

## Historic Scripture Lessons for the 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

### Old Testament

**Genesis 28:10-17** NIV Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran. 11 When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. 12 He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 13 There above it stood the LORD, and He said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. 14 Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your Offspring. 15 I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." 16 When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." 17 He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of Heaven."

### Epistle

**Ephesians 4:22-28** You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. 25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. 26 "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold. 28 He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

### Historic Gospel

**Matthew 9:1-8** Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to His own town. 2 Some men brought to

him a paralytic, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven." 3 At this, some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, "This Fellow is blaspheming!" 4 Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, "Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts? 5 Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? 6 But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins...." Then He said to the paralytic, "Get up, take your mat and go home." 7 And the man got up and went home. 8 When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such authority to men.

### 3-Yr Gospel (Sermon Text)

**Mark 10:2-16** Some Pharisees came and tested Him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" 3 "What did Moses command you?" He replied. 4 They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away." 5 "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied. 6 "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' 7 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, 8 and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one. 9 Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." 10 When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. 11 He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. 12 And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery." 13 People were bringing little children to Jesus to have Him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. 14 When Jesus saw this, He was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 15 I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the Kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." 16 And He took the children in His arms, put His hands on them and blessed them."

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL  ELS  
19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity  *Confession & Absolution*



# 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

## October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Trinity-19 Confession & Absolution

**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	330 (5v)	I Come to Thee, O Blessed LORD
Psalm "Beatitudes"	Blest '5v'	Blest Are They, The Poor In Spirit ... ↗
Hymn of the Day	625 (6v)	Oh, Blest the Home Whate'er Befall
Offertory Verse	584 (2v)	<b>Sing 1,2</b> Swell the Anthem, Raise the Song
Distribution Hymn	324 (8v)	Jesus, Sinners Doth Receive
Closing Hymn	45 (3v)	Now the Hour of Worship('s) O'er

### Suggested Bible readings for weekdays after the 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nehemiah 1:1-11	Neh. 2:1-20	Nehem. 4:1-23	Nehe. 8:1-18	Nehemiah 9:1-38	Zech. 8:1-23
I John 1:1-10	I John 2:1-17	I John 5:1-3	I John 5:10-21	II (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) John	III (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) John

### PROPERs for the NINETEENTH SUNDAY after TRINITY ✧ OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup>

**INTROIT** Say to my soul, "I am your Salvation." The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears. He delivers them out of their troubles. Give ear, O My people, to My law; Incline your ears to the words of My mouth. ...from Psalm 138

**COLLECT** O almighty and most merciful God, of Your bountiful goodness keep us, we beseech You, from all things that may hurt us, that we, being ready, in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that You would have us do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our LORD, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen

**GRADUAL C: Let my prayer be set before You as incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Alleluia! Alleluia! Oh, sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things. Alleluia!** ...from Psalm 103

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

O.T. **Genesis 28:10-17** Jacob dreams of a ladder reaching to heaven.

Epi. **Ephesians 4:22-28** Put on the new man of Christian Renewal.

Gos. **Matthew 9:1-8** Jesus forgives & heals the paralyzed man.

**SERMON** Text: Mark 10:2-16 **THEME: "(TRYING TO) TRAP JESUS RE: DIVORCE"**

Next Sun. 10/14 Trinity-20.B C&A (p. 5 No L.S.) 451 Blest 347 347.6 438 338

♪ Here are words to our "Beatitudes" **Matthew 5** ✧ Please sing along! ♪

Verse 1. ♪ *Blest are they, the poor in spirit; Theirs is the Kingdom of God.*

*Blest are they, full of sorrow; They shall be consoled.*

**Refrain C:** ♪ **Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you. Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the Kingdom of God.**

Verse 2. *Blest are they, the low-ly ones; They shall inherit the earth.*

*Blest are they, who hunger and thirst; They shall have their fill.*

♪ **Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you. Rejoice and be glad!...**

Verse 3. *Blest are they who show mercy; Mer-cy shall- be theirs.*

*Blest are they, the pure of heart; They- shall see God!*

♪ **Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you. Rejoice and be glad!...**

Verse 4. *Blest are they who seek peace; They are the children of God.*

*Blest are they who suffer in fa-ith; Th' glory of God is theirs.*

♪ **Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you. Rejoice and be glad!...**

Verse 5. *Blest are you who suffer hate; All- because- of Me.*

*Re-joice and be glad. Yours is the Kingdom; Shine for all to see. Refrain*

♪ **Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you. Rejoice and be glad!...**

### 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. Home recovering well  
**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** Ethel & Steve Wendt Joan Patrick

**Treaters** Bev Foster & Joe Thacker

### Statistics Last week Year To Date / Avg.

**Sunday, Attendance** (Communion) 21 / (19) 20 / 17

**Bible Class Attendance:** Sunday 10 10

**Sunday Offering** (Needed) & YTD \$ (\$1,350) YTD \$ (\$54K)

### Calendar of Events

**Today, October 7<sup>th</sup>** 8:30 am Bible Study Themes/Keys: *Reconciliation*

Trinity-19 C & A 9:30 am Divine Worship (WITH Communion)

