

## Historic Scripture Lessons for the 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

**OLD TESTAMENT Deuteronomy 10:12-21 NIV** And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, 13 and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good? 14 To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest Heavens, the earth and everything in it. 15 Yet the LORD set His affection on your forefathers and loved them, and He chose you, their descendants, above all the nations, as it is today. 16 Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer. 17 For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. 18 He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the alien, giving him food and clothing. 19 And you are to love those who are aliens, for you yourselves were aliens in Egypt. 20 Fear the LORD your God and serve Him. Hold fast to Him and take your oaths in His Name. 21 He is your Praise; He is your God, Who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes.

**EPISTLE I Corinthians 1:4-9** I always thank God for you because of His grace given you in Christ Jesus. 5 For in Him you have been enriched in every way – in all your speaking and in all your knowledge – 6 because our testimony about Christ was confirmed in you. 7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our LORD Jesus Christ to be revealed. 8 He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our LORD Jesus Christ. 9 God, Who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our LORD, is faithful.

### Historic Gospel

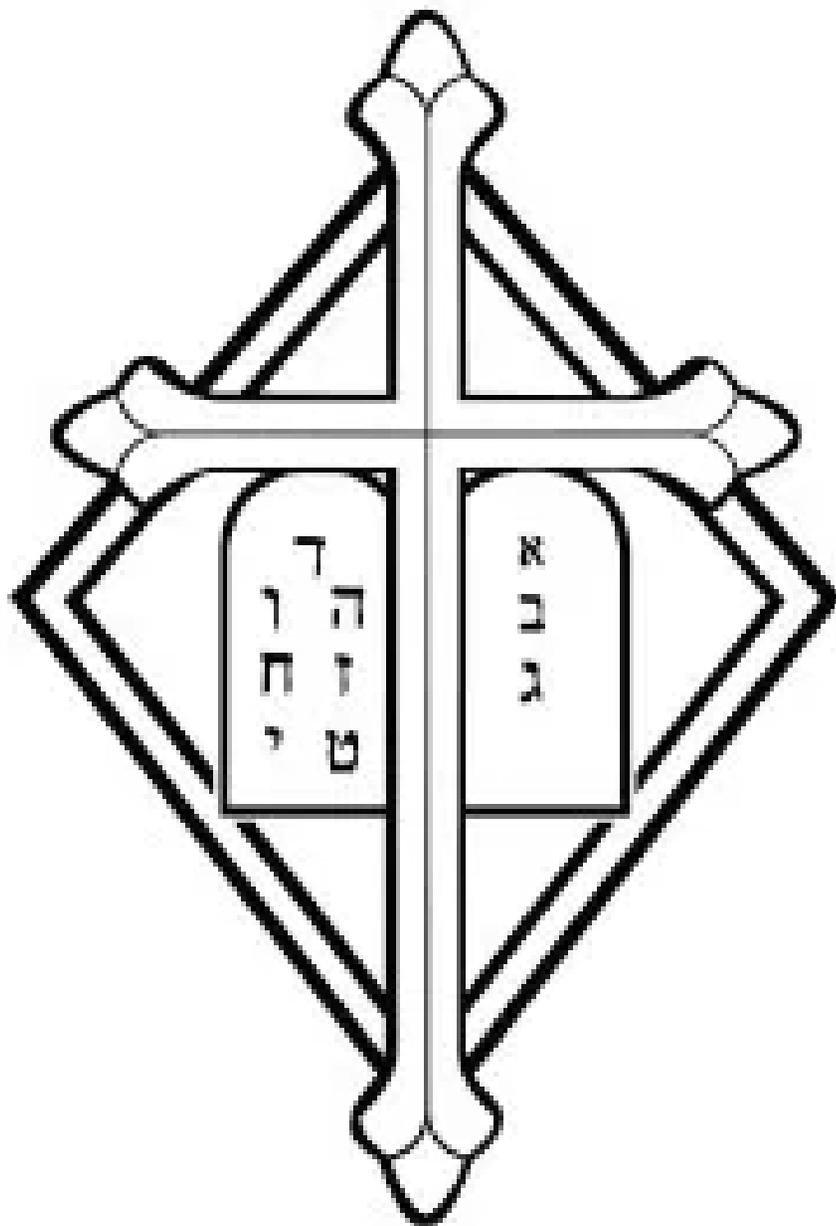
**Matthew 22:34-46** Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. 35 One of them, an expert in the law, tested Him with this question: 36 "Teacher, which is the greatest Commandment

in the Law?" 37 Jesus replied: "'Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest Commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two Commandments." 41 While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, 42 "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" "The son of David," they replied. 43 He said to them, "How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls Him 'LORD'? For he says, 44 "'The LORD said to my LORD: "Sit at My Right Hand until I put your enemies under your feet.'" 45 If then David calls Him 'LORD,' how can He be his Son?" 46 No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask Him any more questions.

