

Christ Lutheran Church
1222 Vocke Road, LaVale, MD. 21502-7519
Telephone 301-729-1010
Website: CLCLaVale.org
E-Mail: christlutheran@atlanticbbn.net

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 2025

THE WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:00 AM In-Person & Zoom

Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is Christ's encouragement in the gospel today. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.

WELCOME

Announcements & Prelude

*** A Call to Worship**

P: O God, you have given us the Holy Bible to read and learn from.

C: Keep us constant in our study of Scripture.

P: O God, you have given us a way to communicate with you whenever we want and wherever we are.

C: Keep us constant in our prayer life.

P: O God, you have given us a special place where we can honor and adore you.

C: Keep us constant in our worship of you in this church, which is your home.

P: O God, you have given us various talents and abilities to use.

C: Keep us constant in our acts of service to you and one another.

P: O God, you have given us family and friends to love and cherish.

C: Keep us constant in our building up of one another.

P: O God, you have always been there for us.

C: Keep us constant in our ability to be there for you and those in need.

* Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful and loving God,

C: we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.**

Amen.

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C: Amen.

* **Gathering Hymn 695**

“As Saints of Old”

* Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

* Gloria

(Setting 6 – Page 167)

Refrain S 167

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa-ther,
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain S 167

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right



hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



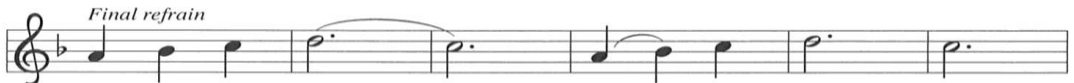
3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -



lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est.



A - men, a - men.

* Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Lesson: *Exodus 23:14-19a*

¹⁴ “Three times in the year you shall hold a festival for me. ¹⁵ You shall observe the Festival of Unleavened Bread; as I commanded you, you shall eat unleavened bread for seven days at the appointed time in the month of Abib, for in it you came out of Egypt.

“No one shall appear before me empty-handed.

¹⁶ “You shall observe the Festival of Harvest, of the first fruits of your labor, of what you sow in the field. You shall observe the Festival of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in from the field the fruit of your labor. ¹⁷ Three times in the year all your males shall appear before the Lord GOD.

¹⁸ “You shall not offer the blood of my sacrifice with anything leavened or let the fat of my festival remain until the morning.

¹⁹ “The choicest of the first fruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of the LORD your God. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: *Psalms 18:1-6, 31-32*

¹ I love you, O LORD, my strength.

² **The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer,
my God, my rock in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.**

³ I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,
so I shall be saved from my enemies.

**⁴ The cords of death encompassed me;
the torrents of perdition assailed me;**

⁵ the cords of Sheol entangled me;
the snares of death confronted me.

**⁶ In my distress I called upon the LORD;
to my God I cried for help.
From his temple he heard my voice,
and my cry to him reached his ears.**

³¹ For who is God except the LORD?
And who is a rock besides our God?

**³² The God who has girded me with strength
and made my way safe.**

Second Lesson: *Philippians 4:11-20, 23*

¹¹ Not that I am referring to being in need, for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. ¹² I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me. ¹⁴ In any case, it was kind of you to share my distress.

¹⁵ You Philippians indeed know that in the early days of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving except you alone. ¹⁶ For even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me help for my needs more than once. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the profit that accumulates to your account. ¹⁸ I have been paid in full and have more than enough; I am fully satisfied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

²³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

* Gospel Acclamation

(Setting 6 – Page 171)

S 171a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 6th chapter.**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**The Holy Gospel: *Matthew 6:25-34*

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ³² For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Swanson

Hymn 728

“Blest Are They”

*** Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

The Prayer of the Church

*** Sharing of the Peace of the Lord**

We Offer Our Gifts to the Lord

Organ Voluntary

Anthem

Solo

* Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

* The Offertory

Hymn

“Bring a Gift of Love”--Mary Kay Bottens

Bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love today.

Bring an offering to our Lord and King, tell the world he is the Way!

Bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love today.

In this quiet hour of worship, bring a gift of love.

* Offertory Prayer

L: Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

* The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed rightand join their unending hymn:

(Holy, Holy Holy)

(Setting 6 – Page 173)

S 173

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

* The Words of Institution

* The Lord's Prayer

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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

P: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

“Lamb of God”

Chancel Choir

Words and Music - Rob Temple

Distribution of the Sacrament

* Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

* The Prayer after Communion

L: O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen

* Blessing

P: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

* **Sending Hymn 763**

“My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

* Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.

