

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

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

June 29, 2025

Setting 3 with Holy Communion

*Congregation please stand as you are able.

Introduction

We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.

Prelude:

Patriotic Medley

Various Composers

Welcome & Announcements: Joys and Concerns

Signing of the Pew Register by all present.

***Opening Hymn:**

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

ELW 888

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.**

***Confession and Forgiveness**

P: In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

**C: you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life. Amen.**

P: You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✙ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

*Canticle of Praise

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

C: Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading:

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

In the story preceding today's reading, the prophet Elijah flees for his life to the security of God's mountain. There God reveals to Elijah that there are still other faithful people in Israel and commissions him to anoint new leaders, including his own successor, Elisha.

R: A reading from 1 Kings, the 19th chapter.

¹⁵ Then the LORD said to [Elijah,] "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place."

¹⁹ So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰ He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" ²¹ He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

- ¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”
- ² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**
- ³ But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- ⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**
- ⁵ O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.
- ⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**
- ⁷ I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.
- ⁸ **I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**
- ⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
- ¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**
- ¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading:**Galatians 5:1, 13-25**

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

R: A reading from Galatians, the 5th chapter.

¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

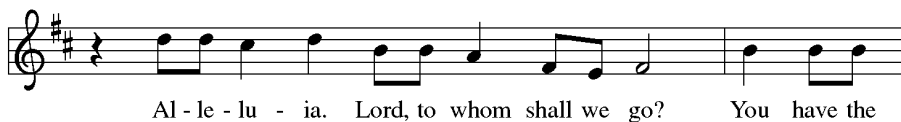
¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**



***Gospel**

Luke 9:51-62

Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 9th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: ⁵¹ When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵² And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way

they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³ but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴ When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵ But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶ Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷ As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸ And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” ⁵⁹ To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” ⁶⁰ But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹ Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” ⁶² Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

***Sermon Hymn:**

Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

***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: Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

R: Guide your church, O God. Anoint us for service and make us messengers of your peace. Emboldened by the witness of Christians throughout history, send us to proclaim your reign come near. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Protect this world, O God. Watch over fields and fruit trees, foxes and birds, the pleasant land beneath us and the sun and moon above. Keep us mindful of the rich inheritance you have given us in the natural world. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Counsel our leaders, O God. Make them steadfast in seeking justice and unable to be shaken as they pursue peace. Lead them by your Spirit to listen and respond to the people they govern. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Uphold all who suffer, O God. Give refuge to those of us who know rejection, and shelter to those of us who have nowhere to lay our heads. Bring any who are sick into your healing presence, *especially those we name at this time (Pause for people to be named)*. Give all your fullness of joy. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Set free this assembly, O God. Grow your Spirit's fruits within us and within our congregation's ministries. Set our faces always on you, that we might live in the freedom to which you have called us. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Embrace all your saints, O God. We thank you for the faithful departed. Let us rejoice that you do not abandon us to the grave but lead us on the path of life. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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.**

***Offertory:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Offering Prayer**

P: Creator God,

in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,

that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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.
 And so, with all the choirs of angels,
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

***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.

- P: 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.
- P: 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.
- P: Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.
- P: 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.**

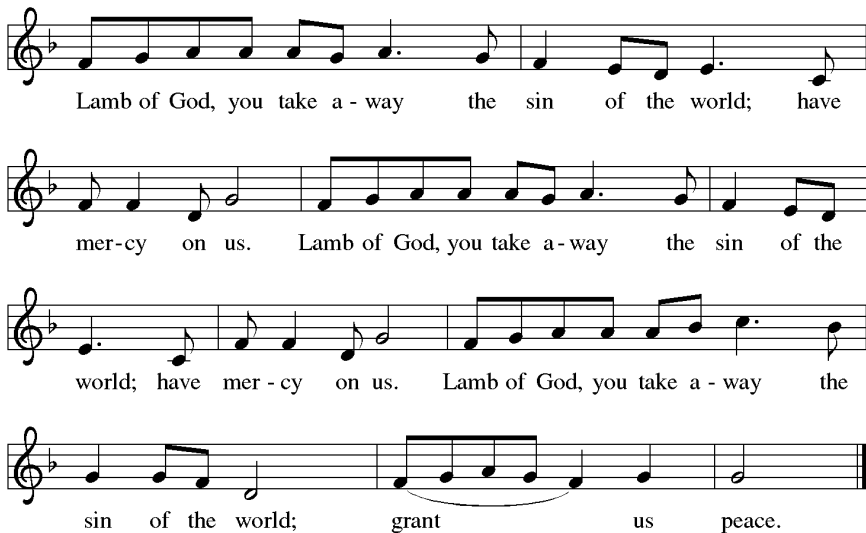
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