### 3-Yr Gospel (Sermon Text)

**Mark 9:38-50** "Teacher," said John, "We saw a man driving out demons in Your Name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us." 39 "Do not stop him," Jesus said. "No one who does a miracle in My Name can in the next moment say anything bad about Me, 40 for whoever is not against us is for us. 41 I tell you the truth, anyone who gives you a cup of water in My Name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his reward. 42 "And if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around his neck. 43 If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. 44 45 And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. 46 47 And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the Kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, 48 where "their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched." 49 Everyone will be salted with fire. 50 "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other."

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL  ELS  
18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity ✘ L/G: Law & Gospel



# OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: [www.OSLLakeland.org](http://www.OSLLakeland.org)

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

✘ Rev. Andrew R. Burmeister 863-430-5859 ✘ Organ: A.R. Burmeister

## September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 ✘ Trinity-18 Law & Gospel

**TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER:** If you are new to the area or our worship and have never communed with us before, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you are not currently a member of an ELS or WELS congregation, we ask that you please **wait to take Communion until you can speak with our pastor.** Out of Christian love and consideration to you the guest, we want you to have the opportunity to learn what our church teaches about the Bible and Sacraments before you unite with us in taking Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding. LORD's blessings to you.

**OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP** On silver liturgy sheets and in (red) Hymnal p.15 .

Suggested Hymn	TLH# (vv)	...First Line
Opening Hymn	262 (4v)	Ein Feste Burg - A Mighty Fortress
Psalm 91	Ps.91 '3v'	Be With Me LORD When I Am in Trouble ↗
Hymn of the Day	297 (6v)	The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace
Offertory Verse	283 (1v)	God's Word Is Our Great Heritage ↗
Distribution Hymn	373 (7v)	By Grace I Saved, Grace Free&Boundless
Closing Hymn	288 (4v)	LORD, Help Us Ever to Retain

### Suggested Bible readings for weekdays after the 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ezra 4:1-24	Haggai 1:1-15	Ezra 5:1-17	Ezra 6:1-22	Ezra 7:1-28	Ezra 8:31-9:15
James3:1-18	James 4:1-5:6	James5:12-20	1 Peter3:1-7	1 Peter 3:15-22	1 Peter 5:1-5

### PROPERs for EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY after TRINITY ✘ ✘ ✘ SEPTEMBER 30

**INTROIT** Reward them who wait for You, O LORD, and let Your prophets be found faithful. Hear the prayer of Your servants and of Your people Israel. I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the House of the LORD."

...from Ecclesiastes & Psalm 122

**COLLECT** O LORD, because without You we are not able to please You: Mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our LORD, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. C: ♪ A - - men.

**GRADUAL C:** I was glad when they said to me, Let us go into the house of the LORD. Peace be within Your walls, and prosperity within Your palaces. Alleluia! Alleluia! Oh, praise the LORD, all you nations! Praise Him, all you people. Alleluia!

...from Psalm 122

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS (printed on the outside back page of bulletin)

O.T. **Deuteronomy 10:12-21** Love & Serve the LORD to Whom we belong.  
Epi. **I Corinthians 1:4-9** God will keep you strong to the End.  
Gos. **Matthew 22:34-46** (Law&Gospel)The Law requires a loving heart.

**SERMON** Text: Mark 9:38-50 **THEME: "A THREE 3-DOCTRINE DINNER..."**

**Psalm 91 REFRAIN: BE WITH ME LORD, WHEN I AM IN TROUBLE; BE WITH ME LORD, I PRAY**

**Refrain C:** ♪ Be with me LORD, when I am in trouble; Be with me LORD, I pray.

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the LORD Most High, Who abide in the shadow of our God. Say to the LORD: "My Refuge and Fortress, the God in whom I trust."

**Refrain C:** ♪ Be with me LORD, when I am in trouble; Be with me LORD, I pray.

2. No evil shall befall you, no pain come near, For His angels stand close by your side. Guarding you always and bearing you gently, Watching over your life.

**Refrain C:** ♪ Be with me LORD, when I am in trouble; Be with me LORD, I pray.

3. Those who cling to the LORD live secure in His love, Lifted high those who trust in His Name. Call on the LORD, He will never forsake you, He will bring you salvation and joy. C: ♪ BE WITH ME LORD, WHEN I AM IN TROUBLE; BE WITH ME LORD, I PRAY.

**#283 1. God's Word is our Great Heritage - And shall be ours forever; To spread Its Light from age to age - Shall be our chief endeavor. Through life It guides our way, - In death It is our Stay. LORD, grant, while worlds endure, - We keep Its teachings pure. Throughout all gen-er-a-tions. A--men.**

PRAYER REQUESTS:	(Member or Relation)	Pray for...
Jim&Elma Hendricks	(moved to SC)Jim's kidneys (almost at end). Elma stress	
Dee Kurczewski	(David) Dee - falls. Rehabbing. David back working	
Carolyn Miner	(Don) Carolyn had brain bleed stroke. Hope home recovering	
Jon & Andrea Sawyer	Jon's heart, resuming work. Andrea started new work	
Ethel Wendt	(Steve) PTL Ethel had (major) surgery. Recovering well at home	
Barb Wolkens	Barb seriously stiff neck. Doctors don't know cause yet	
James Vanesky & Delores Platt	Both at home rehabbing. We miss them	

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	Barb Wolkens	Ethel & Steve Wendt
Treaters	Bev Foster & Joe Thacker	Bev Foster & Joe Thacker

Statistics	Last week	Year To Date / Avg.
Sunday, Attendance (Communion)	20 / (-)	20 / 17
Bible Class Attendance: Sunday	10	10
Sunday Offering (Needed) & YTD	\$. (\$1,350)	YTD \$, (\$52,6)

Calendar of Events		
Today, Sep. 30 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 am	Bible Study Themes/Keys: Reconciliation
Trinity-18 Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (WITH Communion)
L/G: Law & Gospel	10:45 ff...	"FFF" = Food, Fun & Fellowship ...Stay!
Monday - Saturday	..all week..	Pastor away at GPC - Pastor Conference
Next Sunday, 10/7	8:30 am	Bible Study NT Themes/Keys: Redemption
Trinity-19 Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (WITH Communion)
C&A: Confess/Absolve	10:45 ff...	"FFF" = Food, Fun & Fellowship ...Stay!

**Elders: Tom Temple 213-4622; John Weber 853-5458; Don Wienke 815-8892.**

### September 30 ELS 100 Years ✘ Proclaim the Wonders God Has Done: 1918-2018



The president of Bethany Lutheran College also served as the president of Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary until 1976. At that time, the first full-time president was installed for the seminary. In the following years, two separate and newly erected buildings (one in 1978; the other in 1997) have housed the seminary. Current address: 6 Browns Court Mankato, MN 56001.

Next Sunday 10/7 Trinity-19.B C&A (p.15 L.S.) Hymns: 330 Blest 625 584 324 45

**TRINITY-16(P17B) Mark 8:27-35 “3-COURSE DOCTRINE DINNER” 09.16.18 OSL**

**3-SOMETHINGS**

This morning's Gospel text presents us with a kind of **musical piece in three movements or a play in three acts. Or maybe think of an appetizer, the main course, and some seasoning.** That's it! Appetizer, main course, and seasoning. They are three different sayings that just happen to be together in **Mark.** (not in Matthew or Luke.)

**1. APPETIZER**

**First the appetizer.** *“Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in Your Name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.”* You ever notice how we are always trying to **“organize God”**? We have to have everything all nice, neat, and tidy, packed away in boxes with labels on them, and God just seems to go and dump things out on the floor and messes around with everything. Yes, God is **a God of order**, and He brings creative order out of the chaos. But God also sometimes seems to have a tendency toward **“improv theatre”** when we would prefer a tight script with stage directions.

**ELITE-12 (OR, DIRTY DOZEN?)** The disciples **thought** they have Jesus quite figured out and put away into a safe little box. And they thought they had their own job security worked out as well. They are the chosen few, the elect ones, the inner circle of the Twelve who have been given the authority to preach the Kingdom and cast out demons. Sure, they had a minor setback with a stubborn demon that wouldn't yield to them, but still, they were the Twelve, Jesus' **hand-picked cabinet** in a very exclusive club.