* **Postlude**

In Bread and Wine our Lord Jesus meets us and we receive His Body and Blood given and shed for our forgiveness. It is a meal of love, forgiveness and renewal. If you are visiting with us today and are a baptized Christian and desire to commune, please do come to the table of the Lord. Children and youth who have not received instruction in the meaning of the Sacrament are cordially invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please come toward as directed by ushers by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.

Lectors for our Services

This Sunday, Oct. 19 – Devon Swanson

Wednesday, Oct 22 – Paul Chiarenza

Next Sunday, Oct 19 – Joint Reformation Service at St John's

Next Wednesday, Oct 29 – Lydia Martin

Sunday, November 2 – Gary Llewellyn

October Ushers: Fred Powell, Bill Bingman

Organist – Rae Ann Smith

A/V – Steve, David, Joyce

The Altar Flowers have been given to the glory of God in honor of the marriage yesterday of Lyndsay Smith and Aaron Betsinger by Jeff and Rae Ann Smith.

The Bulletins and Communion Bread & Wine have been given to the glory of God in honor of our grandson, Jacob's 25th birthday by Shirley & Jim Smith.

The October Newsletter has been given to the glory of God in memory of my wife, Karen and brother, Frank by Bill Bingman.

We have a hearing assistance system in the sanctuary. If you are having problems hearing our service, please ask the usher for a receiver.

Hope that you have picked up your name tags from the board in the main entrance. They are in alphabetical order. Please return to the board when leaving. Thanks

New Bible Studies - We are now studying women of the Bible on **Sunday mornings, 11:30am** and the God and Suffering on **Thursday mornings at 10:30am**. This is also on Zoom! Please come join us!

This week –

This Sunday – Worship - 10:00am followed by Blood Pressure Screening & Adult SCS

Wednesday – Worship – 6:30pm

Thursday – Bible Study – 10:30am “God’s Suffering”

Choir rehearsal for Reformation Sunday @ St John's – 6:30pm

Friday – Diane's Music classes 10:00am, Lady Birds – 11:00am

Next Sunday, No Worship at CLC – Joint Reformation at St John's Cumberland

All Saints Sunday – November 2nd - We would like to read the names of the faithful departed who have transitioned to eternal life with their Savior **over the past year (November 2024 – present)**. These names will be read at worship in thanksgiving to God for their life and for the gift of eternal life that comes to us through our faith in Jesus. *If you have a loved one or friend you would like remembered, please print their name on a piece of paper and place in the offering plate marked for All Saints, put on Secretary's desk, mail it to church, or call the church office by Wednesday, October 29th. Thanks!*

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH - We would like to present Pastor Daniel with a gift to express our thanks for his hard work and service to God and our congregation. If you would like to contribute, please mark on your check or envelope 'Pastor Appreciation Month' and submit it to CLC in the usual manner. For those people who normally use tithe.ly, this has been added as a giving category. **We will accept offerings through Sunday, October 19.** Thank you!

The Yearly EMR (Every Member Response) Campaign Has Arrived!! The Mission and Generosity Committee has prepared the EMR line-up of events beginning today. Blue Bags with names attached are in the Narthex with all that you will need to participate. Today we will be sharing brief reminders about the nature of EMR. ***Then on Sunday, November 9th, you will be asked to return your pledge and all pledges will be placed on the altar as a thanksgiving to God.*** Please join us in this important activity as we move forward into 2026! Thank you in advance.

Listening Circle Scheduled for Sunday, November 9th - the Mission and Generosity Committee will be holding a Listening Circle after service on the noted date. The topic will be *"How We Imagine God"*. In preparation for this Circle, photographs will be displayed on the screens in the sanctuary depicting how people might imagine God and God's presence in their lives. This topic will enable us to consider and be thankful for our active relationship with God. We look forward to your presence.

It is that time of the year again; all committee budgets need to be to Ed Havens on or before November 16th. Thanks.

THANKSGIVING IS NEARING!!!! -- It is QUICKLY nearing Thanksgiving time of year. If you are not new to CLC, you know that in the past our Social Ministry Committee has collected food items which would provide a family Thanksgiving dinner for the needier folks in our community at this time of year. Our efforts have resulted in CLC's generous feeding of hundreds with our generous Thanksgiving baskets. ***This year we are once again depending upon the generosity of our congregational family to help us fill 25 baskets, each containing nonperishable goods and a supermarket gift card valued at \$35 for potential recipients who notify our church of their need. The gift card will afford the recipients the opportunity to purchase a turkey and/or fresh goods to prepare a hearty Thanksgiving meal. Beginning Wednesday, October 29, 2025, several sign-up sheets for your intended donation(s) of specific items will be located on a table in the narthex. All items should be brought to the church on or before Sunday, November 16, 2025.*** Recipients will pick up baskets on Tuesday, November 18 between the hours of 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM. We thank you in advance for everything/anything that you can do to continue our characteristic community care. Social Ministry Committee

