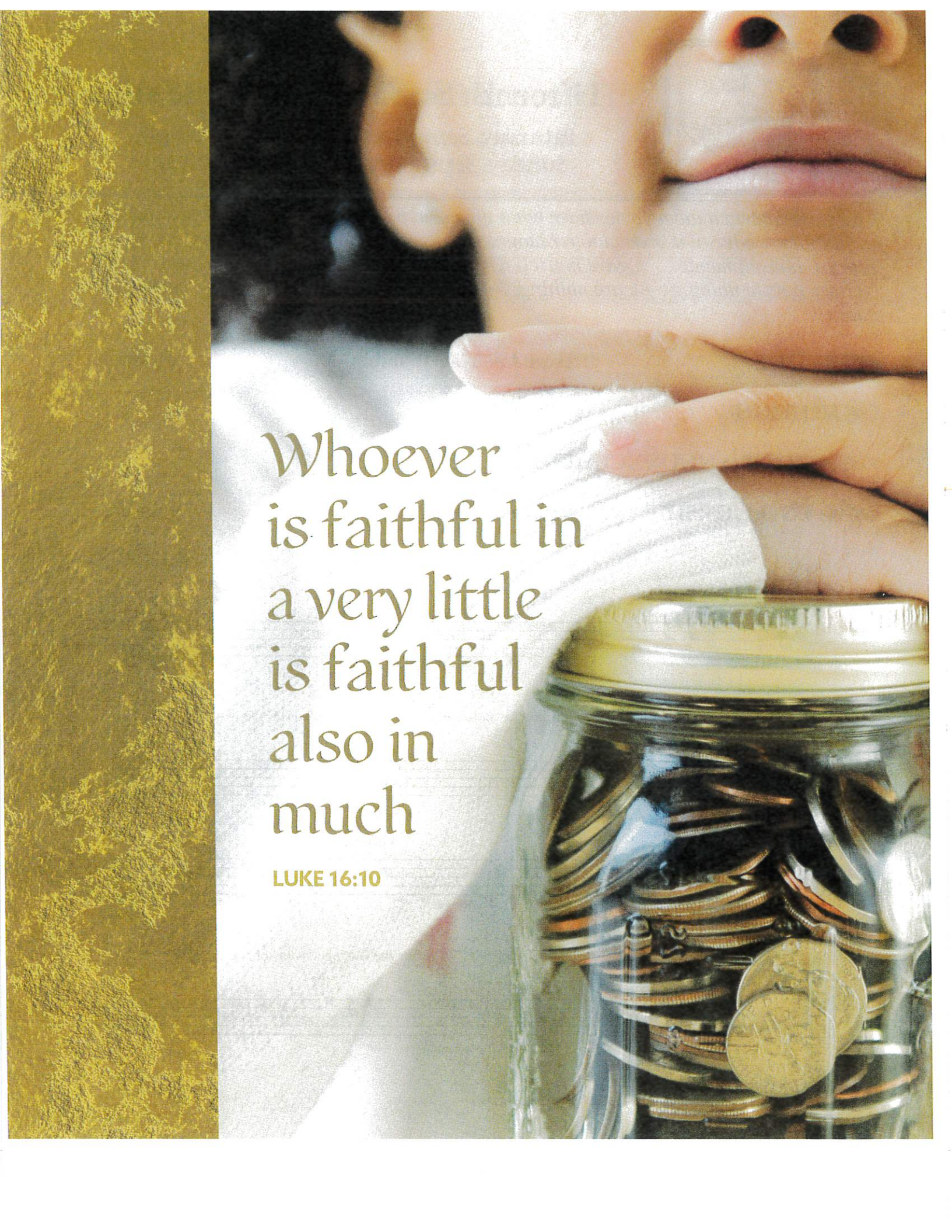




Whoever
is faithful in
a very little
is faithful
also in
much

LUKE 16:10



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, September 20, 2025 ~ 5:00 pm

Sunday, September 21, 2025 ~ 9:00 am

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

PRELUDE

"Here I Am To Worship"

Jubilation

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

"Round the Table"

vv. 1 & 2

Larry Olson
Hans Peterson

$\text{♩} = 86$ C F C Am G

Come to-geth-er 'round the ta - ble. Come and taste the won - der,

C F C Am F G C

a healing touch and a deep connec-tion from the liv-ing cen-ter of it all.