**(NOT IN) OUR GANG** So it came as a bit of a surprise, if not a downright shock, when John and the boys ran across some sort of “rogue exorcist.” A freelancer, not of the Twelve, who, of all things, was casting out demons in the Name of Jesus. And, at (the same) time when the Twelve had failed to drive out a stubborn demon. This looks bad. *“How dare he do that? He wasn't one of us. He wasn't following us. Who does this guy think he is, anyway?”* **Well, we put a stop to that. Told him right there, “You're not part of our gang, you don't cast out demons in the name of our man.”** I'm sure that thought Jesus would approve, ...**but He didn't.**

**FOR / AGIN**

Instead, Jesus says something very strange. *“Whoever is not against us is for us.”* That's right. Whoever is not against us is for us. We usually say it the opposite way, **the exclusive way:** Whoever is not for us is against us. That's how we define an ally and a friend. But Jesus turns it around and stands it on its head. Whoever is not against us is for us. You see, the only way out of Jesus' kingdom is to oppose it, resist it, reject it. But the claims of the kingdom and its power over the darkness go far beyond the scope and range of the Twelve. Jesus is much bigger a Savior than even they can imagine.

**LUTH. REFORMATION GENIUS** And He's much bigger a Savior than we often credit Him as well. One of the **great geniuses of the Lutheran Reformation** was that it didn't create a new church. There was no such thing

as a Lutheran Church, simply Lutheran churches. Churches that taught the same thing about how a sinner stands justified before God, declared righteous, innocent and blameless of the sake of Jesus Christ alone. But they didn't form a new church. They simply reformed the churches. And they were able to **see the church in any gathering in which the Gospel was preached and Baptism and the Lords' Supper for going on.** In other words, we allowed for the “unknown exorcist” the one who proclaim the Kingdom even though he isn't “one of us.”

**LUTHERANS vs. CHRISTIANS**

But it isn't always that way. We sometimes think if they aren't Lutheran they aren't Christian. And Jesus would remind us of the same: ***if they aren't against us they are for us.*** And there's the key to understanding the Kingdom of Heaven that Jesus is bringing by His dying and rising. It is both exclusive and inclusive. It embraces the world inclusively, yet it is exclusively Jesus Who does. The world has no other Savior, nor does it need one.

**GOD'S AGENTS**

It also reminds us that **we have no exclusive claims on Jesus**, even though **He has an exclusive claim on us.** That means we don't assume that God hasn't arrived on the scene until we have. It means we're more inclined to listen to what God has done before we got there. He has His agents scattered all over the place, the unknown exorcist who is casting out demons in the Name of Jesus, the nurse who prays with her patients, the trucker who tells others on the road the Good News of Salvation in Jesus. When you listen to the stories of the Kingdom, you begin to marvel at how resourceful and “outside the box” God can really be.

**2. MAIN COURSE**

**That brings us to the main course, namely, Jesus's dire threat** against anyone who would cause a little one of faith to stumble. And here we need a **quick vocabulary lesson.** I don't think “cause to sin” is the best way of translating (GK: *σκανδαλιζω*) “scandalizo.” I think “cause to **stumble**” is better. A **scandalon is a stumbling point, a rock you trip over**, something in your path that causes you to fall. Jesus isn't thinking about sin here but **obstacles to faith.** The little ones of faith *“who believe in Me.”* Don't you dare get between one of those and Jesus. Don't be the cause a little one of faith to stumble in his childlike trust. Don't create doubt where there is none or you'll wish you had a millstone hung around your neck and you were tossed into the sea. That's how seriously Jesus takes His little ones who believe in Him.

**BLIND FAITH**

You see, if you hear it in terms of faith and not in terms of sin, then what Jesus says next makes perfectly good sense. If your eye causes you to stumble in your faith, pluck it out and toss it away. It is better to be blind and to trust your ears rather than your eyes. **Faith comes by hearing.** Faith is blind. You need to close your eyes and “look with your ears.” Hear the Word that reveals much more than the eye can see. That's what faith is about – trusting the Word over and against what you see.

**TALKING FAITH, NOT SIN** If Jesus were talking about sin, then the whole thing would be ridiculous. If your eye causes you to sin, then pluck it out. Fine and dandy. What about the other eye? What about your imagination? What about the corrupt and sinful heart from which all sin proceeds? Plucking your eye out won't do a thing for your sin except to make you a one-eyed sinner. Same applies for hand/s and feet.

**RADICAL (KINGDOM)** This isn't Jesus preaching morality and ethics. This is **Jesus preaching The Kingdom**, a radical kingdom that justifies the ungodly and declares sinners to be righteous in a righteousness not their own. And the religious world would throw a big speed bump in front of you and say, "Wait a minute, you've gotta do something to be saved." And that, my friends, is what Jesus is talking about. You see salvation by grace alone through faith alone for Jesus' sake alone is a scandal, a stumbling block, to the religious world, because all religions, save one, are in the business of doing things to get right with God. And it's all that religious doing and religious seeing that'll land it you straight in an unquenchable fire and undying worm of a hell that is entirely unnecessary because Jesus has died for it all on a Cross.

