

OCTOBER 19, 2025  
NINETEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST



*Faith is nurtured through personal, trusted relationships.*

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 18:1-8	Parable of the persistent widow
Monday	Genesis 32:22-31	God renames Jacob
Tuesday	2 Timothy 3:14–4:5	Paul's instruction to Timothy
Wednesday	Genesis 14:15-25	Crossing the Red Sea
Thursday	Esther 8:1-17	Esther saves the Jews
Friday	Acts 8:26-40	Phillip and the eunuch
Saturday	Psalms 121	Assurance of God's protection
Sunday	Luke 18:9-14	A Pharisee and tax collector pray

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16 (NRSV)*

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

God of truth and justice, help us to be strengthened by the good news of Jesus Christ and to be a faithful witness of your love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, we thank you for strengthening our bodies with this food and our lives of faith with the good news of Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the Lord watch over and protect you.



**OCTOBER 19, 2025**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*Rise Up, O Saints of God!*



**WEEKLY MILESTONES**



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are things you learned during your childhood that have helped you?
- Who taught you about the Christian faith and what do you remember about them?

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* 2 Timothy 3:14–4:5.

In this reading, Paul mentors Timothy and reminds him of the people who taught him the faith. Timothy's faith began during his childhood. Earlier in the book of 2 Timothy 1:5, Paul affirmed Timothy's "*sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice.*" Timothy's faith was nurtured through personal, trusted relationships. The faith is inspired by God through scripture, holy words used as a guide "*for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness*" (3:16). The motivation for this review of the Christian faith is that Paul notes that there will be a time when the basics of the faith will be misused, and people will seek out messages that suit their own passions. There is a need for courage to speak and to correct with patient endurance rather than take the easier route of being silent. The confidence to speak out and confront a false message comes from the God-given inspiration of scripture and the confirmation of the faith that Timothy has received from Paul, Lois, Eunice, and other trusted voices.

*Discuss:* When do you have or do not have confidence to speak of the Christian faith?

*Pray:* O God, our guide and teacher, strengthen our faith with patient endurance so that our lives may be comforted, and others may know the love of Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who do you know that you could talk to about the Christian faith?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



In Genesis 32:28 God changes Jacob's name to Israel which means, "*you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed.*" We don't often see our lives of faith as wrestling with God, yet that is exactly what God honors and expects from us. Question God in your prayers, asking, "Lord, how come . . . ?" Let this questioning of God's intent be an example of building a strong and trusting relationship with God.

*Pray:* God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, thank you for honoring our wrestling with you as faithful followers, through Christ our Lord, amen.



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OCTOBER 26, 2025  
REFORMATION SUNDAY



*Almighty God is our strength.*

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 8:31-36	Jesus sets us free
Monday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	A new covenant
Tuesday	Romans 3:19-28	Righteousness through faith
Wednesday	2 Corinthians 3:4-18	Ministers of the new covenant
Thursday	Romans 6:5-14	Dying and rising with Christ
Friday	Galatians 2:15-21	Saved by faith
Saturday	Psalms 46	God is our strength
Sunday	Luke 6:20-31	Blessed are you who weep

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*"Be still and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."* Psalm 46:10 (NRSV)

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Almighty God, thank you for being our security and strength; renew us with faith in Christ so that we may rest in peace and serve all people in love. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, you are our fortress, we thank you for this meal and for being our shelter and strength through faith in Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May Almighty God be your strength.



**OCTOBER 26, 2025**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*A Mighty Fortress Is  
Our God*



**WEEKLY MILESTONES**

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When is a time you or someone you know felt that life was in turmoil?
- How does a relationship with God strengthen us?

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* Psalm 46.

During the Reformation, Luther used this psalm for his famous hymn *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*. The Psalm and that hymn remind us that when church, society, and our lives are in turmoil, God is still our security and strength. Our lives are more fragile than we would often like to admit. A structurally sound home is flattened by a storm. A loved one dies suddenly. A pandemic turns our world upside down. One nation invades another nation and shatters global security. These are the kinds of issues at the heart of Psalm 46. When stability is gone, God is still present and working for good. When we feel anxiety during the storms of life, we can be assured as we hear, *"Be still and know that I am God"* (v. 10a). In the end, God alone stands triumphant and glorious. We live confident that we are secure in God's almighty presence through Christ Jesus our Lord.

*Discuss:* What challenges in your life help you find comfort through Psalm 46?