God's Work – Our Hands Event – every year the ELCA asks local congregations to become involved in an activity that reaches out to their community. The Mission and Generosity Committee believes that we should help the George's Creek area and to that end we have contacted the area rep of the Allegany County Public Schools. She suggested that we collect cleaning supplies as the need continues. **The needed supplies include: paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, sponges and dish rags, all purpose cleaning spray, disinfecting wipes and aerosol spray, toilet bowl cleaner, and glass cleaner.** We will place a box in the Narthex to begin to collect items. Rather than make this a "one day" event, we will make it a "one + month" event. **We will collect through the month of October.** Our neighbors in George's Creek continue to suffer from the flood. This is a way that we can do God's Work and share our love with them. Please bring your items to church. **Should you prefer contributing cash/check, please place it in an envelope marked "George's Creek."** Thank you for your "helping hands."

Get out your calendars and mark the dates!!! On Friday, December 5th you are invited to attend an Advent Craft night. There will be crafts for all ages, and in the near future we will share what those crafts are. We have elves behind the scenes make some so you can see what will be available. To help offset the cost of materials, if you are able, we will be asking for five dollars (\$5.00) per family. The evening would not be complete without snacks so please bring something to share.

THEN...

On Sunday, December 7th immediately following the service you are invited to stay for a light lunch and Hanging of the Greens. We will be decorating the Christmas tree, the sanctuary and the narthex. During lunch you will be invited to participate in some Christmas trivia and as we decorate the building will be filled with the music of the season. Please join your fellow congregation members as we celebrate the season.

This week I was working on the Center of the labyrinth. It represents a rose, and is made up of six petals, the petals being formed each by a single large rock surrounded by white and blue, blue-green, and patterned shards. The color white is symbolic for the Holy Spirit, being especially effusive in the center. And going out from the center, all along the pathway, here and there pieces of white shard, or intimations of the Holy Spirit accompany the walker.

The color blue stands for Hope. Likewise, there is a profusion of that color in the Center, and here and there also some of those shards are scattered along the pathway. Shards of various other colors represent that we are persons from all different nationalities, backgrounds, faiths; in short, they represent inclusivity of our diversity.

My feeling about the use of shards is to present that we are all "broken" people, imperfect in various ways, on the way to seeking wholeness on our journey home with God. Each individual is also "broken off" from large family, and loved ones. You may have other meaningful ideas about it. Lydia Martin

We want to thank you for taking care of our property over the summer!

- Mowed the yard – **Ken Wendell, Jeremy McGuire, Sally Buser, Jim Simmons**
- Power washed the front sidewalks and porch – **Sally Buser**
- Cleaned and mulched our flower beds – **Mike Marchini, Sally Buser, Jack Murray, Jeremy McGuire**
- **Jack Murray** who is our one-man property committee

If you see anything that could be cleaned or refreshed, please volunteer. Talk to Jack!

Stock the Shelves for Mission and Ministry — August 24 – September 28th

Thank you to everyone who helped our 2025 budget expenses. Below are items we received. Thanks!

1 Ream of white copy paper and 1 ream of colored paper
Batteries – AAA - 56, AA -56, 9V - 4
Stamps – 2 book – 40 stamps
Window cleaners – 2
Storage bags – 3 boxes - gal-120 count; 3 boxes Ziploc sandwich bags 270 pack
Paper plates – 125 pack, 2 packs of 24
Paper napkins – 1000 pack, 250 pack
Kitchen Cleaners – 3
All Purpose cleaners – 9
Toilet bowl cleaners – 9
Dish Detergents – 2 - 56 oz., 5 - 24oz, 1 – 12.6 oz.
Clorox Disinfecting wipes – 3 -75count
Aluminum foil – 4 boxes 125sq. ft. each
Glad cling's seal – 4 boxes 300 sq. ft. each
Paper Towels – 36 rolls
Toilet paper – 69 rolls
Tissue – 2 boxes
Bleach – 1

CLC Archival Items & Artifacts - To help us preserve and manage our collection with care, please follow these guidelines when interacting with the CLC Archives Room:

- **Donating or Borrowing:** Kindly sign the designated log sheet when donating or borrowing any items or artifacts.
- **Dropping Off or Returning:** Please place all items on the log sheet table so our archives team can properly process and store them.

