



**AS WE GATHER**

Today's New Testament Reading continues the list of heroes of faith begun last week. But the other readings provide the context. At the time of the Old Testament Reading, false prophets were telling people that nothing was wrong, although God had not commanded them to teach about anything. In the Gospel, Jesus points out that acting on one's faith inevitably leads to conflict, even within families. Only by faith are we able to look beyond the current, inevitable conflict to the joy that awaits all who follow Jesus. For the eternal joy before Him, He endured the pain. Now it is our turn to run the endurance race until faith is turned to sight.

**INVOCATION**

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

**PSALM**

*Psalm 119:81-88*

- P** Today we consider faith under trial. But we cannot remain strong without God's help. Let us begin by praying today's Psalm responsively.
- C** **My soul longs for Your salvation; I hope in Your word.**
- P** My eyes long for Your promise;  
I ask, "When will You comfort me?"  
For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke,  
yet I have not forgotten Your statutes.
- C** **My soul longs for Your salvation; I hope in Your word.**
- P** How long must Your servant endure?  
When will You judge those who persecute me?  
The insolent have dug pitfalls for me;  
they do not live according to Your law.  
All Your commandments are sure;  
they persecute me with falsehood; help me!
- C** **My soul longs for Your salvation; I hope in Your word.**
- P** They have almost made an end of me on earth,  
but I have not forsaken Your precepts.  
In Your steadfast love give me life,  
that I may keep the testimonies of Your mouth.
- C** **My soul longs for Your salvation; I hope in Your word.**

**HYMN: "THERE IS A REDEEMER"**

*LSB 971*

1 There is a Re - deem - er— Je - sus, God's own Son;  
 2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all names;  
 3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see His face;

Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Ho - ly One.  
 Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Hope for sin - ners slain.  
 There I'll serve my King for-ev - er In that ho - ly place.

*Refrain*

Thank You, O my Fa - ther, For giv-ing us Your Son,  
 And leav - ing Your Spir-it Till the work on earth is done.

Text and tune: Melody Green, 1946, alt. Text and tune: © 1982 Birdwing Music, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004146

## CONFESSION OF SINS

*Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3-4; Luke 18:13*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and be renewed in spirit, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ:

*A moment of silence to reflect on God's Word and to examine our hearts before Him.*

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

*[John 20:19-23]*

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\dagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## KYRIE

*Mark 10:47 LSB 204*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

*Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 204*



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shi - ped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

*Text: Stephen P. Starke*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Lord our God, You have graciously bestowed on us the gift of faith in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Strengthen our faith so that we may fight the good fight of faith in times of trial, winning those daily struggles and anticipating the final victory that awaits us 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.

**C** **Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Jeremiah 23:16–29*

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD.

<sup>17</sup>They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No disaster shall come upon you.’”

<sup>18</sup>For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened?

<sup>19</sup>Behold, the storm of the LORD!

Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked.

<sup>20</sup>The anger of the LORD will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart.

In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

<sup>21</sup>“I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied.

<sup>22</sup>But if they had stood in my council,

then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds.

<sup>23</sup>“Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God afar off? <sup>24</sup>Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. <sup>25</sup>I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ <sup>26</sup>How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, <sup>27</sup>who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? <sup>28</sup>Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. <sup>29</sup>Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Hebrews 11:17–31; 12:1–3*

<sup>17</sup>By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, <sup>18</sup>of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” <sup>19</sup>He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. <sup>20</sup>By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. <sup>21</sup>By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. <sup>22</sup>By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

<sup>23</sup>By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict. <sup>24</sup>By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, <sup>25</sup>choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. <sup>26</sup>He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to

the reward. <sup>27</sup>By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. <sup>28</sup>By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

<sup>29</sup>By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as if on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. <sup>30</sup>By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup>By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

<sup>3</sup>Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 12:49-56

<sup>49</sup>[Jesus said:] “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup>I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. <sup>52</sup>For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. <sup>53</sup>They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

<sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**C** 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.