Last time Fine F C Dm7 C/E

Seek-ing mean-ing on the run you try and save the day.
 Bring a friend or en - e - my or one you hold or blame.
 Hear cre - a - tion groan for life. Will hate and hun-ger cease?

F C Am F

But all is read - y will you come? Love in - vites the way.
 With each oth - er we are one, here in Je - sus' name.
 In the roar of vi - o - lence the world cries for peace.

©2002 Dakota Road Music.
 All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.
 Used by permission CCLI License No. 1478639

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,
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.

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.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG "Give Thanks"



Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,



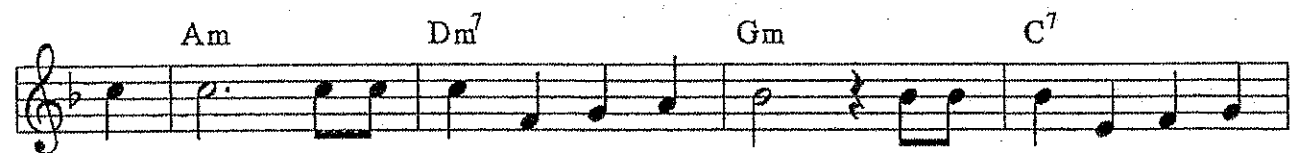
give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,



give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. And

now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am

rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Used with permission of CCLI 1478659.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Amos 8:4-7

A reading from Amos.

⁴ Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,

⁵ saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,

so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,

⁶ buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

⁷ The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 113

¹ Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.

² **Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth forevermore.**

³ From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.

⁴ **The LORD is high above all nations;
God's glory above the heavens.**

⁵ Who is like the LORD our God,
who sits enthroned on high,

⁶ **but stoops to behold
the heavens and the earth?**

⁷ The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

⁸ **enthroning them with the rulers,
with the rulers of the people.**

⁹ The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

A reading from First Timothy.

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings
be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may
lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and
acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to
the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,

⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all
—this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle
(I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Help Us O Lord"

♩ = 90

Help us O Lord to hear your word. O-pen our hearts to feel your word. Give us the strength to live your word each day.

©1989 Dakota Road Music
All Rights Reserved Used by Permission

GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³ Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of

dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

ANTHEM

"Blessed Be Your Name"

Jubilation

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Each prayer petition will conclude, "Lord, in your mercy,"

The congregation responds, "hear our prayer."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE OFFERING

OFFERING SONG

"Help Us Oh Lord"

vv. 1 & 3

$\text{♩} = 108$

Em C D Em

Help us, oh Lord, to do what is right and wise.
 Teach us to live your king - dom come here on earth.
 of - fer in joy what you first to us gave:

Am C D

Help us to see our bro - thers' needs that are in dis - guise.
 O - pen our lives to treat each per - son with e - qual worth.
 Our - selves, our time, the ver - y things that our hands have made.

Em B7

Re - Help us, oh Lord, to feel the
 mind us we're fam - i - ly; we're
 ceive them all now, this is our

C D Em B (last time end on Em)

pain in our sis - ters' eyes.
 bound by bap - tis - mal birth.
 prayer in Je - sus' name. We

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

PRAYER OF 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name.

Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.

You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION SONG

"Lamb of God"

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The score is divided into four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff. The lyrics are written below the bass staff.

System 1: Chords: Eb (D), Bbm/G (Am/F#), Ab (G). Lyrics: Lamb of God, Bread of Life, Prince of Peace, Lamb of God.

