



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

319 South 5th Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620

www.zionalbion.org + office @zionalbion.org + 402-395-2043

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

October 19, 2025 † 19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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.

† GATHERING †

Prelude

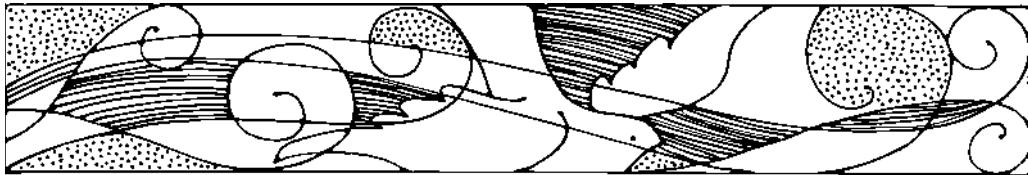
(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)

Welcome

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Christ are welcome to share in the Lord's meal. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.





Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and of the **✚** Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

When we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.

**But if we would confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just,
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Today God calls us to look at the faith he has given us by grace.

(A moment of silence is kept for reflection and confession.)

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We despair in the face of society's problems.
And our faith seems weaker than that of past generations.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Our gracious God has given us the faith we need to live in this world,
to resist temptation, and to live with him eternally.

In his mercy God has given his Son to die for us,
and for his sake, forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ,
and by his authority I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the **✚** Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

#759



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way. oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

Music: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

Public Domain

Opening Litany

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

Keep us constant in our study of Scripture.

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

Keep us constant in our prayer life.

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

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

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

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

O God, you have given us family and friends to love and cherish.
Keep us constant in our building up of one another.

O God, you have always been there for us.
Keep us constant in our ability to be there for you when you call.

Apostolic Greeting

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

Kyrie

ELW Setting 8

Refrain

Ky-ri-e c - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e c - lei - son, ev'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - pas-sioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the

u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you

this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Hymn of Praise

Praise to You, O God of Mercy

#208

1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -

ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:

3rd time to Coda ♩

thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -

mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

to stanza 3

♩ *Coda*

ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Text and music: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

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

✚ WORD ✚

First Reading

Genesis 32:22-31

Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother's birthright and his father's blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to "Israel," a name that means "he wrestles with God."

A reading from Genesis.

²²The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121

Let us read Psalm 121 responsively.

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

²**My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³The LORD will not let your foot be moved

nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶**the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

⁷The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

Second Reading

2 Timothy 3:14 — 4:5

The writer of this letter continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.

A reading from Second Timothy.

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1}In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Verse

#174



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker © 1985 Public Domain

Holy Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

Jesus tells a parable of an unjust judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.

The Holy Gospel according St. Luke the 18th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’” ⁶And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Time

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

#742



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886
Music: Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918
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Apostles' Creed

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith...

**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 into hell.**

**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 again 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. Amen.**

Prayer of Intercession

P Renewed in God's everlasting grace,
let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

(A brief silence is kept.)

A We pray for the church universal.

O God, who unites the church across the globe,
bring unity and peace to a world divided by hatred and opposition.
Turn our hearts toward the gospel of Jesus Christ.
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P We pray for creation. O God, who made heaven and earth,
draw us to the beauty of the whole creation.
Turn us toward a right relationship with the entire cosmos.
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A We pray for all nations, states, cities, and towns.

O God, you rule over all the earth.
Grant our elected officials humility in their decision-making
for the sake of the entire world.
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.
O God, who heals and strengthens,
our help comes from you in times of need.
Support, comfort, and heal those who suffer, *especially...*
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A We pray for Zion Lutheran Church.

O God, who guides this congregation,
encourage us to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

Nurture our relationships with the community,
that we serve and advocate for those who come to us in need.
God of grace, receive our prayer.

P Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence.
God of grace, receive our prayer.

A We offer thanksgiving for the faithful departed.

O God, whose promises never end,
we thank you for all the saints
who have shown us the way of your Son, Jesus Christ.
God of grace, receive our prayer.

P We offer our prayers, O God,
trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

Offering Response

We Are an Offering

#692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.

Text & Music: Dwight Liles, b. 1957
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✚ MEAL ✚

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,
It is right to give our thanks and praise.



Proper Preface

It is our privilege and our joy to give you thanks and praise,
 Lord God, because you created all things
 in order to dwell in covenant love with your people.

When that covenant was broken,
 you promised to make a new covenant
 with the house of Israel and the house of Judah,
 in which you would put your law within them
 and write it on their hearts;

you would be their God, and they would be your people.

They would all know you, from the least of them to the greatest;
 for you would forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.
 In the body and blood of Jesus you made that new covenant,
 and in his death and resurrection

we are bound to you and you to us for evermore.

And so we join with all the company of heaven
 in the song of your everlasting glory.

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Setting 8



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

Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

Abiding God,
you shape us through this holy meal
to be your companions, to befriend one another,
and to be reconciled with the whole earth.

Send your Spirit on your church,
that your people may endure suffering,
and that, being encouraged, they may proclaim your truth
and learn to live in your good patience.

Sanctify these gifts of bread and wine that they may be for us
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,

*Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.*

After supper, Jesus took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

*Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.*

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

God of justice,

your children call upon you like a widow pleading her cause.

