

Pentecost 18

October 12, 2025

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 23 (Year C)

Loyalty is something to cherish as a quality in friends and family. Ruth was a loyal servant to Naomi when both lost their husbands and had to begin again in an impoverished state. The psalmist praised God for his loyalty and steadfast faithfulness to his covenant with Israel. When Jesus healed ten lepers of their disease, there was only one who was grateful and expressed loyalty to Christ, and he was a Samaritan.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Lesson: Ruth 1:1-19a**The Loyal Daughter-in-Law**

In the story of Ruth and her mother-in-law, Naomi, we see one of the most poignant stories of loyalty in all of scripture. Ruth, a Moabite, was steadfast in her devotion to her deceased husband's mother. Instead of forging a new life among her kindred, she vowed to stay with Naomi, taking on her God and her kindred.

Psalm 111**Great are the Works of the Lord**

The psalmist recounted the great deeds of the Lord, to whom he gave thanks and praise. God provided for his people, he was faithful and just in all his work, he sent redemption to his children, and he will keep his covenant forever.

Second Lesson: 2 Timothy 2:1-13**The Word of God is Not Bound**

Paul instructed Timothy to be strengthened by God's grace in Jesus Christ so that he might be a good soldier in the faith. As Paul discussed his own imprisonment, he assured his son in the faith that the gospel was not bound by chains. This good news reminds us that "if we have died with him, we will also live with him."

Gospel Lesson: Luke 17:11-19**One Leper Praises God**

Luke recounted a story from Jesus' life in which the Lord healed ten lepers of their dreaded disease. Only one of the ten returned to give thanks to Jesus for his mercy. That one, a Samaritan, dropped to his knees at Christ's feet and thanked him profusely. Jesus remarked in that moment, "Were there not ten who were healed?"

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 used several metaphors in his instructions to Timothy as he urged him to stay strong in the faith and in his commitment to the gospel. Paul mentioned soldiers, athletes and farmers. What other examples might help people understand the lifelong journey of faith? What sort of work do the people in your congregation do that could be used as similar examples of keeping on until the good news is shared with all the world?

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:

	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	543	---	790	858	11	11
Now Thank We All Our God	534	---	895	839	50	50
Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing	559	---	528	886	30	30
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven	549	---	793	865	---	---
How Great Thou Art	532	---	801	856	26	26
Give to Our God Immortal Praise	520	---	---	848	12	12
Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer	343	---	918	618	---	---
Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow	565	---	805	884	49	49
On Our Way Rejoicing	260	---	---	537	---	web
Go, My Children, with My Blessing	---	721	922	543	53	53

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 Will Follow
(CCLI# 5806878)
Called Me Higher
(CCLI# 5887880)
Your Great Name
(CCLI# 539339)
You Make Me Brave
(CCLI# 7003306)
The Stand
(CCLI# 47052480)

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