**COMFORT (FOOD)** This is a dire warning on the one hand, yes. But it is also a great comfort. This is how seriously Jesus takes your faith in Him. He threatens anyone who would get between you and Him, who would cause you to doubt your salvation or stumble in your faith. In the same way James speaks this morning of the noble work of restoring someone who has stumbled and wandered from the truth. You are literally saving his soul and covering a multitude of his sins

**3. SEASONING** Finally that brings us to the **seasoning sprinkled over this whole dish**. Salt. Sacrifices were sprinkled with salt before they were offered. Salty disciples are disciples who have been liberally sprinkled with the salt of Jesus' resurrection, baptized into it, preached it, fed it. No matter where you turn, whether to Baptism, to the Word, to the Supper, it's about Jesus' sacrifice and you being salted with it. And when a disciple or a church loses it's saltiness, when it gets off the bead of Jesus' death and resurrection, it is not worth much of anything except to be scattered on the road and be trampled under foot.

**SPICE IT UP** This bland world is in dire need of seasoning, and you are it, dear baptized believers. Sprinkled as salt upon the earth, seasoning the world with Jesus' death and Resurrection. "Have salt in yourselves." Be salted with the sacrifice of Christ. Have His death and life have their way with you, and you will have peace with God and with one another. For it is by that one Death on a Good Friday and that one Resurrection on a Sunday that we are at peace with God and are able to be at peace with one another. **IJ'N, Amen. sdc**

## **Possible Prayer of the Church 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

*Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. (Possible) Brief silence*

Lord God, Heavenly Father, You have given Your beloved Son the tongue of those who are taught, that He may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Prosper in every place the preaching of His Word. By Your Spirit, enable Your pastors to proclaim it with clarity and joy, and by the same Spirit open the ears of Your children to believe it with gladness and be transformed by it. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our **Pastor Burmeister & (all) ELS pastors** as they meet this week **at GPC**. Holy One, raise up new servants of Your Church who will dedicate their lives to the spread of Your Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Remember in kindness this **Our Savior** congregation. Set our tongues free to bless You as our Lord and Father, and by Your Spirit free us from all cursing and complaining. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, in Your glory You teach us in Your Word to pray for all who are in authority, that we may lead lives of peace and godliness. Into Your hands, we commend all who have been entrusted with offices of public trust in our land. Grant to them all a share in Your wisdom, that they may serve with integrity and honor. Free our public discourse from the distraction of personal attacks, and help us all to use our tongues to explain our neighbor's actions in the kindest way. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal Father, Your Son healed many who suffered from frail and diseased bodies in His ministry, showing Your great compassion for us in our misery and pointing us toward the final healing that awaits His glorious return. Into His hands this day we commend all who are in need: the sick, the homebound, the lonely, the grieving, the discouraged, the anxious and the depressed. *[We especially put into Your hands all we have been asked to remember at this altar. **OSL Prayer List**]*

<b>PRAYER REQUESTS:</b>	<b>(Member or Relation)</b>	<b>Pray for...</b>
<b>Jim &amp; Elma Hendricks</b>	(moved SC)	Jim's kidneys (almost at end). Elma stress
<b>Dee Kurczewski</b>	(David)	Dee - falls. Rehabbing. David back working
<b>Carolyn Miner</b>	(Don)	Carolyn had a brain bleed stroke. In hospital recovering
<b>Jon &amp; Andrea Sawyer</b>		Jon's heart, resuming work. Andrea started new work
<b>Ethel Wendt</b>	(Steve)	PTL Ethel had (major) surgery. Recovering well at home
<b>Barb Wolkens</b>		Barb seriously stiff neck. Doctors don't know cause yet
<b>James Vanesky &amp; Delores Platt</b>		Both at home rehabbing. We miss them

Shower each one with Your compassion, and sustain their faith as they await Your will. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving One, in the Sacrament of the Altar we know Your Son, who vindicates us, is near. He comes to give us in His body and blood His saving righteousness, the forgiveness of all our sins. Give to all who come to His table today repentance and faith to welcome Him with joy, praying: Lord, I believe; help my unbelief. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Source of all, Life of all, receive our praise for those who have died trusting in Jesus Christ. Give us our portion with the saints in light, and bring us all to the day of resurrection joy. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen. Then, Lord's Supper, p.24**