***Invitation to Communion**

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Lamb of God



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 the Pastor know and he will offer a blessing.

Communion Hymns:

ELW 515 *Break Now the Bread of Life*

ELW 483 *Here Is Bread*

***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: Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

SENDING

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

***Blessing**

P: The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

***Closing Hymn:**

Before You, Lord, We Bow

ELW 893

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude:**

Lift Every Voice and Sing

J. Johnson

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THE SEEDS OF YOUR GOOD FRUIT ARE PLANTED IN US, LOVING GOD.

Water us today so we sprout with patience, kindness, generosity, self-control and, above all, love (Galatians 5:22-23).

A SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held on Sunday, July 13th, 2025 at 10:15 a.m. after worship to vote on the council's recommendation for the new narthex doors and automatic opener and for their recommendation on the roofing contractor. Pastor Tim will also discuss and answer any questions regarding the 30-day sabbatical he will be taking next year. Please plan to attend.

AFTER 22 YEARS as the Sunday School teacher for grades Pre-K – Kindergarten, I am retiring. Please consider a teaching position for this age group, as it is needed. Thank you. Peggy Koch.

THANK YOU for the thoughtful cards, prayers, memorial stone, and lilac given in honor of my dad. Even though you didn't know him, your kindness and support have meant so much to me during this time. I truly appreciate the care and compassion you've shown—it has brought real comfort. Thank you, Angi Miller.

AS I THINK ABOUT MY CHURCH FAMILY, I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL for the calls, cards, and prayers for me and for Ruth as we deal with my on-going health issues. The handshakes, hugs, and the tap on the arm, are also appreciated as a sign of your love and support. Again, I just want to thank you all for your care and concern. As we journey through this life, let us keep praying for each other as we enjoy God's blessings every day. Peace to you all! - Bill Seibert.

QUILTS FOR KIDS – A huge thank you to all who participated in this outreach project. What an overwhelming gift of love you've shown. We'll be delivering them the end of July to Children Services and other local organizations so if you have any quilts yet to finish please have them here by Sunday, July 13. There will be a basket set aside for you to put them in. Again, your love in reaching out to those in need is a true blessing. Well done good and faithful servants.

MISSION AND OUTREACH PROJECT TO BENEFIT THE LIBERTY CENTER

During the month of July, the Mission and Outreach Committee will be holding a drive to help provide the Liberty Center with some needed supplies. A white board containing sticky notes, listing some of the products needed, will be set up in the narthex by the end of June. The committee is asking the congregation members to take a note or two, purchase those items, and place them in the cart located in the narthex by the end of July. The supplies will then be delivered to the center here in Fremont.

Supplies needed include paper towels, toilet paper, bags of sugar, Ziploc bags (gallon size), trash bags (13-gallon size), canned tuna in water, paper plates, and liquid dish soap.

Thank you for your consideration and participation in this project.

Randy J. Brown (Committee Chairperson) and Yvonne Vogel (Project Leader)



SUMMER WORSHIP: BEGINNING JUNE 1ST THROUGH AUGUST 31ST: Worship will be at **9 a.m. only** with Sunday School and Fellowship time to follow.



