



*“And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says ..And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them.*

*~Luke 18:6~8*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – October 16, 2022**

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Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister

Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

*We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning!  
Know that you are welcome here just as you are*

*If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time visiting us, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.*

*Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an \* and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**.*

*All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.*

*During the time of Peace, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace.*

*We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.*

*At the time of Offering, you are invited to share a gift as you are comfortable. You may also place any prayer requests for the pastor in the offering plates.*

*As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of the people.*

## **PRELUDE**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*GATHERING SONG *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly* (ELW 461)**



1 All who hun - ger, gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.  
2 All who hun - ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.  
3 All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

**\*CONFESSION**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who is eager to forgive  
and who loves us beyond our days.

**Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge  
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy and forgiveness,  
**we confess that sin still has a hold on us.**  
**We have harmed your good creation.**  
**We have failed to do justice,**  
**love kindness,**  
**and walk humbly with you.**  
**Turn us in a new direction.**  
**Show us the path that leads to life.**  
**Be our refuge and strength on the journey,**  
**through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.**  
**Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Beloved of God:

your sins are forgiven † and you have been made whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ,  
who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God's abiding love  
through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## \*KYRIE

*Refrain*



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the  
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for  
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for  
hun - gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam - i - ly; for  
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
we may live out . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



*Refrain*

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

# \*THIS IS THE FEAST

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

*Refrain*



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## FIRST READING: Genesis 32:22-31

A reading from the book of Genesis.

<sup>22</sup>The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup>He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup>Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup>When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup>Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup>So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup>Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup>Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup>So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." <sup>31</sup>The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 121



My help comes from the LORD, the mak- er of heav- en and earth.

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes | to the hills;

from where is my | help to come?

<sup>2</sup>**My help comes | from the LORD,  
the maker of heav- | en and earth.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD will not let your | foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, the keep- | er of Israel  
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep; R**

<sup>5</sup>the LORD watches | over you;  
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;

<sup>6</sup>**the sun will not strike | you by day,  
nor the | moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD will preserve you | from all evil  
and will | keep your life.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,  
from this time forth for- | evermore. R**

## **SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3:14--4:5**

A reading from the book of 2 Timothy.

<sup>14</sup>But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup>and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup>All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

<sup>4:1</sup>In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: <sup>2</sup>proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup>For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, <sup>4</sup>and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup>As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## \*GOSPEL READING: Luke 18:1-8

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup>He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup>In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ <sup>4</sup>For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’” <sup>6</sup>And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup>And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

### SERMON

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** *If You But Trust in God to Guide You (ELW 769)*



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle  
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less  
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and  
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -  
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's  
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -  
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in  
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who  
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has  
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.  
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.  
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.  
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

## **\*APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**



## **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God's creation.  
*A brief silence.*

For all your children, that they be filled with compassion and grace and equipped to share your good news. Grant your followers persistence in proclamation and prayer. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

For your creation, that balance may be restored where it is needed. Renew and restore the polluted atmosphere and empower us to be worthy stewards of creation. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

For judges, juries, and all who work in the judicial system, that they desire wisdom, seek truth, rule with fairness, and have the courage to do what is right. Eliminate oppression and injustice in our criminal justice system. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

For all who are lonely, especially those who have newly arrived in an unfamiliar city or country, political prisoners without recourse to justice, hospital patients without visitors, and any who are ill or grief-stricken especially Jeff, Bob, Katie, Marcia, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Chuck, Henry, Harry, Roy, Pastor Storm, Ellen, Ruth, Sally, Abigail, those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

For those in our community engaged in advocacy work, that with the persistence of the widow, they lift their voices in seeking justice on behalf of others. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

For those who have taught us faith and now rest in your heavenly peace, that we remember and give thanks for these saints who shared the gospel through word and deed. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, we lift up the prayers on the hearts of this congregation this day (*received prayer cards are read*). With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**Amen.**