System 2: Chords: Eb/G (D/F#), AbMaj7 (GMaj7), Gm7 (F#m7). Lyrics: you take a way the sin of the

System 3: Chords: C7 (B7), Eb (D), F (E), F7 (E7), Bb7 (A7). Lyrics: world: have mer-cy on us.

System 4: Chords: C7 (B7), Eb (D), F (E), F7 (E7), Bb7 (A7), Eb (D). Lyrics: world: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion may come forward for a blessing. Those who are unable to come forward for communion, please let an usher know, and we will bring communion to you.

The ushers will direct you to come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread from the pastors. Gluten-free wafers are available in the small gold dish on the paten. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. There are baskets at the end of the front pews where you can deposit your cups as you return to your seat. Those who are worshipping with us online are invited to have bread and wine or juice available for worship, and we will commune you at the end of communion.

COMMUNION ANTHEMS

**"Purify My Heart"
"Seed, Scattered and Sown"**

Jubilation

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

BLESSING

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 SONG

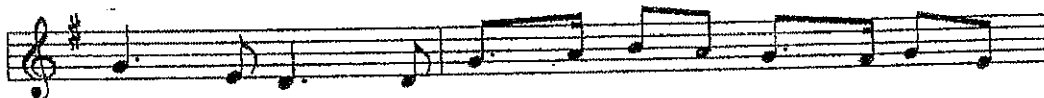
"A Simple Word of Grace"



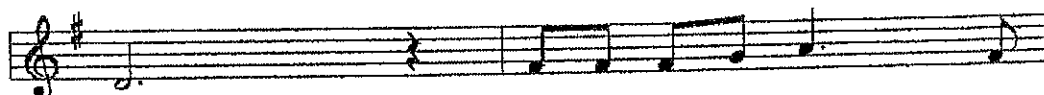
1. A sim - ple word of grace is all I
 (2. A) sim - ple word of hope is all I
 3. Teach me, Lord, to share Your sim - ple



need, flow - ing from a cross, a
 need, flow - ing from Your love, Your
 grace, flow - ing from Your love, Your



cross for me. A gen - tle word of love is all I
 love for me. A gen - tle word of peace is all I
 love for me. Teach me, Lord, to live as You have



need, flow - ing from a cross, a
 need, flow - ing from Your love, Your
 lived, gen - tly flow - ing from Your



cross for me. Je - sus, You have giv - en me all of Your
 love for me.
 love for me.



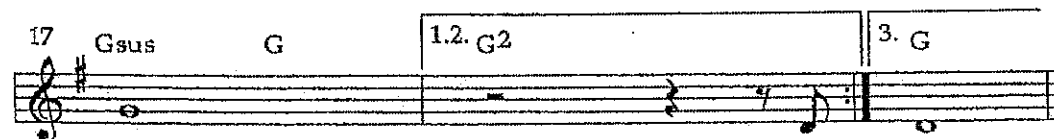
grace so ten - der - ly. I lift my hands and praise Your



name. Je - sus, You have giv - en me all of Your



love on Cal - va - ry. I lift my heart in - to Your



hands.

2. A

Used with permission of CCLI 1478659.

(Co

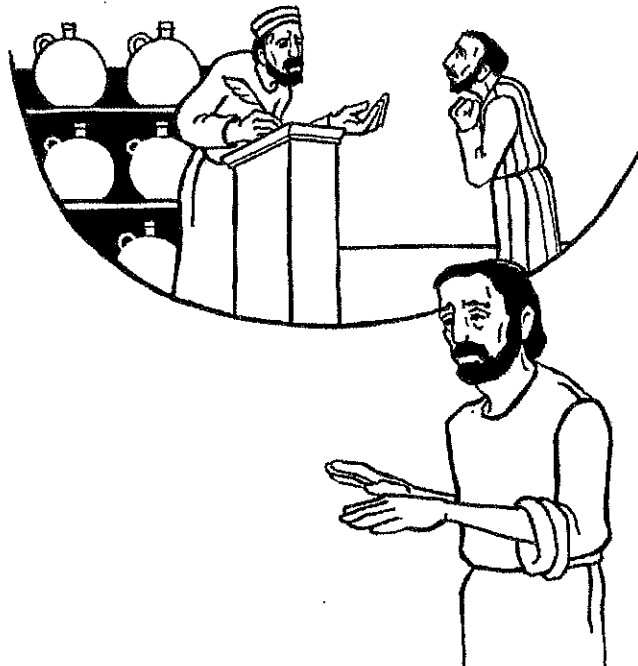
DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SHARE IN OUR WORSHIP

