



St. John's Lutheran Church

1000 Bluff St., Beloit, WI 53511
www.stjohnsbeloit.com

**“Sharing the good news of forgiveness and eternal life
through Jesus Christ.”**

October 18, 2020

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or dispose of it in our recycling bin.
Thank you.*

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Genesis 28:10–17

Ephesians 4:22–28

Matthew 9:1–8

Jesus' Incarnation Secures for Us Life, Forgiveness, and Healing

The Lord does not require us to ascend to Him; in mercy He descends to us (Gen. 28:10–17). The ladder in Jacob's dream was not for climbing; it was the means by which the Lord came to bless Jacob. This event finds its fulfillment in Christ who descended from His throne to save and bless us. By His incarnation He is the eternal bridge between heaven and earth. "The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" (Matt. 9:1–8). The Lord was present in the flesh to absolve the paralytic. Jesus also healed and restored this man's body. "For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation" (Small Catechism). The Lord still has power on earth to forgive sins. In holy absolution He raises up the new man (Eph. 4:22–28) and bestows the healing medicine which will bring about our resurrection on the Last Day. Thus we say with Jacob, "This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!" (Gen. 28:17)

Silent Preservice Meditation and Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Music for Reflection

Announcements

Gathering Hymn

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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- 1 Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
 Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
 Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
 Call for songs of loudest praise.
 While the hope of endless glory
 Fills my heart with joy and love,
 Teach me ever to adore Thee;
 May I still Thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer,
 Hither by Thy help I've come;
 And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
 Safely to arrive at home.
 Jesus sought me when a stranger,
 Wand'ring from the fold of God;
 He, to rescue me from danger,
 Interposed His precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
 Daily I'm constrained to be;
 Let that grace now like a fetter
 Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
 Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
 Prone to leave the God I love.
 Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
 Seal it for Thy courts above.

- 4 Oh, that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;
Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry
Me to realms of endless day.

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Confession and Forgiveness

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

- 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 receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, 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, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

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

- 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 + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Lord, Have Mercy (Kyrie) *LSB 204*

- C** Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Glory to God in the Highest (Gloria in Excelsis) *LSB 204*

- C** 1 To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,

**The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—**

**3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, of Your bountiful goodness keep from us all things that may hurt us that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish whatever You would have us do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 28:10–17

¹⁰Jacob set out from Beersheba and traveled toward Haran. ¹¹He came to a certain place and decided to spend the night there, because the sun had set. He took one of the stones from that place, put it under his head, and lay down to sleep in that place. ¹²He had a dream in which he saw a stairway set up on the earth with its top reaching to heaven. There were angels of God ascending and descending on it. ¹³There at the top stood the Lord, who said, "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. The land on which you are lying, I give to you and to your descendants. ¹⁴Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south. In you and in your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed. ¹⁵Now, I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back again into this land. Indeed, I will not leave you, until I have done what I have promised to you."

¹⁶Jacob woke up from his sleep, and he said, "Certainly the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it." ¹⁷He was afraid and he said, "How awe-inspiring is this place! This is nothing other than the house of God, and this is the gate to heaven."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Ephesians 4:22–28

²²As far as your former way of life is concerned, you were taught to take off the old self, which is corrupted by its deceitful desires, ²³and to be renewed continually in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴and to put on the new self, which has been created to be like God in righteousness and true holiness.

²⁵Therefore, after you put away lying, let each of you speak truthfully with your neighbor, because we are all members of one body. ²⁶"Be angry, yet do not sin." Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry. ²⁷Do not give the Devil an opportunity. ²⁸Let the one who has been stealing steal no longer. Instead, let him work hard doing what is good with his own hands, so that he has something to share with a person who is in need.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

- C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
- C** These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
- C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Matthew 9:1–8

Jesus got into a boat, crossed over, and came to his own town. ²There people brought to him a man who was paralyzed, lying on a stretcher. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Take heart, son! Your sins are forgiven.”

³Then some of the experts in the law said among themselves, “This fellow is blaspheming!”

⁴Since Jesus knew their thoughts, he said, “Why are you thinking evil in your hearts? ⁵Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’? ⁶But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,” he then said to the paralyzed man, “Get up, take your stretcher, and go home.”