**Tuesday, 10/09** 1:30-3:30 OSL "Game Time" - Activities in hall

**Thursday, 10/11** 1:30 pm OSL Council OCTOBER Meeting in hall

**Next Sunday, 10/4** 8:30 am Bible Study NT Themes/Keys: *Redemption*

Trinity-20 Confirm... 9:30 am Divine Worship (NO Communion)

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

### October 7<sup>th</sup> ^ ELS 100 Years ✧ Proclaim the Wonders God Has Done: 1918-2018

A custom within the Old Norwegian Synod was to regard October 14 as Founders' Day. Many church dedications and special events took place on this day. The ELS which was reorganized in 1918 has carried on this tradition. We observe that tradition next Sunday as a public testimony that the ELS, which was organized 100 years ago, is the spiritual successor to the doctrine and practice of the Old Norwegian Synod.



**TRINITY19.B Mark 10:2-16 "Is It Lawful? – DIVORCE (& KIDS)" 10.07.18 OSL**

*The way of faith is to receive the gifts as they come from God. The way of unbelief is to refuse them and look for loopholes to justify our refusal.*

(IT'S A) TRAP! *"Is it **lawful** for a man to divorce his wife?"*  
Now there's a leading question, don't you think? (Pharisees think...) There is really no safe way to answer this question without getting sucked into the **quagmire of the law**, and that's precisely what the Pharisees want Jesus to do. So you already know that the question is **not** an honest one. They want to corner Jesus, **trap Him** in His own Words, get Him to take sides, label Him a "liberal" or a "conservative." *"Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"* What kind of question is that, anyway? *Why are you asking?* Are you looking to dump your wife? Are you trying to justify yourself and your marital history? Are you trying to condemn someone else? Why would you ask such a thing?

QUESTION W/ QUESTION Jesus answers the question with a question of His own. *"What did Moses command you?"* The Pharisees were experts in Moses, and if anyone knew what Moses commanded, they did. They cite **Deuteronomy 24** and a piece of legislation from Moses forbidding a man to take back a wife he has divorced after she has married another man. Divorce is presumed here, including the written certificate of divorce which made the whole thing legal.

(TRUMP) MOSES W/ MOSES But Jesus has a "**different passage from Moses**" in mind. "Not so from the beginning," Jesus says. Jesus trumps Moses with Moses. Deuteronomy with Genesis. The accommodating loophole with the gift. "But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh." That's what Moses said about husbands and wives in the beginning. Before there was sin. Before the Fall. Before Adam and Eve become **self**-absorbed, **self**-oriented, **self**-justifying rebels. Before the notion of (**sin** and) divorce even existed.

IN THE BEGINNING... This all goes back to **God's creation of male and female** in the beginning. **Genesis 2:18-24** The LORD God said, *"It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."* Adam was made a **complete, self-contained individual**. He embodied all of humanity in his flesh, **just as Jesus embodies all of humanity** as the "second Adam." Adam was made from the earth (Adam means earth or earth man). His vocation, his priesthood, was to care for the creation and have dominion or lordship over it as God's deputy. Part of his dominion was to name the creatures. God **made** them and Adam **named** them. We have no idea how long this naming process took place. It might have been years or even hundreds of years. The text doesn't say. I like to imagine it was a goodly long time, long enough to realise that there was no complementary counterpart to Adam, and that was not good.

(NOT) VENUS & MARS Adam was made to be in relationship. He was the image of God, and even God exists in a **Trinity of Persons in relationship** with each other. God is never alone even in Himself. And so it was **not** good that Adam was alone, unique, isolated, individual without an external counterpart to himself. And so God put Adam to sleep and took something away from him. His "**female side**" you might say. Guys, there's no point getting in touch with your "female side." You don't have one. Your female side is your wife. God took that something, the Bible says a "rib," and from that He created a woman. She isn't made from the earth like Adam, but from his side. Men are not "**from Mars**" and women are not "**from Venus**," though at times it may seem that way. Man is "from **the mud**, and woman is from **his side**."

UNION Adam awoke and instantly **recognized his own reflection in her**. *"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh."* She was **like** him but **not interchangeable** with him. She was taken from him, and in union with her, he "gets back" what he lost in that deep sleep. This is the mystery of our being male and female, and why we are so fascinated by each other. And that's why a man leaves that union which produced him – his father and mother (all are born of the union of male and female) and he is joined to "his Eve" - his wife, and they become one flesh.

BUT ...SIN! (But) **Sin changed all that**. It brought shame, self-awareness, self-centeredness. They tried to cover themselves with their own fig leaves. They hid from God. They **blamed each other**. The complementing-ness between man and woman became a **competition** to see who would rule. Their "one flesh" union became a struggle leading to **divorce** and **adultery**. We bear witness in the brokenness of our own lives – our **multiple** "one flesh" unions, our divorces, our adulteries, and all the ways we attempt to justify ourselves.

