



# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

1187 C.R. 128 & U.S. Rt. 20

Fremont, Ohio 43420

Pastor Tim Miller

93.1FM

Church: 419-332-6820

faithchurch@amplex.net

www.faithfremont.org

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**Reformation Sunday**

**October 27, 2024**

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Setting 8 & 3 with Holy Communion

\*Congregation please stand as you are able.

## **Introduction**

Can we pray the way Bartimaeus prays? People try to hush him up because by addressing Jesus as “Son of David” he is making a politically dangerous claim that Jesus is the rightful king. Could our prayers ever be heard as a threat to unjust powers that be? Bartimaeus won’t give up or go away quietly, but repeats his call for help more loudly. Do we ask so boldly? And are our prayers an honest answer to Jesus’ question, “What do you want me to do for you?”

**(8:00) Prelude:**                    *Variation on Luther’s Theme*                    **R. Thygerson**

**(10:30) Prelude:**                    *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*                    **Robert Lind**

**(10:30) Bell Choir:**                    *Above All*                    **arr. D. Kent**

**Welcome & Announcements:** Joys and Concerns

Signing of the Pew Register by all present.

**\*(8:00) Gathering Song:** *People Need the Lord*    *See Insert (2 sides)*

**\*(10:30) Gathering Song:** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*    **ELW 504**

## **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## **\*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.**

## \*Kyrie

*Refrain*

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

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

- P: For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;  
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,  
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain.*
- P: That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the  
poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain.*
- P: For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;  
for life and for love, for our work and our play,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain.*
- P. For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the  
Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,  
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain.*

## **\*Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,  
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us  
cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first  
we make distinctions among ourselves.**

**We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.**

**In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.**

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,  
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity  
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ,  
the source of eternal healing,  
your sins are forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

## **\*Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

**C: Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the  
darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us.  
Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### First Reading:

### Jeremiah 31:7-9

*This passage speaks not only of the southern kingdom, Judah, and its homecoming from exile in Babylon, but also of the northern kingdom (“Israel” or “Ephraim”) and its restoration. The northern tribes of Israel had been lost in exile to Assyria more than a century before Jeremiah prophesied.*

R: A reading from Jeremiah, the 31<sup>st</sup> chapter.

<sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say,  
“Save, O LORD, your people,  
the remnant of Israel.”

<sup>8</sup> See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame,  
those with child and those in labor, together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup> With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back,  
I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Responsive Reading:

### Psalm 126

<sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
then were we like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup> **Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we are glad indeed.

<sup>4</sup> **Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses of the Negeb.**

<sup>5</sup> Those who sowed with tears  
will reap with songs of joy.

<sup>6</sup> **Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

**Second Reading:**

**Romans 3:19-28**

*Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.*

R: A reading from Romans, the third chapter.

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup> For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup> But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup> since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup> they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup> it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup> Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup> For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## \*Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## \*Gospel

**Mark 10:46-52**

*Bartimaeus comes to Jesus with faith, asking that he might see again. Recognizing Jesus' identity, Bartimaeus is the first person to call him "Son of David" in the Gospel of Mark.*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10th chapter.

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**P:** <sup>46</sup> As [Jesus] and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. <sup>47</sup> When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>48</sup> Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>49</sup> Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." <sup>50</sup> So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." <sup>52</sup> Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.]  
The Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Children's Sermon

## Sermon

**\*Sermon Hymn:** *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* ELW 886

### (8:00) Affirmation of Baptism

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**Mason Harder** – Philippians 4:13 –

“I can do all things through him who strengthens me.”

**Caleb Seibert** – Philippians 4:11 –

“Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have.”

### \*(10:30) 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. Amen.**

### \*Prayers of Intercession

R: Challenged by God’s Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

*A brief silence.*

R: Eternal Counselor, guide the church along your paths of mercy. Direct it to be a refuge where all are genuinely welcomed and their gifts are celebrated. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

R: Eternal Nurturer, preserve natural places for rest and rejuvenation. Guide the work of conservationists, park managers, urban planners, gardeners, and all caretakers of natural spaces. Attune us to the wonders we disregard or fail to notice. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

R: Eternal Wisdom, strengthen the voices of those who cry out for change to unjust systems. Give lawmakers, judges, and all those who occupy seats of power listening and compassionate hearts. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

R: Eternal Compassion, train us to respond to the cries of those in any kind of need. Give encouragement and comfort to those who call out for relief from pain, grief, or oppression, *especially those we name at this time (Pause for people to be named)*. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

R: Eternal Servant, grant vision and wisdom to the church so that those who are in need are not ignored. May the command of Jesus to love our neighbor sharpen our focus for work in the kingdom. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

R: Eternal Hope, may the legacy of the saints inspire us every day. We hold fast to the promise that we will be together in your presence forever. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

R: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

### \*Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

(10:30) Sr. Choir:

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

**R. Hughes**



## **Offering**

## *Give Thanks*

Give thanks with a grateful heart.