*Pray:* Almighty and merciful God, while storms and strife surround us, give us peace and confidence in your power and glory through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you reach out to someone who feels their life is in turmoil?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



Martin Luther wrote the Small Catechism for the head of the household to teach to the members of the household. There is a daily morning and evening blessing that includes making the physical sign of the cross. As a reminder of the Reformation, add this ritual to your mornings and evenings. As you make the sign of the cross on your chest or forehead, say: **God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit watch over me. Amen.** (Luther's Small Catechism)



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NOVEMBER 2, 2025  
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY



*Our faith gives us hope.*

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 6:20-31	Blessed are you who weep
Monday	Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18	Daniel's vision
Tuesday	Ephesians 1:11-23	Paul's prayer
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	Greetings to the saints at Corinth
Thursday	Psalms 130	Trusting the Lord
Friday	2 Corinthians 8:1-15	Encouragement to be generous
Saturday	Psalms 149	A new song of praise
Sunday	Luke 20:27-38	Jesus speaks of the resurrection

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh."* **Luke 6:21 (NRSV)**

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Almighty God, help us to recall with hope and love those who have died and for whom we grieve, that we may sing your praises through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtimes Prayer:**

Dear God, for the family and friends that have shared your love with us over the years and for this gift of food, we give you thanks through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God bless you with joy.



**NOVEMBER 2, 2025**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*For All the Saints*



# taking faith home

**WEEKLY MILESTONES**

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What brings you comfort when you are sad or grieving?
- How does faith in God comfort those who are sad or grieving?

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* Luke 6:20-31.

In this reading, Jesus says, *"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh."* (v.21) Jesus' promise that laughter will come to those who weep and grieve puts our lives into perspective. It can be hard to laugh when a loved one has died. And yet, even at funerals, we can share laughter while at the same time expressing deep grief. Telling personal stories of triumphs and human shortcomings and everything in between can remind us of our common humanity, our mortality, and our need for faith and hope. All Saints Sunday reminds us of our faith that gives us hope that our joy will be restored. It frees us to see opportunities in our lives not only to laugh but to love, to do good to others, even our enemies (v. 27). The final verse for the reading is the golden rule: *"Do to others as you would have them do to you"* (v. 31). Remembering loved ones in faith reminds us that our lives are meant for joy and laughter and love that will not end.

*Discuss:* What memory of a loved one who has died brings you laughter and joy?

*Pray:* Almighty God, you know our sense of loss and grief is real; let us hear again and again your promise of life everlasting that we may have laughter and joy through Christ Jesus. Amen.

**SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you care for someone who is sad or grieving?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



The first Sunday in November is All Saints Sunday, a day in the church year for remembering Christians who have entered God's heavenly kingdom. In observance of All Saints, research online or think about those you remember as famous Christians from the past. For example: Francis of Assisi, John Calvin, Martin Luther, and Mother Teresa. Say a prayer of thanks for their faith and service: **Holy God, we give you thanks for those who are called by the will of Christ to live for the praise of your glory. Amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)

**NOVEMBER 9, 2025  
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST**



*In Christ we know our redeemer lives.*

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 20:27-38</b>	<b>Jesus speaks of the resurrection</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Job 19:23-27a</b>	<b>I know my redeemer lives</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17</b>	<b>Be faithful</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>2 Corinthians 5:16-21</b>	<b>The temple of the living God</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 7:17-24</b>	<b>Obeying the Lord</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Romans 8:9-17</b>	<b>Life in the Spirit</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 17:1-9</b>	<b>Prayer of an innocent person</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 21:5-19</b>	<b>Suffering for Jesus' sake</b>

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth.* **Job 19:25 (NRSV)**

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Almighty God, we thank you for hearing our cry for help and giving us our Lord Jesus Christ who rescues us from the pain and suffering of this life. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, give us thankful hearts to receive this gift of food with gratitude and receive your mercy through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God comfort your heart and strengthen you. (2 Thessalonians 1:17)



**NOVEMBER 9, 2025**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*I Know That My  
Redeemer Lives!*



taking   
faith  
home

**WEEKLY MILESTONES**

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When is a time someone defended you when you were being treated unfairly?
- How can the God of justice and mercy help you during unfair experiences?

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* Job 19:23-27a.

This reading can be difficult to understand without some background information. The first two chapters of the book of Job describe Job as patient. For the rest of the book, Job enters a defiant stance claiming his innocence and wanting to argue his innocence before God. Job challenges the typical understandings of God that claim he must have done something wrong to suffer as he does. God acknowledges that Job is justified for challenging God, even if Job as a human being cannot grasp the ways of God. In the end he accepts this. The beauty of chapter 19 is Job's unwillingness to give up or give in to accusations of his guilt. Thank God for Job's willingness to challenge established wisdom about God. It is in that spirit that the church over the centuries has sung the words, "I know that my Redeemer lives" (v. 25). We see in Jesus the champion that Job longed for and the one who would take up Job's defense.

*Discuss:* When you experience suffering, what questions do you have about God?

*Pray:* God of justice and mercy, thank you for accepting our questions and doubts and giving us the confidence of the resurrection through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.

**SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone who is suffering?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



Jesus tells the Sadducees that life after death is different. Think or talk about this difference through the lens of a caterpillar when it changes into a butterfly. They are the same animal even though the stages of life are different. We do not know what life will be like after death. Jesus tells us it will be different, and we will be with God. Read this verse and then take a moment to think what the words mean to you: "Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive" (Luke 20:38).