⁷The man got up and went home. ⁸When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe and glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

- C** **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

Message Hymn

God Himself Is Present

907

- 1 God Himself is present:
Let us now adore Him
And with awe appear before Him.
God is in His temple;
All within keep silence;
Humbly kneel in deepest rev'ence.
He alone
On His throne
Is our God and Savior;
Praise His name forever!

- 2 God Himself is present:
Hear the harps resounding;
See the hosts the throne surrounding.
"Holy, holy, holy!"
Hear the hymn ascending,
Songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow Your ear
To us here:
Hear, O Christ, the praises
That Your Church now raises.

- 3 Fount of ev'ry blessing,
Purify my spirit,
Trusting only in Your merit.
Like the holy angels,
Worshiping before You,
May I ceaselessly adore You.
Let Your will
Ever still
Rule Your Church terrestrial
As the hosts celestial.
(Text: Public domain)

Children's Message

Message

"Encountering the Living God"

Stand

Prayers of the Church

- ☐. Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P. Heavenly Father, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have given Your Church the authority on earth to forgive sins. Grant that we may always rejoice to receive the forgiveness announced and delivered by those men who have been called and ordained to serve in Christ's stead and by His command, and, having been forgiven, give us hearts that are quick to forgive others. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

P. Almighty God, our Savior sent forth His Church to the ends of the earth to proclaim the Good News of salvation in Him. Continue to send workers into Your vineyard, and give us willing and generous hearts to support the preaching of Your Word in our community and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

P. Merciful Lord, You blessed Jacob with offspring as numerous as the dust of the earth. Give comfort to those who long for children but are unable to conceive. May they find in the Church a family to love and cherish. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

P. Almighty God, we beg You, grant wisdom to all those whom You have placed in temporal authority, both in this country and throughout the world. Renew their diligence, that they would use their offices to serve their fellow citizens with justice and compassion. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

P. Eternal Father, as the paralytic was brought to Your Son, Jesus, so, too, we bring before You in prayer all those suffering in any physical and mental anguish especially the family and friends of Vallie Nolta, those whom we have named on our prayer list, and those we now name in the thoughts of our hearts According to Your will, grant them healing in this life, and give them faithful friends who will proclaim to them the forgiveness of their sins, so that they would face the trials of this life confident in Your love for them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

P. How awesome is this place, O God, for here we receive the gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation given to us in the Holy Supper of Your Son's very body and blood. Fill us with His life and love, that we would return to our homes in joy and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C. hear our prayer.

P. Whatever else that we need or would be good for us, we entrust to Your bountiful providence, for You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end.

C. Amen.

Blessing (Benediction)

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.

(Internet livestreaming ends here)

Sit

Offering

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface *LSB 208*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus) *LSB 208*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

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.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Peace of the Lord (Pax Domini)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei) LSB 210

**☩ 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Sit

Receiving the Lord's Supper

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.
Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.
Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

☐ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.
☩ Amen.

Stand

Song of Simeon (Nunc Dimittis) LSB 211

**☩ 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.**

**2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Blessing (Benedicamus) *LSB 212*

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Blessing (Benediction)

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.

Closing Hymn

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

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- 1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.
- 2 Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.
- 3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.

- 4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken.
Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members;
Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

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Music for Reflection

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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For announcements, please see this week's Communicator

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Communion Practices of this Congregation

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at St. John's every Sunday in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord Jesus gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. In addition to the members of this congregation, visitors from our sister LCMS congregations and other Lutheran denominations with whom we enjoy altar fellowship are invited to join us at the Lord's Table. For further study, please see Matthew 5:23; 10:32; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

Our Church Council has called a special meeting of the Voters' Assembly of St. John's for Sunday, November 1, at 10:30 am in the Church Nave.

The purpose of the meeting will be for the congregation to consider extending a call to a Reverend David Warner to become our Associate Pastor.

To prepare for the meeting, you are encouraged to read the Self Evaluative Tool forms (SET forms) for Pastor Warner, which are available in the church office.

Please feel free to stop by (Mondays, Wednesday, Fridays) and look them over. Between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm works best for Berta, but if you need another day or time, she will be happy to accommodate you.