Give thanks to the Holy One,

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart.

Give thanks to the Holy One.

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son.

Give thanks.

## **\*Offering Prayer**

P: Blessed are you, O God,

source of every gift of your creation.

By these gifts and with our lives,

help us to serve one another and all in need,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **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 our thanks and praise.**

P: 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.

## **\*Thanksgiving at the Table**

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,

who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,

who preached good news to the poor,

and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Lord's Prayer**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**C: 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.**

**Invitation to Communion**

P: Jesus welcomes you to this table.  
Come, here is your God.

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.

### **Distribution of Communion**

*Communion will be continuous. The ushers will invite you to come forward by the center aisle. You will be handed the bread with the words, "The Body of Christ given for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!". Step to the Communion Assistant and take the cup. They will speak the words, "The Blood of Christ shed for you." You may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God!" Empty cups may be placed in the basket as you return to your seat by the side aisle.*

*If you prefer gluten- free bread, please let the Pastor know. If you prefer grape juice, please let the Communion Assistant know. If you prefer not to receive or have children who have not yet received, please let Pastor Tim know and he will offer a blessing.*

**(8:00) Praise Choir:**

*Just Pray*

**Shawna Edwards**

### **Communion Hymns:**

**(10:30) ELW 673 *God, Whose Almighty Word***

**(10:30) ELW 674 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ***

### **\*Post Communion Blessing**

**P:** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Prayer After Communion**

P: Holy God,  
you have welcomed us to this meal  
and fed us with dignity at your table.  
Send us now to welcome others  
and to be at peace with one another,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**\*Blessing**

P: God all mighty,  
God most merciful  
✠ bless you, keep you,  
and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

**(8:00) Bell Choir:**                      *Above All*                      **arr. D. Kent**

**\*(8:00) Sending Song:**    *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see.
2. T'was grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears  
relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

**Chorus:**

My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me:  
And like a flood His mercy reigns,  
Unending love, amazing grace.

3. The Lord has promised good to me; His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. *Chorus*

4. The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine;  
but God who called me here below, will be forever mine.  
Will be forever mine. Chorus

**Chorus:**

My chains are gone, I've been set free.  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me:  
And like a flood His mercy reigns,  
Unending love, amazing grace.  
Unending love, amazing grace.

**\*(10:30) Sending Song:**

*Be Thou My Vision*

**ELW 793**

**\*Dismissal**

**P:** Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**(8:00) Postlude:**

*Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*

**(10:30) Postlude:**

*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word*

**Joy E. Koning**

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**THE CHURCH IS ALWAYS BEING CALLED TO REFORM**, to become more loving, to resemble more closely the kingdom of God. Welcome to worship this Reformation Sunday!

**ALTAR FLOWERS** this morning are given in honor of Ken & Ginger Walker's 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. With Love, Mom Walker.

**TODAY THESE YOUNG PEOPLE AFFIRM THEIR BAPTISM:**

Mason Harder – Parents are Steve and Brianne Harder

Caleb Seibert – Parents are Jim & Jackie Seibert

**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY** is November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. We will be remembering all the Saints who have entered the church triumphant since our last All Saints Sunday last year. If you would like to add a loved one's name to those we recognize on this day, **please call the office at 419-332-6820 by this Tuesday.**

**AIR CONDITIONING FUND** – The Air Conditioning Fund is being closed. Please direct your funds to another of our needed areas. Thank you.

**FREMONT CHRISTMAS PARADE!** - The Mission & Outreach Committee would like to participate in the Christmas Parade in Fremont this year, which will be on Saturday, December 7th at 6 p.m. in Downtown Fremont. We would like help in planning / building a float / walking in the parade. There is a sign-up sheet in the coat area - please sign up and indicate your interest. If you can't walk in the parade, but would like to help plan - SIGN UP! If you can't plan, but would like to be involved in the parade - SIGN UP! Thank you!

**OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS**, a member of council has brought up the idea of having TV screens installed in the sanctuary to be utilized during worship. These would be large screens and would have the bulletin shown on them, along with all the lyrics for the hymns we sing. The large font would make it easier for many members to read and having the bulletin and hymns on the screens would make it easier for many members, especially those with small children, to participate more fully in the service. The congregation council assembled a team of 5 people to look into this as well as look into updating the sanctuary sound system. On Sunday, November 3, during fellowship time, in between services, the team will have a Q & A meeting for any who would like to attend. **This will just be a Q & A meeting, we will not be voting on anything.** During this meeting, there will be a demonstration on the TV in the fellowship hall of what the bulletin would look like. The team has done extensive work and has compiled a list of 29 questions & answers relating to this project. Copies of those will be available beginning this Sunday, in the narthex. If anyone has a question that is not on this list, please speak with one of the team members, and you don't need to wait until the meeting. The team members are: Jackie Seibert, Deb Fahle, Marissa Northrup, Mike Tooman, and Cole Dymond.

**OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL DINNER OUT** will be held on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. at Buffalo Wild Wings in their party room. You will be ordering from the menu and can get a burger or large salad for \$10 to \$13. There is a sign-up sheet on the Women's Bulletin Board in the coat room area. Please consider joining us for this festive night out.

**FAITH LUTHERAN WOMEN'S THANK OFFERING SUNDAY** will be Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at both services. We look forward to Cheryl Paeth sharing the sermon this day. We will also honor our veterans by recognizing them on this Sunday. Please pick up your Thank offering envelopes in the Narthex for our special offering. Thank you.

**THE WOMEN WILL BE COLLECTING FOOD ITEMS** for the Sandusky County Food Pantry all during the month of November as part of our Thank Offering donations. Thank you.

**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH: FINAL WORSHIP**

Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Hessville will be dissolving as a congregation. The building is being gifted to Luther Home of Mercy, a ministry dedicated to helping adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The final worship service at Emmanuel (3557 US-20, Lindsey, OH 43442) will be on **TODAY, Reformation Sunday, October 27 at 2:00 PM.**

**IF MY PEOPLE** – As our prayer group gathers we have our conversations with God, praising him, offering thanks for all he is and all he does and putting our cares and concerns before Him. One of those concerns is this country of ours and the cares of the entire world. We ask that you join us in a 40 day prayer journey for our leaders and the future of our country, using the 'If My People' devotional.

“If my people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

(2 Chronicles 7:14)

These devotionals will be distributed on Sunday mornings at worship and will be available on the shelf in the narthex. We hope that you will pray with us as we continue our faith journey. Blessings to you.

**ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE** will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>.

**THE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS** is studying the importance of making time for God using the Impact Video Series. We meet in Room 8 on Sundays, and start around 9:30 a.m., giving you plenty of time to have some breakfast! Due to the congregational meeting, we will not meet on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**THE TOLEDO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT** will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 705 W. State St., Fremont, on Friday, December 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. Organizers are hoping for sponsors to help with the cost of \$13,000. Please help us bring this fine musical program to Fremont. There are tiers for how many free tickets you receive with sponsorship. Please see the letter on the bulletin board in the coat room area. Checks should be made payable to Grace Lutheran Church, earmarked for the Toledo Symphony and mailed to the above address. Tickets will be mailed 3 weeks prior to the concert. We thank you for your consideration.



## ASSISTING TODAY

**Pastor:** Rev. Tim Miller    **Organist:** Parm Boyer    **Pianist:** Becky Fox

**Sr. Choir Director:** Darla Brown    **Bell Choir Dir.:** Darla Brown

**Praise Choir Director:** Becky Fox    **Flautist:** Marilyn Ring

**8:00 a.m.**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Greeter:** Roy & Shelli Burgoon    Paul Antesberger & Cindy Zorn

