

Pentecost 20

October 23, 2022

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 25 (Year C)

One of the greatest human sins that causes us spiritual trouble is pride. Pride makes us obstinate and haughty, and keeps us from following Christ. There are times when we are humbled so that we might learn to let Jesus be our guide. When we fail to put God first, sin creeps in and seeks to control us as it did Cain. Holding fast to God's Word creates a constant reminder to seek His will and not our own.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Lesson: Genesis 4:1-15

Cain and Abel's Offerings

The sons of Adam and Eve grew up to be working men, one a farmer and one a shepherd. When it was time to give an offering to the Lord, one gift was accepted and one God had "no regard" for. In jealousy, Cain — the farmer — killed his brother, Abel — the shepherd. Sin had gotten the best of the elder son.

Psalm 5

Lead Me in Righteousness

The psalmist lamented those who were scheming against him. These same ones rebelled against the Lord, so the psalmist pleaded that they would be found guilty. The singer then confessed his trust in the Lord who shelters him.

Second Lesson: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Paul's Lament

In Paul's final words to Timothy, he lamented that at first no one came to his side — no one but the Lord. He spoke of his impending departure (death) but looked forward to the coming Day of the Lord. He fought the good fight, he finished the race, he kept the faith, and now he awaited eternity in God's heavenly kingdom.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 18:9-17

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Jesus shared a parable about two men, one humble and one arrogant and self-assured. The religious man thanked God that he had lived a righteous life according to the law and for not letting him be like *that* sinful tax collector. The sinner, the one who collected taxes, repented and begged for the Lord's mercy and forgiveness. The Lord knows the true hearts of all people — the humble and the haughty.

Suggestions for the Sunday:

- * The liturgical color is green.
- * The Kyrie OR the Hymn of Praise may be used during Ordinary Time.
- * Use the Apostles' Creed.
- * Paul anticipated his death as he wrote to Timothy. He knew he did all he could to further the Gospel message in the world. As others had deserted him, Paul yearned to see his son in the faith once more — perhaps to give him some last words face to face. What if we knew we only had a bit of time left on earth? What would we say to our loved ones? What lessons would we want to make sure they had learned? Encourage folks to think about these things so they can pass on what is important to them.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:

	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Lord Jesus, Think on Me	309	---	610	599	178	***
Savior, When in Dust to You	91	---	419	601	134	---
Your Heart, O God, Is Grieved	96	---	945	602	---	---
Before You, Lord, We Bow	401	---	966	893	---	---
Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus	389	---	660	---	78	---
Just As I Am	296	---	570	592	193	***
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven	549	---	793	865	---	---
Be Thou My Vision	---	776	---	793	230	---
Jesus Loves Me!	---	---	588	595	258	---

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW= Lutheran Book of Worship, WOVS= With One Voice, ELW= Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB= The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC= The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at "Hymns and Music."

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles

I Am
(CCLI# 7011538)
Always
(CCLI#5881037)
My Heart is Yours
(CCLI#7017788)
Great is the Lord
(CCLI#1149)
Make Me a Servant
(CCLI#33131)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.