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**NOVEMBER 16, 2025  
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST**



*Jesus promises to protect us in tough times.*

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 21:5-19</b>	<b>Suffering for Jesus' sake</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Malachi 4:1-2a</b>	<b>The day of judgment</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2 Thessalonians 3:6-13</b>	<b>Warning against idleness</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Deuteronomy 31:1-8</b>	<b>Joshua is appointed the leader</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Psalms 27</b>	<b>Trusting God</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>John 14:23-31</b>	<b>The Holy Spirit is promised</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 98</b>	<b>Make a joyful noise</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 23:33-43</b>	<b>Christ the crucified king</b>

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*And he [Jesus] said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them." Luke 21:8 (NRSV)*

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

God of the past, present, and future, help us to endure difficulties knowing that you promise to protect us now and always through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, for the fruit of the earth that feeds us and for your love that protects us we give you our thanks and praise through Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God give you peace.



**NOVEMBER 16, 2025**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*If You But Trust in  
God to Guide You*



# taking faith home

**WEEKLY MILESTONES**

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When was a time you were afraid? Explain.
- How can faith in Jesus get you through tough times?

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* Luke 21:5-19.

This reading in Luke uses apocalyptic language, meaning it has a focus on the end times and worldwide struggles. Jesus tells his followers not to guess when the end times will come. Disasters and tragedies have happened and continue to happen around the world. When such times come and people experience major crises in their lives, it is good to know that *“not a hair of your head will perish”* (v. 18). For those who witness to their faith during times of crisis, it is also helpful to know that Jesus will provide the words and the wisdom. While we may anticipate difficult times, we are not to be led astray and worship that which is not eternal, even a beautiful temple like the one in Jerusalem. We are not to speculate about when the end will come or to follow false saviors. Life can be scary and difficult. We need to hold on to Jesus and his promise to hold on to us to the end.

*Discuss:* What are some disasters or tragedies happening in today’s world? How can faith in Jesus help us endure such times?

*Pray:* Almighty God, when wars, earthquakes, and other scary things happen, help us to lean on you alone and trust your eternal care through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

**SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you support those who are facing a natural disaster?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



Psalm 98 calls on all the earth to make a joyful noise. Take a walk outside and look at God’s creation around you. When you return home, draw a picture or write a list of things you saw. Then make up your own tune to use as you sing these words: ***O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.***



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**NOVEMBER 23, 2025**  
**CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY**



*Give thanks for the reign of Christ.*

### **DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 23:33-43</b>	<b>Christ the crucified king</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Jeremiah 23:1-6</b>	<b>A message of hope</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Colossians 1:11-20</b>	<b>The supremacy of Christ</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Jeremiah 22:1-17</b>	<b>A call to repent</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Philippians 4:4-9</b>	<b>Pray with thanksgiving</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Revelation 21:1-8</b>	<b>The new heaven and new earth</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 46</b>	<b>God is our mighty fortress</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Matthew 24:36-44</b>	<b>The sudden coming of salvation</b>

### **SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. **Jeremiah 23:5 (NRSV)***

### **PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Lord Jesus, help us to give thanks for your reign and to forgive as we have been forgiven. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Lord of lords, and King of kings, with a voice of thanks we gladly sing. Give us now our daily bread, gratefully received in heart and head. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God bless you with compassion.



**NOVEMBER 23, 2025**

**HYMN OF THE WEEK**

*Jesus, Remember Me*



# taking faith home

**WEEKLY MILESTONES**

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Would you rather be a shepherd or a king? Explain.
- How would you describe the reign of Christ the King?

**DEVOTIONS**



*Read:* Jeremiah 22:3-17 and 23:1-6.

In the Old Testament, kings were referred to as shepherds because of their task to care for the sheep, the people. To understand how the kings (the shepherds) had failed God's task for them, it is helpful to read Jeremiah 22:3-17. The kings had not protected those most prone to abuse in society, that is, foreigners, widows, and orphans. The kings had gained extreme wealth by underpaying the poor and they had blood on their hands for not showing compassion for the needy and the poor. The reading from Jeremiah 23:1-6 announces God's rule on earth. On Christ the King Sunday, we are reminded that Jesus is the "righteous Branch" raised up by God to rule all the earth wisely and to "execute justice and righteousness in the land" (23:5). Jesus' reign is seen from the cross where injustice, pain, and death are overcome by God's eternal reign of justice, mercy, and life forevermore.

*Discuss:* What is the difference between an earthly king and Christ the King?

*Pray:* Almighty God, you who expect care for widows and orphans, give us courage and faith to trust in your heavenly powers and serve others through Christ, our Lord and King. Amen.

**SERVICE**



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you support someone who is struggling?

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**



Christ the King Sunday is the last Sunday in the church year. Advent, the next Sunday, is the beginning of the new church year. Think about or make a list of how you were involved in the congregation's ministries in the last year. What were some highlights? How did you grow in your faith? Who did you get to know better? Think or talk about how you might be involved in the coming church year.

*Pray:* Dear God, we ask that you work in and through our faith community as together we continue to grow in our faith. Through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.



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