**Lector:** Kim Smith    Julia Norris

**Acolyte:** Robert Fought    Julia Norris

**Communion:** A. Miller/M. Fought    P. Antesberger & Annie Gazdecki

**Counters:** Annie Gazdecki\* & Anne Gerner

**Fellowship Time Host:** Harder/Seibert Families

**Altar Guild:** Sarah Quaintance & Nicole Weiker

## ASSISTING NEXT WEEK

**Pastor:** Rev. Tim Miller    **Organist:** Parm Boyer

**Sr. Choir Director:** Darla Brown

**8:00 a.m.**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Greeter:** Jim & Kim Smith    Randy & Peggy Koch

**Lector:** Kim Smith    Evan McBride

**Acolyte:** Easton Root    Evan McBride

**Communion:** S. Reed/Deb Fahle    B. Kocsis & R. Koch

**Counters:** Cheryl Durnwald\* & Randy Koch

**Fellowship Time Host:** Adult II Sunday School Class

**Altar Guild:** Bonnie Overmyer & Debra Fahle

## PRAYING DAILY



**For healing and hope:** Pat Copley, Connie Diekman, Della Humbarger, Denny Krumnow, Bill Leutenegger, Stan Moyer, Nancy Mylander, Letty Rusch, Bob Schneider, Dorothy Swedersky, Janet Tressler, Carnetta Weber, Linda Woessner, Jay Kinchy, Al & Judi Krumnow.

**For the Family of:** Nancy Roach, Tonya Ickes

**For our Military:** Noah Egbert, Troy Halfhill, Jade Kayser, Daniel Linder, Katie Olmstead, Tony Rozzi, Christopher Templeton, & Joshua Tooman.

**For our Bishops:** Bishop Christian Ndossa, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, and NWOS Bishop Daniel Beaudoin and Staff

**For our partner congregation in Bumila, Tanzania**

**And its pastor:** Pastor Peter Magasi

**FAITH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK OF –Oct. 27 to Nov. 3**

**Sunday**

Oct. 27-----8 & 10:30 a.m.   Worship with Holy Communion  
  9:15 a.m.    Sunday School & Fellowship Time

**Monday**

Oct. 28-----8 a.m.       Men’s Group in Fellowship Hall  
                                  10 a.m.     Valley View Tea Time with God  
                                  7:30 p.m.   Dartball at Home vs. Zion

**Tuesday**

Oct. 29-----6:30 a.m.    Bus People report for Daniel & Much More

**Wednesday**

Oct. 30-----6:30 p.m.   Bell Choir  
                                  7:30 p.m.   Praise Choir  
                                  7:30 p.m.   Senior Choir

**Thursday**

Oct. 31----- 3 p.m.    Christ Care

**Friday**

Nov. 1-----

**Saturday**

Nov. 2-----9:15 a.m.   Christ Care

**Sunday**

Nov. 3- -----8 & 10:30 a.m.   Worship with Holy Communion  
  9:15 a.m.    Sunday School & Fellowship Time

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2024: ATTENDANCE: 123 – OFFERING: \$2,626.02  
NOISY OFFERING, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2024: \$165.58

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## GOSPEL MESSAGE

October 27, 2024

### Hear Me, O God!

This week we get a beautiful little glimpse of scripture that mirrors real life. Here is Bartimaeus, shouting to be heard. The crowd tries to shush him, but it just emboldens him to be louder. Perhaps you can relate: Have you ever seen a child trying to get their parent’s attention, tugging on their pant leg and getting louder by the minute?

In worship it might feel like we are stuck in a “groundhog’s day” kind of repetition, trying to get God’s attention: “O Lord, have mercy on us! Bring your justice. Bring your peace. Forgive us.” Week after week, most of the liturgy we hear, speak, and sing together is the same. The needs in the world around us seem constant, and sometimes it feels like God is ignoring our requests. And yet, this gospel story is a good reminder that repetition is not a bad thing.

Jesus stands still, calls Bartimaeus over, and asks him what he needs. In the end, not only can Bartimaeus see again, but he begins to follow Jesus.

Liturgy—the word means “the work of the people”—is essential to who we are as Christian community. Within our worship each week, we give voice to what is in our hearts and minds, entrusting it all to God’s care. The repetition might feel tedious, and it is hard to trust the slow work of God. But perhaps hearing these words over and over again shapes us into seeing God more clearly in our everyday life. As we continue to show up and ask for Christ’s mercy, perhaps our ears and hearts become more open to listening to our neighbors’ voices as well—especially those who are marginalized and sidelined in our midst: people of color, women, those who are differently abled, and even our little ones. How can we have empathy for those who have to speak louder and more often just to be seen and heard?