**HYMN: “LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD”**

LSB 655

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who  
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow’r make known, For You are  
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and

by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your  
 Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that  
 u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal

Son And bring to naught all He has done.  
 we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
 strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff’s new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug  
Text and tune: Public domain

**TEACHING FROM GOD’S WORD**

Message Notes

**Main Points:**

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<b>One thing NEW I learned:</b>	<b>What can I apply to my life?</b>
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## OFFERING

### HYMN: "WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN"

LSB 781



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.  
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97 Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89 Text and tune: Public domain

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various circumstances.

Gracious God, our fathers in the faith gave a good confession of Your truth before the powers of this world. In the spirit of Jeremiah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and Moses, strengthen our hearts in days of division to confess in our words and lives the glory of Your name. Arm Your servants with the power of Your Holy Spirit to speak the truth in love, and build up Your Church upon the eternal foundation of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Lord of hosts, we pray for people who are deprived of justice, who are enslaved to the things of this world and live in destructive communities, and all who are without hope of change. Renew in them, O Lord, a trust in Your promises, and give them relief and change as fits Your gracious plans for them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Heavenly Father, use our families as training ground in righteousness and to nurture faith. Bless and strengthen parents to bring up their children to resist temptation, seek Your truth and to endure all things for the sake of Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Lord God Almighty, behold our nation and all those in authority in Your mercy and replenish them by Your grace, that all who receive the sword would bear it according to Your Word, always inclining to Your will and walking in Your way. Grant that we might lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** O Lord, grant healing to the sick, [*especially. . .*], strength to the weak, endurance to bear up under trial, patience to await His deliverance and peace at the last. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Lord God, support and guide the social agencies and extended families of all those who care for the young and the old, the poor and the sick, whether as professional health care workers or individuals intent on meeting the needs of the less fortunate. Grant them a sense of purpose and calling as they serve You and the people around them in love. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** God of our fathers, You bless Your Church with the enduring witness of Your saints, who now rest from their labors. We thank you for their lives of faith and pray that we would share their faith in Christ now and to life's end. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Hear us, most merciful Father, in these our humble requests, which we offer unto You in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## 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.

## BENEDICAMUS

*Psalm 103:1 LSB 212*

**A** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24-26 LSB 212*

**P** 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.  
**C** Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HYMN: "I'M BUT A STRANGER HERE"

*LSB 748*

1 I'm but a strang - er here, Heav'n is my home;  
2 What though the tem - pest rage, Heav'n is my home;  
3 There - fore I mur - mur not, Heav'n is my home;  
Earth is a des - ert drear, Heav'n is my home.  
Short is my pil - grim - age, Heav'n is my home;  
What - e'er my earth - ly lot, Heav'n is my home;  
Dan - ger and sor - row stand Round me on ev - 'ry hand;  
And time's wild win - try blast Soon shall be o - ver - past;  
And I shall sure - ly stand There at my Lord's right hand;  
Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.  
I shall reach home at last, Heav'n is my home.  
Heav'n is my fa - ther - land, Heav'n is my home.

Text: Thomas R. Taylor, 1807–35 Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900 Text and tune: Public domain

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# Puzzle!

Search for and circle all the bold words from Psalm 18:2, which reminds us where we find our strength.

The **LORD** is **MY ROCK**, my **FORTRESS** and my **DELIVERER**; my **GOD** is my rock, in whom I **TAKE REFUGE**. **HE** is my **SHIELD** and the **HORN** of my **SALVATION**, my **STRONGHOLD**.

S T R O N G H O L D T S  
O L O B K I E Y E J S A  
R E F U G E I Y N T V L  
R O G H A R L Q R A Y V  
S X C T T I M T K K M A  
H O R N C E Y R A E D T  
I G F V L O L K E N S I  
E N F O R T R E S S G O  
L T U R G Q A C K J Q N  
D C D E L I V E R E R E  
K Y U X O C N O O Y Q S  
X H X A R K L R C N H Y  
G O D T D K A D K U D X

**GOD ROCKS!**