

# NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## AUGUST 10, 2025

*663 RISE, MY SOUL, TO WATCH AND PRAY*

1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray;  
From your sleep awaken!  
Be not by the evil day  
Unawares o'ertaken;  
For the foe,  
Well we know,  
Is a harvest reaping  
While the saints are sleeping.

2 Watch against the devil's snares  
Lest asleep he find you;  
For indeed no pains he spares  
To deceive and blind you.  
Satan's prey  
Oft are they  
Who secure are sleeping  
And no watch are keeping.

3 Watch! Let not the wicked world  
With its lies defeat you  
Lest with bold deceptions hurled  
It betray and cheat you.  
Watch and see  
Lest there be  
Faithless friends to charm you,  
Who but seek to harm you.

4 Watch against yourself, my soul,  
Lest with grace you trifle;  
Let not self your thoughts control  
Nor God's mercy stifle.  
Pride and sin  
Lurk within,  
All your hopes to shatter;  
Heed not when they flatter.

5 But while watching, also pray  
To the Lord unceasing.  
God protects you day by day,

Strength and faith increasing,  
So that still  
Mind and will  
Shall unite to serve Him  
And forever love Him.

Text: Johann Burkhard Freystein, 1671–1718; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

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***(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)***

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)*

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in

the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### *SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, it is by Your grace that we live as Your people who offer acceptable service. Grant that we may walk by faith, and not by sight, in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, chapter 15.

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” <sup>4</sup>And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup>And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**A** The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapter 11.

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>For by it the people of old received their commendation. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

<sup>4</sup>By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. <sup>5</sup>By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. <sup>6</sup>And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. <sup>7</sup>By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in

reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

<sup>13</sup>These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. <sup>14</sup>For people

who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*(Stand)*

*ALLELUIA*

LSB 190

**C** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*HOLY GOSPEL*

Luke 12:22–34

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup>Jesus said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. <sup>23</sup>For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup>Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! <sup>25</sup>And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>26</sup>If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? <sup>27</sup>Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>28</sup>But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! <sup>29</sup>And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. <sup>30</sup>For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup>Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

<sup>32</sup>“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## *SERMON*

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C** Amen.

## *OFFERTORY*

LSB 192

**C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

**Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

### *PRAYER OF THE CHURCH*

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For faith in the wise and gracious will of God, and for power to turn from false belief in our own plans and natural powers, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the proclamation of the Word, that it may prosper through the work of all pastors and church workers in their various callings; for those who are being called to the Lord's service and those preparing for church-work vocations; and for our seminaries and those who teach and learn God's Word therein, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For Christian fathers, that they, with faith like Abram, would prize the gift of their children and work in their lives for the good of generations yet unseen, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our nation and those who lead us, that they may be endowed with wisdom and a good heart, seeking justice and showing mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the sick, that they would be delivered from suffering and know God's grace and the perfect consummation of hope and full healing of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the Holy Spirit, that by His grace, those who recline at Christ's table this day would be enlightened by the Word and dressed in readiness

for the coming of the Son of Man who girds  
Himself to serve them with His body and blood, let  
us pray to the Lord

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For a steadfast faith in Jesus Christ, a cheerful  
hope in God's mercy, and a sincere love for the  
Lord and all our neighbors, that although we are  
not worthy of the least of His benefits, the Lord  
would accept our sacrifice of thanks, together with  
the offerings that we return to Him in faith, let us  
pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** That we would not be fruitless or ungrateful but  
magnify God's grace and name throughout our  
lives, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Lord God, heavenly Father, You worked the  
salvation of the world through the death of Your  
dear Son, and You work out Your holy purposes

through the deaths of Your saints. Make us faithful unto death, and so receive the fulfillment of all Your promises; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*PREFACE*

LSB 194

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious

resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

*SANCTUS*

LSB 195

**☐ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that  
cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

*LORD'S PRAYER*

LSB 196

**☐ 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.

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and  
the glory forever and ever. Amen.

*THE WORDS OF OUR LORD*

LSB 197

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was  
betrayed, took bread, and when He had given  
thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and  
said: “Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given  
for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after  
supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it  
to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is  
the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed  
for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as  
often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

*PAX DOMINI*

LSB 197

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## 735 *HAVE NO FEAR, LITTLE FLOCK*

- 1 Have no fear, little flock;  
Have no fear, little flock,  
For the Father has chosen  
To give you the Kingdom;  
Have no fear, little flock!
- 2 Have good cheer, little flock;  
Have good cheer, little flock,  
For the Father will keep you  
In His love forever;  
Have good cheer, little flock!
- 3 Praise the Lord high above;  
Praise the Lord high above,  
For He stoops down to heal you,  
Uplift and restore you;  
Praise the Lord high above!
- 4 Thankful hearts raise to God;  
Thankful hearts raise to God,

For He stays close beside you,  
In all things works with you;  
Thankful hearts raise to God!

Text (st. 1): Heinz Werner Zimmermann, 1930–2022; (sts. 2–4): Marjorie A. Jillson, 1931–2010

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## *748 I'M BUT A STRANGER HERE*

1 I'm but a stranger here,  
Heav'n is my home;  
Earth is a desert drear,  
Heav'n is my home.  
Danger and sorrow stand  
Round me on ev'ry hand;  
Heav'n is my fatherland,  
Heav'n is my home.

2 What though the tempest rage,  
Heav'n is my home;  
Short is my pilgrimage,  
Heav'n is my home;  
And time's wild wintry blast  
Soon shall be overpast;

I shall reach home at last,  
Heav'n is my home.

3 Therefore I murmur not,  
Heav'n is my home;  
Whate'er my earthly lot,  
Heav'n is my home;  
And I shall surely stand  
There at my Lord's right hand;  
Heav'n is my fatherland,  
Heav'n is my home.

Text: Thomas R. Taylor, 1807–35  
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*NUNC DIMITTIS*

LSB 199

**☐ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in  
peace according to Thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which  
Thou hast prepared before the face of all  
people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of  
Thy people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

*BENEDICTION*

LSB 202

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen, amen, amen.**

*ANNOUNCEMENTS*

*711 SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US* sts. 1, 4

- 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
Much we need Your tender care.  
In Your pleasant pastures feed us,  
For our use Your fold prepare.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
You have bought us; we are Yours.

Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
You have bought us; we are Yours.

4 Early let us seek Your favor,  
Early let us do Your will;  
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,  
With Your love our spirits fill.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
You have loved us, love us still.  
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,  
You have loved us, love us still.

Text: Hymns for the Young, 1836, 4th ed., London, alt.

Text: Public domain

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