CAN'T UNDO Now you see how Jesus can make **the blanket statement** that to divorce and marry again **inevitably results in adultery**, because the "one flesh" union has been adulterated, and no amount of legal fiction will make it right. There are **things done in this life you cannot undo**, no matter how much you wish you could. The Law cannot help us here, something that should not surprise us Lutherans who know that we don't look to the Law for our justification. And that's really **the crux of this**. The Pharisees were using the Law to justify their divorces instead of seeing the gift for what she is.

PICTURE MARRIAGE as CHRIST=GROOM; CHURCH=BRIDE  
There is a good reason we call **marriage "holy" and bless it**. We have all kinds of warm, bonded, close, committed relationships in our lives – family, friends, and the like. But there is **one unique relationship** that is blessed and set apart, that is the union of a man and a woman. It is holy and sacred. It is the means by which the human race is propagated. It is also, as the apostle reminds us, an image of Christ and the Church – Christ the

**second Adam**, the Church **His Eve**, taken from His wounded Side in the Water and the Blood.

**GOD DIDN'T DIVORCE US** He could have divorced her (= us), legally speaking. God could have **put us all away for our countless spiritual adulteries and infidelities**, file an “eternal certificate of divorce,” and be done with the whole thing. He had just cause, it would have been “lawful” for Him to do it. But He didn't. Like the prophet Hosea with his unfaithful wife, God woos His Church, He sets out to win her (our) heart, to make us His own. Like a bride prepared for her wedding day, Christ washes His Church in a Baptismal bath of water and the Word so that she would march down the aisle on her wedding day **covered in the pure white of a righteousness not her own, but a gift from Christ**, her Bridegroom. She is pure and lovely and radiant and holy in spite of her sins, in spite of what the Law says. She is covered with Jesus' righteousness, and that is why she, **or we, can wear white on our wedding day.**

**NO LEGALESE** There is **no amount of legal loopholing that can undo our sin** and its damages. A certificate of divorce cannot undo the “one flesh” that has been created. All the legal justifications in the world can't justify us in our sins. Even if we have every blank filled in correctly, every box checked, every line properly filled in, all procedures followed to the letter, these will only be further evidence of the hardness of our hearts on the Last Day.

**JESUS (OUR LEGAL STANDING)** What matters **finally and ultimately is Jesus**. Not our legal bookkeeping, not our proper paperwork, but Jesus. **Jesus**, who became **Bone of our bones and Flesh of our flesh** by His **Incarnation**. Jesus, humanity's **new Adam** who brings **life** instead of **death**, justification instead of sin. Jesus, the One who does the Will of His Father, and does it for all of us, and dies with our sin, our death, our rebellion, our corruption. Jesus, in Whose His death we are born anew. And joined to Him in Baptismal faith, we become “one flesh” with God in a union that transcends every union in this life including that of husband and wife, which is why we are neither married nor given in marriage in the Resurrection. The lesser gives way to the greater, and the Greatest Union and only “Perfect Marriage” is **our Union with Christ in God** which will fully happen on the Last Day.

**MARRIAGE FEAST OF THE LAMB** And, it is of this (Union) today we now get a foretaste in **the Sacrament** of His Body and Blood, a preview of the Marriage Feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom which has no end. And in Christ we are at last free from all these legalisms – *Is it lawful, isn't lawful* – all wrong questions. It is a **gift** from our good and gracious Giver = God, **received in faith** like a little child receiving the Kingdom – trusting, receiving, wondering, praising, delighting in the never-ending mercies of God. **IJ'N. Amen. SDG**

**Possible Prayer of the Church** ☩ **19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity October 7<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*

For the peace from above and for our salvation, and for the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For, our Synod president; for our circuit visitor; and for all our **ELS pastors** who just met in Conference to be refreshed and reinvigorated in our ministries in Christ; for all servants of the Church; and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the work of the **Lutheran Women's Missionary Society**, that God would prosper its members' service as they consecrate their hands to work for the Savior, their feet to go on His errands, their voice to sing His praises, their lips to proclaim His redeeming love, their silver and gold to extend His Kingdom, and their will to do His will, committing every power of their life to the great task of bringing the lost and erring into eternal fellowship with Him, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the preservation of **marriage**, that God would **defend husbands and wives from every assault of the enemy**, strengthen them in their faithfulness and loving service to one another, and grant them joy in the gift of children according to His will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For grace that the Church may always **welcome little ones with joy**, that nothing would hinder them from being brought to the Savior and blessed by being placed into His loving arms, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the president of our country; for **all public servants**; and for the government and those who protect us, that they may be strengthened and upheld in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health and protection in this and every place; for any and all who are suffering in body or soul [*especially* **OSL Prayer List**] bring healing according to Your good and gracious Will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to partake faithfully of the Body and Blood of Christ with repentant hearts and a firm resolution to amend our sinful lives by His Spirit's aid, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the faithful who have gone before us and now rest in Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord and ask Him to bring us with them to the Marriage Feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom, which has no end, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

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**