and bad,” to fill the wedding hall with guests (Matt. 22:8–10). In Holy Baptism, He clothes them all in the “wedding garment” of His own perfect righteousness (Matt. 22:11).
- Therefore, “do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God,” and “rejoice in the Lord always” (Phil. 4:4–6).

### Stewardship

**Matt. 22:5 – “But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business.”**

The invitation to join God in His feast and in His work is easily ignored. The rest of life seems so much more pressing, and we always think there will be another time when we can catch back up with God. But what joys are we missing when we set aside God’s invitation to join Him in His plans and purposes? What inheritance are we trading for the world’s bowl of pottage?

## Sermon Notes

*19 Pentecost. II October 2020*

### **Secret of Christian Stewardship Philippians 4:10-14, 19**

*The Lord has filled me with joy because you again showed interest in me. You were interested but did not have an opportunity to show it. I'm not saying this because I'm in any need. I've learned to be content in whatever situation I'm in. I know how to live in poverty or prosperity. No matter what the situation, I've learned the secret of how to live when I'm full or when I'm hungry, when I have too much or when I have too little. I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me. Nevertheless, it was kind of you to share my troubles... My God will richly fill your every need in a glorious way through Christ Jesus.*

We learn the secret of Christian stewardship through charitable concern for others, consistent contentment in all situations and a confident conviction in the God who always comes through for us.

#### **1. Christ gives us a genuine concern for other people**

- a. I have seen the oppression of my people
- b. Philippians shares the troubles of St. Paul

#### **2. Christ teaches us the ability to be content in all things**

- a. Contentment must be learned in life's reality
- b. A person with contentment is not easily disturbed

#### **3. Christ gives us a confident conviction that God will always come through for us**

- a. I can do everything through Christ
- b. God will supply our every need in a glorious way

## Discipleship Leading to Evangelism

- The typical view of modern liturgy is that we do the work and God is the watcher.
- The historical view of the Mass or Divine Service is that God is doing the work and we are both watchers and invited participants.

We are the people of God for whom all of this exists. So we are not the actors who eagerly await His divine approval nor are we spectators who watch and applaud the show. We are those who watch and who enter into the Divine Mystery;

- by hearing the efficacious Word of God read and preached and sung,
- by recalling our baptism into Christ when we died and were raised to the new life that death cannot end,
- and by tasting the goodness of the Lord in the flesh of Christ and the blood of Christ hidden but really present in bread and wine.

Friends, if this is NOT what you think is happening on Sunday morning, you need to review the Word, relearn the Catechism, and discover the doctrine in the liturgy. Because Sunday morning is nothing short of God delivering heaven on earth for a foretaste and preview of what is to come -- to keep us in the way, holy and blameless so that we may meet Him when He comes and enter into the joy of our Master forevermore.

*pastoralmeandering.org/Nov. 3, 2019*

## Prayer of the Church. 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost. 11 October 2020.

Invited by Your Word and encouraged by Your promise of mercy, let us pray to the Lord:  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church, for the leaders of the Church, for all pastors and missionaries, for those preparing for church vocations, and for those considering full-time church service, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the blessing of marriage and the faithfulness of husbands and wives, for the children entrusted to their care, for the loving care of children who have suffered abuse or neglect, and for those who open their homes to children in foster care, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For a welcoming spirit in our congregation, for boldness in our invitation to those without a church home, and for a willingness to serve our neighbor in need and the stranger whose lives cross our paths, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For compassion toward the sick and those who suffer, for our care of those who need our assistance, for the hospitalized and those recovering, and especially for \_\_\_\_\_ and those we name in our hearts, that God may grant them healing, comfort, strength and peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all elected and appointed civil servants, for all judges and magistrates, for all emergency personnel, for all members of the armed forces, and for all of us as citizens and neighbors, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the dawn of God's eternal day, for an end to death and sorrow, for the comfort of those who grieve, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_,] and for the strength of those facing death, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our communion upon the body and blood of the Lord, and for hearts that burn with desire for the marriage feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom without end, let us pray to the Lord:  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For those preparing for Baptism, for the catechumens, and for the places where we gather to teach and learn God's Word, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For gratitude in receiving the Lord's gifts and blessings, for generosity in sharing these resources with those in need, and for the tithes and offerings to support the work of the Kingdom in this place, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For grace, that we may hear and heed the invitation of our Lord and joyfully wear the baptismal clothing of His righteousness: **Lord, have mercy.**

All these things, Lord, we pray You to grant us according to Your mercy in Jesus Christ and to fill us with contentment, that trusting in Your gracious will for all things, our hearts may enjoy perfect rest and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**