Your cooperation ensures the integrity and organization of our archives—thank you for being part of it! The CLC Archives Team

LAST WEEK'S REPORT – October 12, 2025

Attendance In-Person 10:00am = 49
Zoom 10:00am = 12
Wed. Oct 8 In-Person 6:30pm = 9
Zoom 6:30pm = 1

Adult SCS = 6
Oct. 2 Thurs. Bible Study – 4, Zoom 1

BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2025

Received = \$4,488.43
Needed weekly = 4,044.04
444.39

BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN-SEPT 2025

Actual Income = \$149,247.78
Actual Expenses = (163,171.44)
(\$ 13,923.66)

Church Yard Sale –We need Christmas decorations, ornaments or anything Christmas for this sale. You may bring to church starting this Sunday, October 19th and place in the fellowship hall. On Monday, October 27 at 10:00am we will start to setup for the sale. Please come and volunteer. Thanks again!

Christ Lutheran Church in LaVale, MD **(Christmas Yard Sale)**



*** * *Great bargain prices...You can shop till you drop* * ***

When: Friday - October 31, 2025

and

Saturday - November 1, 2025

Time: 8:00am – 12:00pm

Location: Christ Lutheran Church
1222 Vocke Road
LaVale, MD 21502

Everything Christmas – beautiful decorations, collectors' ornaments and much more...

PRAYER LIST FOR OCTOBER 19, 2025

PRAYER RECIPIENT - MEMBERS

Anna Bruck
Barb Simmons
Jane Miller
Jack Zealand
Ed Havens
Bill & MarySue Crawford
Gail Dawson
Mitzie & Jerry Robinette
Patty Wilson
Clem Dawson
Dave & Lisa Ahern
Kim Shoemaker
Fay Crawford
David LaBuda
Rosey & Becky McIntyre
Jonathan and Danielle Ahern
Tammy Faulkner
Pam & Dave Judy
David Tibbetts
Joyce DeMonbrun
Kathy Powell
Sharon McKenzie
Mary Lou Rowles
Donna Yaider
Laura Murray

PRAYER RECIPIENT

Christina Puffinburger	<i>Requested by</i> Elwood & Janet Glass
Brad & Gregg Dawson, Stephen Overtoom	Gail Dawson
Charles Johnson, Barbara Williams	Sharon M
Joe Kunsman, Linda Nines, Ellen Hill	Mitzie & Jerry
Brittney Meyers, Talot Omar, Terry Baker	Mitzie & Jerry
Nathan Winters	Dianne Short
Charlotte & Ed Troutman, Arlene Simmons. Amy, Jacie Fairall	Barb Simmons
Carl Chiarenza, Karen Mackert	Paul & Ruth C
Elise & Henry Jack Balber	Jack Zealand
Cheryl Trusler	Joyce D
Cheri Bielen	Jane Miller
Baby Whetzel, Kevin Mistretta, Carolyn Farr, Kendra Morriss, Paula Rose	Diane
Dan Moore, Graham Tower, Lisa Storm, Jaime Pletcher, Karen Ford	Diane K
Richard Clark, Zachary Sutterfield, Alexis Smith	Anne DeVaughn
Diane Davis, Nancy Smith, James Flynn	Antoinette Royster
Joy Kroeger-Mappes Carmen and Lance Jackson	Antoinette Royster
Bob Aman, Susie Spiker	Shirley & Jim Smith
Gretchen Burke	Val & Gary Llewellyn
Sally, Roger, James Tibbets	Dave Tibbetts
Andy Cocco	John Cocco
Marie Turnbull, Steven Suzindlak, Taylor Neumann	Lita Havens
Dan Carr, Matt Doman	Steven Hansrote
Michele Jones, Lois Shunk	Sherry T
Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane	Kristan Fazenbaker
Mary Lou Dorsey	Trina Firey
Vic Werner	Barbara Martin
Belinda Keller	Linda McCagh
Madeline Lopes	Al James
Barbara Blough	Janice & Dave LaBuda
Galen Dean Krepps	Lisa Ahern
Jared McGensie, Chris Twigg	Patty Wilson and Rosey
Breanna Brown	Debbie Fornwalt
Kamryn Rice	Corinna Hilderbrand

Please keep us updated

- the family of Terri Goldman (Mother-in-law of Joey McGuire)
- the families of Bruce Richardson and Lorell Estelle Shaw
- all people affected by the wildfires and other disasters
- all people of the Ukraine and all affected by the war
- all elected officials
- those who serve in our nation's armed forces including Rick Rounds, Tom Forrest



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 2025