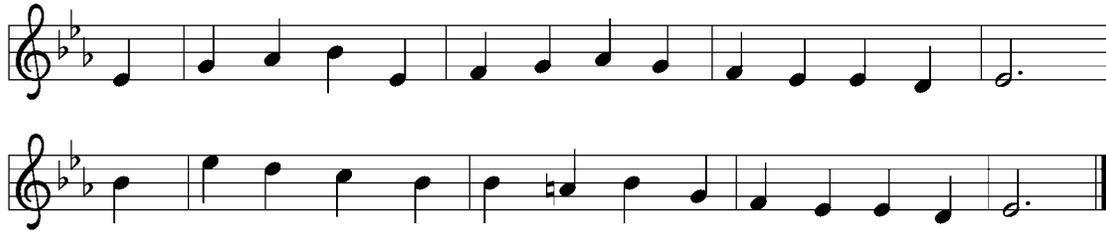
## **\*SHARING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY HYMN *How Long, Oh God* (ELW 698 to the tune of DUNDEE)**

*\*Rise on 4th verse*



- 1 "How long, O God?" the psalmist cries,  
a cry we make our own,  
for we are lost, alone, afraid,  
and far away from home.
- 2 The evil lurks within, without,  
it threatens to destroy  
the fragile cords that make us one,  
that bind our hearts in joy.
- 3 Your grace, O God, seems far away;  
will healing ever come?  
Our broken lives lie broken still;  
will night give way to dawn?
- 4 How can we hope? How can we sing?  
O God, set free our voice  
to name the sorrows, name the pain,  
that we might yet rejoice.
- 5 "How long, O God?" the psalmist cries,  
a cry we make our own.  
Though we are lost, alone, afraid,  
our God will lead us home.

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious God,  
in your great love you richly provide for our needs.  
Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing,  
and make us ready to share with all in need;  
through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

**Amen**

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

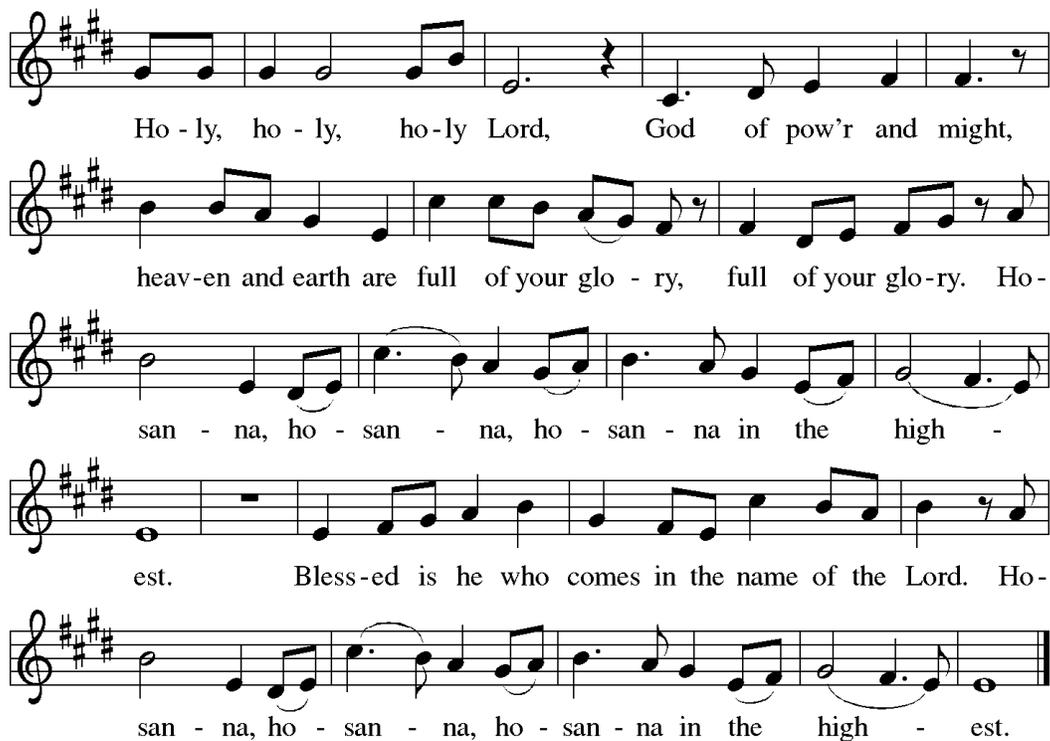
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through the great shepherd of your flock, our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles  
to preach the gospel and teach all nations,  
and promised to be with them, even to the end of the age.  
And so, with the glorious company of the apostles,  
with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final double bar line.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.  
The universe declares your praise:  
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;  
within each cell; with every breath.  
**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness:  
through the water; by night and day;  
across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.  
**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:  
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;  
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.  
**We thank you, O God.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat;  
this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,  
he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup  
is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people  
for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us  
on the way, at the table, and to the end,  
we pray for the gift of your Spirit:  
in our gathering; within this meal;  
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,  
through Christ Jesus,  
by your Spirit,  
in your church,  
without end.  
**Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray.

