

Pentecost 20

October 6, 2024

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 22 (Year B)

Marriage and family are a gift from God to be cherished and protected from negative influences. In our human sinfulness, we fail to care for our most valued relationships and instead get hung up on the questions of who’s right and who’s wrong. Fractured relationships are a reality of our broken lives, and even though Jesus understands, he points us to the blessings of the Kingdom of God.



THIS WEEK’S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Lesson: Genesis 2:18–25 **Bone of My Bones and Flesh of My Flesh**
There was no companion for the first man, no one to be a helper to him, so God made Adam sleep and then created the perfect helper for the man out of Adam’s own rib. She is called “woman” because she was taken out of the flesh of man to become one with him. For this reason, it was written that a man shall leave his parents and become one flesh with his wife.

Psalm 128 **A Wife is Like a Fruitful Vine**
Happy are those who fear the Lord, sang the psalmist. God is the creator of the human family, and each person within the family is a gift to the others.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 2:1–13 (14–18) **Jesus Shares Glory with Humanity**
God gave human beings the honor and responsibility of caring for the creation, thereby making the created order subject to them. In this way, God granted humanity a position just lower than the angels. While Jesus was on earth as a human being, he occupied this position, but God granted him glory and honor through his sacrificial death on the cross, thereby sanctifying all who believe in Christ.

Gospel Lesson: Mark 10:2–16 **The Kingdom of God Belongs to the Childlike**
The religious leaders tried to trap Jesus in a discussion about the legalities of divorce. He responded to their questions by pointing to the hardness of their hearts. Jesus called it adultery if a person divorced one spouse and then married another — but he was more concerned with the children who were coming to him for a blessing.

Suggestions for the Day:

- Liturgical Color: Green
- Use the Kyrie OR the Hymn of Praise in Ordinary Time.
- Use the Apostles’ Creed in Ordinary Time.
- Consider taking time today during worship to lift up the gift of marriage and family. Marriage is a sacred union between a man and a woman. In our present culture the holiness of such commitments are taken for granted, rejected, or even ignored altogether. As the church we have the perfect opportunity to proclaim the joys of marriage and the God-given estate of marriage. Martin Luther even called marriage a “school of character” meaning it is in the bonds of matrimony that we learn to follow Christ.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Great is Thy Faithfulness	---	771	809	733	211	211
O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts	356	---	---	658	197	197
Blest Be the Tie That Binds	370	---	649	656	48	48
Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God	---	783	712	---	---	---
All People That On Earth Do Dwell	245	---	791	883	17	17
Blest Are They	---	764	---	728	---	---
Christ, the Life of All the Living	97	---	420	339	218	218
O Love that Will Not Let Me Go	324	---	---	---	---	---
On Our Way Rejoicing	260	---	---	537	---	web
Here, O My Lord, I See Thee	211	---	631	---	---	web

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW= Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV= 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:**
- Let the Children Come (CCLI# 4243717)
 - Marriage of the Lamb (CCLI# 1788605)
 - Found a Love (CCLI# 7174937)
 - Commitment (CCLI# 6498979)
 - The Blessing (CCLI# 7147007)

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