SATURDAY	5:00 pm Worship Service
Ushers	Dan & Karen O'Flahrity
Reader	Joni King
Communion Assistant	Joni King
Counters	Mike & Rita Smith
SUNDAY	9:00 am Worship Service
Ushers	Kenny & Sue Oetzmann
Reader	Mary Moore
Communion Assistant	Mary Moore
Counters	Kenny & Sue Oetzmann
Choir Director	Susan Becker
Organist	Teri Wittkowski and Susan Becker
Jubilation Leader	Neal Becker
Online Streaming Crew	Lucas Golinghorst, Scott La Plante, & Kevin Zidarich



True Riches

Being stuck in unjust systems is exhausting. Perhaps they are designed to frustrate and impede any efforts to undo their power. The manager in Jesus' parable does what he can to make the most of his precarious position, but his resolution still leaves a lot to be desired. Does the rich man remain in his wealthy and powerful position? What about all the others who still owe the estate? Why does the manager, and not the rich landowner who holds all the cards, become the object lesson?

It seems Jesus is getting serious here about our relationships with money, riches, and power: "You cannot serve God and wealth" (Luke 16:13). That much is clear. But perhaps Jesus is drawing our attention to the larger implications of God's economy and what it means to lean on one another for the sake of justice in our world. Luke's gospel began with Mary's song, after all, extolling the ways the poor will be lifted up in the kingdom Jesus brings. In this new reign, all resources are brought into the service of those who need them most. Faithful living here and now might look different from what we're accustomed to when we consider what God has in mind, especially when we are used to unhelpful contemporary mantras like "Might makes right" and "Winner takes all."

True to Mary's song, Jesus indeed turns our world upside down, which distresses those of us who appreciate good order. But in the end, this turning does what is needed to make the world right. In our world today, we may struggle with the forgiveness of debts and the redistribution of wealth, but Jesus doesn't. God brings the true riches of justice and love for all and will not fail to do what is needed to make sure every last beloved person on earth has what they need to truly live.

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Senior Pastor Carrie La Plante Pastor Heather Geest

Worship: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 9 am

Telephone: (563) 285-4501 Email: faitheldridge@netins.net



GRACE - GIFTED FAITH - LIFTED
CALLED TO SHARE, SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST.

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20 & 21, 2025

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Today we gather to celebrate God's love and grace as revealed to us through Jesus Christ. For those that might be interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities of the congregation there are some printed materials available for you to take. The materials are located on the counter just inside the east entrance of this building. You can also find more information through the church website at faithlutheranelldridge.com.

CHILDREN are always welcome in worship. Special children's bulletins are available for their use.

VISITOR? CHANGE OF ADDRESS? INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES? HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST? Please feel free to complete the information card located in front of you next to the hymnals and pass the card to the outer aisle during announcements and an usher will pick them up during the call to worship.



The flowers on the altar this weekend are given by Dennis & Mindy Arp in celebration of their 45th Wedding Anniversary.

If you are interested in providing altar flowers, please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex, or by using the link on our web site, www.faithlutheranelldridge.com



Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.

