

# LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE

Modern Parables: A Lenten Film Festival
March 30, 2022 – "The Widow and Judge": Luke 18:1-8

Prelude

Welcome/Invocation

Hymn: "If You but Trust in God to Guide You" #769



# Prayer

Gracious God, we pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us your will through parables. We come to you, God, confident in your love and desire to give us what's best for us. Help us to be persistent in praying, even when we're not getting answers we want. And, though it sometimes doesn't feel like it, we know you're listening and love us. **Amen.** 

#### Parable Introduction

# **Scripture**

### Luke 18:1-8

18Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup>He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup>In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' <sup>4</sup>For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming." <sup>6</sup>And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup>And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

#### Parable Film

# The Widow and Judge (16 Min.)

### Reflection

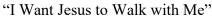
- + When is a time in your life that God felt like a stingy and unfair judge?
- + In fact, we are children of a Judge and Father who loves us, even if we don't get what we ask for? What do you think are the benefits of praying, even if you aren't getting what you want?
- + Jesus teaches us in this parable to be persistent in our prayers. What small things could you change in your life, that would help you to be more persistent in prayer?

#### Prayer

#### 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.

#### Benediction





- P: We've heard the teaching of Jesus. Let's go and live it!
- C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude