

OCTOBER 19, 2025  
NINETEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST

# taking† faith home

*Faith is nurtured through personal, trusted relationships.*

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 18:1-8	Parable of the persistent widow
Monday	Genesis 32:22-31	God renames Jacob
Tuesday	2 Timothy 3:14–4:5	Paul's instruction to Timothy
Wednesday	Genesis 14:15-25	Crossing the Red Sea
Thursday	Esther 8:1-17	Esther saves the Jews
Friday	Acts 8:26-40	Phillip and the eunuch
Saturday	Psalms 121	Assurance of God's protection
Sunday	Luke 18:9-14	A Pharisee and tax collector pray

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.* **2 Timothy 3:16 (NRSV)**

## PRAYERS AND BLESSING

### A Prayer for the Week:

God of truth and justice, help us to be strengthened by the good news of Jesus Christ and to be a faithful witness of your love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for strengthening our bodies with this food and our lives of faith with the good news of Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord watch over and protect you.



OCTOBER 19, 2025  
HYMN OF THE WEEK  
*Rise Up, O Saints of God!*

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## WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

## CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What are things you learned during your childhood that have helped you?
- Who taught you about the Christian faith and what do you remember about them?

## DEVOTIONS

*Read:* 2 Timothy 3:14–4:5.

In this reading, Paul mentors Timothy and reminds him of the people who taught him the faith. Timothy's faith began during his childhood. Earlier in the book of 2 Timothy 1:5, Paul affirmed Timothy's "sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice." Timothy's faith was nurtured through personal, trusted relationships. The faith is inspired by God through scripture, holy words used as a guide "for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" (3:16). The motivation for this review of the Christian faith is that Paul notes that there will be a time when the basics of the faith will be misused, and people will seek out messages that suit their own passions. There is a need for courage to speak and to correct with patient endurance rather than take the easier route of being silent. The confidence to speak out and confront a false message comes from the God-given inspiration of scripture and the confirmation of the faith that Timothy has received from Paul, Lois, Eunice, and other trusted voices.

*Discuss:* When do you have or do not have confidence to speak of the Christian faith?

*Pray:* **O God, our guide and teacher, strengthen our faith with patient endurance so that our lives may be comforted, and others may know the love of Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who do you know that you could talk to about the Christian faith?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Genesis 32:28 God changes Jacob's name to Israel which means, "you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." We don't often see our lives of faith as wrestling with God, yet that is exactly what God honors and expects from us. Question God in your prayers, asking, "Lord, how come . . . ?" Let this questioning of God's intent be an example of building a strong and trusting relationship with God.

*Pray:* **God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, thank you for honoring our wrestling with you as faithful followers, through Christ our Lord, amen.**