Steve Mixdorf
Henry Storjohann
Jim Schneider
Gary Oerman
Patty Denner
Barb Conklen

Meyer Mixdorf
Cheryl Torey
Anderson Sears
June Mephram
Anna Mundy
Rebecca Casson

Twylia Chizek
Marilyn
Kelly
James
Cindy
Thad

Usher Training



Ushers and those interested in becoming Ushers...

Our Church Council recently adopted a security plan. The Ushers have a important role in the safety and security of our church. Part of the plan requires quarterly training for the Ushers. The 2nd Training will be held on **Sunday, September 21 @10:15 am** in the Sanctuary. Please plan to attend! **Contact Tom Bauer at (563) 505-5776 for more information.**

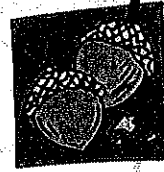
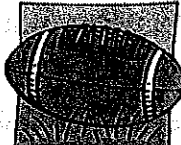
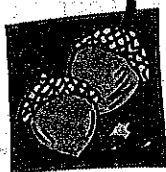
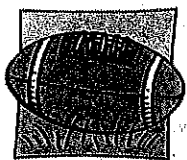
Homecoming Parade Tailgate



North Scott Homecoming Parade

Thursday, September 25 @ 5:15 pm

The North Scott Clergy Group will be hosting a Tailgate Party at Faith Lutheran Church beginning at **5:15 pm on Thursday, September 25**, before the North Scott Homecoming Parade. Everyone in the community is invited to come and join us for hot dogs, chips, water, and other treats, so please come and invite your friends to come for some food and to enjoy the parade from our lawn. We look forward to celebrating the Lancers together!



Friday



Fun Club

Join with others as our church welcomes children kindergarten through 6th grade to "Friday Fun Club" the **last early dismissal Friday** of each month. The next Friday Fun Club event will be on **Friday, September 26**.

Volunteers are needed in Arts & Crafts, Storytime, Music, Game time and Snack time. Donations of supplies and snack items are also needed.

You can sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board at church, or call Mary Moore at 285-7223 to volunteer. *Thank you!*

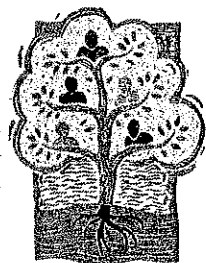
New Members Class



Join us **October 5 at 11:15 am** for a simple meal and conversations to help us get to know each other. If you plan on attending, please email or call the office to let us know. New Member Welcome will be during the worship services on the weekend of **October 11th & 12th**.