As you constantly knock on the door of our hearts,

inviting us to embrace your ways,

so we seek to wear you out with our longing for you

to grant justice to your children who cry to you day and night.

Give hope to any who are close to losing heart.

Bring consolation to all who can hardly continue another day.

Uphold those who have nowhere to turn.

Hasten the day when every tear turns to joy and all sorrow to dancing,

when you are all in all, one God, Trinity of peace and love.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together as Jesus taught us...

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.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

ELW Setting 8

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Distribution

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:

The Body of Christ given for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

Distribution Hymn

Lord, Be Glorified

#744

1 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
2 In our song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
3 In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
4 In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in my life, Lord, be glorified to - day.
in our song, Lord, be glorified to - day.
in your church, Lord, be glorified to - day.
in your world, Lord, be glorified to - day.

Text & Music: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952

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Distribution Hymn

Day by Day

#790



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you send me
 wis - dom to o - obey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me
 grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all
 o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil
 when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter



mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior,
 of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior,
 what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior,



lead me to the home I trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
 help me bear life's pain and sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
 with your pres - ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, b. 1936
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Table Blessing

The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
 strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

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. Amen.**

✚ SENDING ✚

Announcements

Benediction

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. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

#769



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our

Hymn continues on next page.



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text & Music: Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; tr. composite

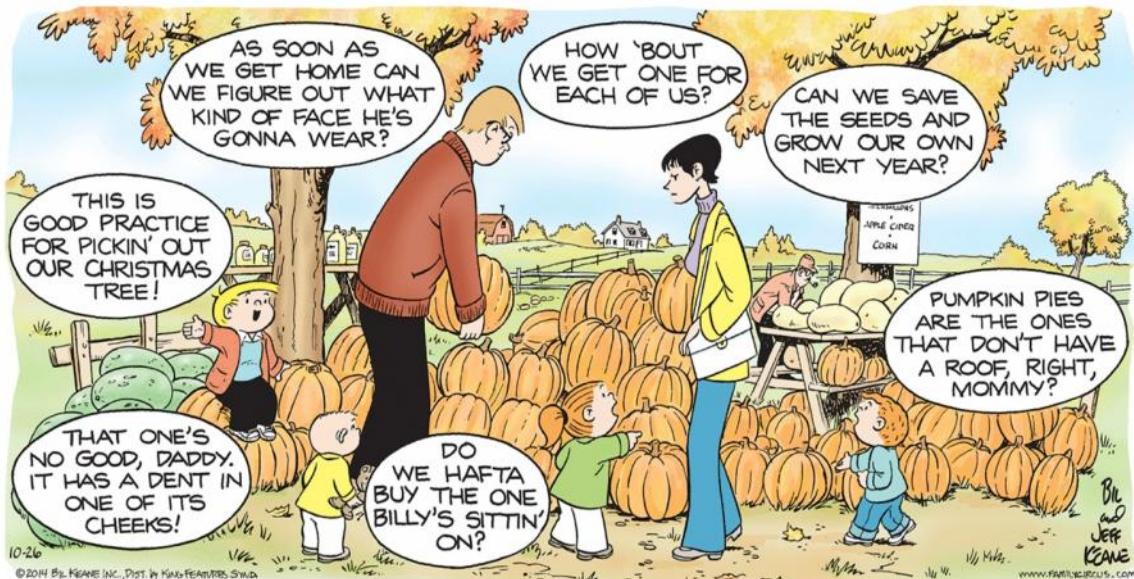
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Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



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Keep On Praying

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. Luke 18:1 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 18:1-8 (NIV).



M U J D I A V U N J U S T Q R
Q H R R O P E C D W V A W W G
L O P C R F A S H Q J O C B S
L Y B E Z E U R X O D U Y W F
Y D A Y R S F B A I S A D R U
M B E Z E S G U W B R E A G X
H D W J V I I X S P L E N T E
Q A I B S X I S I E F E C I W
Q P D S B H R K T O D Q K Z Y
L M O H C O O M F E O N S A V
I U W V A I T W F X N Y V M F
S A Q B W H P H J U S T I C E
T C M M G V O L E H W L U W Q
E Y D I G M S A E R F V F I F
N D N T O W N N B S L T C C A

UNJUST	LISTEN	JESUS	CHOSEN	DAY
SHOW	LORD	REFUSED	DISCIPLES	JUDGE
WIDOW	FEAR	NIGHT	PARABLE	PERSISTENT
JUSTICE	WIDOW	TOWN	BOTHER	PRAY

Keep On Praying

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. Luke 18:1 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
M	S	D	Y	U	L	N	R	A	F	K	V	E	B	J	C	G	X	H	W	P	Z	O	T	Q	I

1. 21-9-8-9-14-6-13 _____

2. 6-26-2-24-13-7 _____

3. 5-7-15-5-2-24 _____

4. 15-5-2-24-26-16-13 _____

5. 8-13-10-5-2-13-3 _____

6. 13-9-8-24-19 _____

7. 20-26-3-23-20 _____

8. 10-9-26-24-19 _____

JUSTICE
EARTH

PARABLE
WIDOW

FAITH
UNJUST

REFUSED
LISTEN