**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**

### **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come for all is now ready.

*Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

*Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available upon request. Communion may also be brought back to the pews for those who are unable to come forward.*

### **COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God***

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

## COMMUNION HYMN *Day by Day* (ELW 790)



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort  
2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and  
3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you send me  
wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me  
grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all  
o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil  
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter



mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior,  
of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior,  
what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior,



lead me to the home I trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.  
help me bear life's pain and sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.  
with your pres - ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

### **\*BLESSING OF COMMUNION OUTREACH**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist us in this ministry on which we are sent forth. Bless those who carry your heavenly food to those unable to be with us this day. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this sacrament, that through the body and blood of your Son we all may know the comfort of your abiding presence.

**Amen.**

### **\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

God, who gives life to all things  
and frees us from despair,  
bless you with truth and peace.

And may the holy Trinity, † one God,  
guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG *Jesus, Still Lead On* (ELW 624)**



1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al - though the  
2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less  
3 When we seek re - lief from a long - felt grief, when temp - ta - tions  
4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n - ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;  
fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;  
come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;  
still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.  
safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.  
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.  
till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

**\*DISMISSAL**

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” *1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**The flowers on the altar today are from Kim and Reed Richards in honor of October birthdays and anniversaries.**

**Assisting in worship today:**

**Assisting Minister: Dave Knauff**

**Acolyte: Emma Niklewicz**

**Ushers: Niklewicz Family**

**Offering: Luca Knauff & Eva Knauff**

**10/23 – Olivia Claus & Nick Claus**

**Attendance last week: 49 + 6 zoom**

*Notes for the day's texts:*

Luke's audience, in the late 80s, may have been losing heart, waiting both for the parousia ("when the Son of Man comes") and for answer to prayer. A parable is not intended to be an allegory, with numerous one-to-one correspondences: the persistence of the widow, rather than the unjust judge, is Luke's primary point. Throughout the Scriptures, a widow represents those who are needy and powerless. The presence of Christ in the community suggests that God is not delaying. The final line (v. 8b) seems an add-on that widens the focus from the believers to the entire earth. Son of Man is title designating Christ as the world's judge at the end of time.

**Today's Music**

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly.* Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993, Music: W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825; arr. hymnal version. GIA Publications, Inc.

*If You But Trust in God to Guide You.* Text: Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; tr. Composite, Music: Georg Neumark. Augsburg Fortress.

*How Long, O God.* Text: Ralph F. Smith, 1950-1994, Music: *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615. Public Domain.

*Day by Day.* Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936-2005, Music: Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813-1882. Augsburg Fortress.

*Jesus, Still Lead On.* Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700-1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897, alt., Music: Adam Drese, 1620-1701. Public Domain.

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