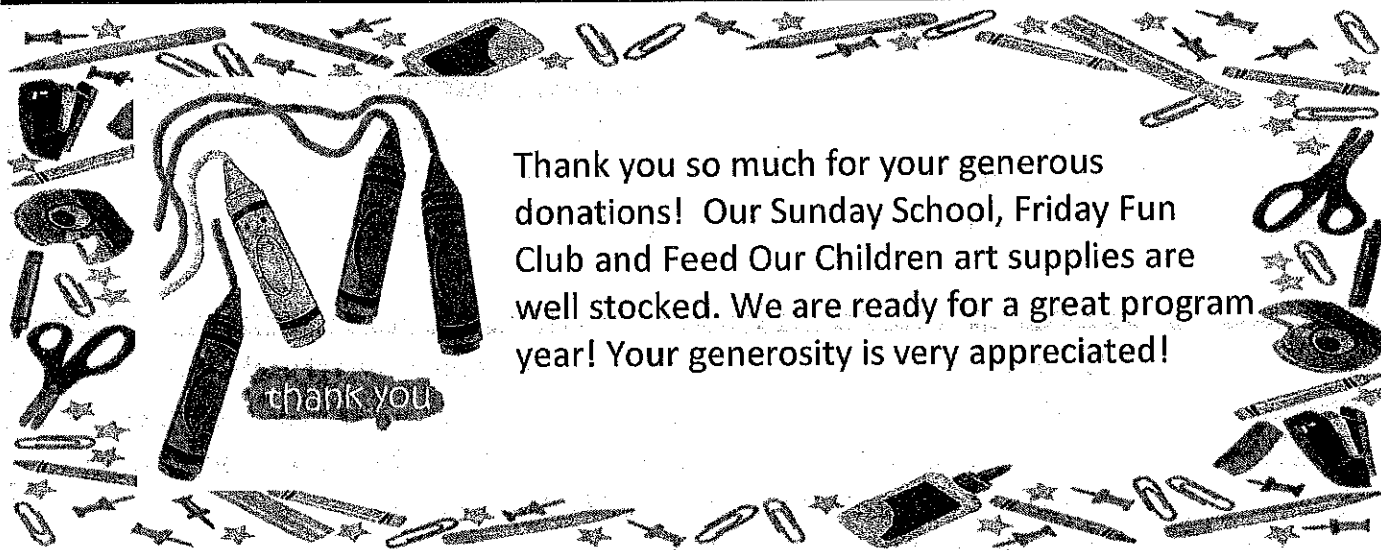


Be Our Guest: We are inviting you to our next Be Our Guest on **Tuesday, October 21, at 6:30 pm**. Ann Schwickerath from Project Renewal is our Fall guest speaker. We will gather and show interest in learning from others. The gathering is open to all community members. We ask that you share in the togetherness, as a community learning about hobbies, adventures, and helpers who offer programs and services in our area and maybe some musical groups. We welcome your ideas and hearing about talents you would be willing to share with others.



Faith Families
Worship Leaders

We are looking for members to serve as Faith Family Heads. We have been unable to fill these positions as members retire from our team. Responsibilities for the position are locating ushers, lectors (readers), and communion assistants for 1 or 2 months a year. We have had members serving in these roles for several years. Adding 1 or 2 members to the team could make it only a yearly commitment. Please prayerfully consider joining the Faith Family Head Team. Contact Nina Looney, Worship and Music Team leader if interested – 563 570-0711, 563 285-9339, nklbpl@msn.com



Thank you so much for your generous donations! Our Sunday School, Friday Fun Club and Feed Our Children art supplies are well stocked. We are ready for a great program year! Your generosity is very appreciated!



Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

Join us this Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 pm, as we read and discuss the scriptures for the week ahead.



September 13 & 14: 5:00 pm: 47, 9:00 am: 123 Online: 68 Total: 238

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

WEEKLY

Sneak Peek

Saturday, September 20

5:00 pm Jubilation Worship in
Sanctuary & Online

Sunday, September 21

9:00 am Jubilation Worship in
Sanctuary
10:15 am Fellowship
10:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am Usher Training
6:00 pm Scouts

Monday, September 22 *Office Closed*

Tuesday, September 23

1:00 pm Bible Study
5:30 pm Food Pantry

Wednesday, September 24

10:15 am Resounding Joy
5:00 pm Confirmation Meal
5:30 pm Confirmation Conversations
6:00 pm People of Praise
7:00 pm High School Youth

Thursday, September 25

9:00 am Ambassador Folding
5:15 pm Homecoming Tailgate &
Parade

Friday, September 26

9:30 am Food Pantry
1:00 pm Friday Fun Club

Saturday, September 27 *Noisy Offering*

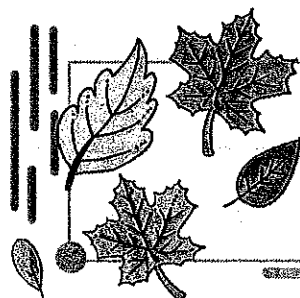
5:00 pm Worship in Sanctuary &
Online

Sunday, September 28 *Noisy Offering*

9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary
10:15 am Fellowship
10:15 am Sunday School



Pastor Carrie and Pastor Heather are available for Pastoral Care, but we need your help to know when and where that is needed. Please contact us at the church office at **(563) 285-4501**. For after-hour emergencies, please contact **Pastor Carrie at (641) 275-1326** or **Pastor Heather at (563) 639-9606**.



Hello fall