SUMMER MUSIC: Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Please consider sharing your gifts of worshipful song through vocal or instrumental music at our 9 am worship service beginning June 1st. You may contact Darla Brown at 419-680-6717 or Parm Boyer at 419-307-1332 if an accompanist is needed. There is a sign-up sheet on the board in the coat room area.

JOURNEYING THROUGH GRIEF BOOKS AVAILABLE – “The day will come when the memory of the person you lost brings a smile to your lips before a tear to your eye – that’s when you know you are going to make it.” The above quote is from a note of thanks for receiving the Journeying through Grief Books from our church, which are available to anyone and can be obtained in the church office to send out during the first year after your loved one passes. There are 4 books in the series and we have heard they are very helpful! Please consider sharing them with someone you know or for yourself if you’ve experienced the loss of a loved one. Yvonne Vogel can be contacted for questions (419) 307-1774

LIFT OUTDOOR WORSHIP LIFT Outdoor Worship is **TODAY, June 29th at 10am at the Fremont Community Amphitheater**, 209 S. Arch Street, Downtown Fremont. LIFT (Living in Faith Together) is a team of churches who strive to grow in faith and the love of Christ together.

THE 40TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING OF LUTHER HOME OF MERCY will be held on August 15, 2025 at Maumee Bay State Park, 1750 State Park Rd., #2, Oregon, Ohio beginning with an 8 a.m. Shotgun start. A copy of the registration form is on the bulletin board in the coat room area for your information. If you would like a copy to fill out and send in, please inquire in the office. Thank you. Questions can be directed to Melissa Gregg at mgregg@lutherhome.org or 419-972-4338.

SUMMER OF FUN RETURNS TO FREMONT PARKS!

From June 9th - August 20th there will be FREE events and activities throughout our local parks for all ages. LIFT will be there numerous days along with numerous local businesses, nonprofits, and community leaders. Check out the Fremont Rec department for the full calendar of events.

ASSISTING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Tim Miller **Preaching:** Richard Ponton

Organist: Parm Boyer

9:00 a.m.

Greeter: Den & Deb Fahle

Lector: Jackie Seibert

Acolyte: Evan McBride

Communion: Deb Fahle & Jackie Seibert

Counters: Marie Reiselt* & Nicole Weiker

Fellowship Time Host:

Altar Guild: Cheryl Durnwald & Carol Trick

ASSISTING NEXT WEEK

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

9:00 a.m.

Greeter: Laurie Krynock

Lector: Laurie Krynock

Acolyte: Jackson Fought

Communion: Marie Reiselt & Annie Gazdecki

Counters: Laurie Krynock* & Randy Koch

Fellowship Time Host:

Altar Guild: Martha Wise, Ann Waggoner & Barb Kocsis

PRAYING DAILY



For healing and hope: Paul Antesberger, Joan Bolen, Mary Ann Diekman, Millie Fetterman, Della Humbarger, Denny Krumnow, Bill Leutenegger, Dean May, Stan Moyer, Nancy Mylander, Gary Overmyer, Ken & Gloria Root, Letty Rusch, Bob Schneider, Jim Schwartz, Bill Seibert, Janet Tressler, Linda Woessner.

Kathy Gerber-Rogers, Marie Reynolds, Lori Swartz, John Triplett, Laura Walby.

For our Military: Noah Egbert, Troy Halfhill, Jade Kayser, Daniel Linder, 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 – June 29 to July 6

Sunday

June 29-----9 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 10 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time
 7-8:30 p.m. Hall Reserved – 4-H – Brianne Harder

Monday **OFFICE OPEN**

June 30----- 10 a.m. Valley View Bible Bingo

Tuesday

July 1-----

Wednesday

July 2-----

Thursday **OFFICE CLOSED**

July 3-----9-3 p.m. Fellowship & Sew Day
 3 p.m. Christ Care

Friday **HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!!**

July 4-----

Saturday

July 5-----

Sunday

July 6-----9 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 10 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time
 1-4 p.m. Hall Reserved – 4-H – Jackie Seibert

SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2025: ATTENDANCE: 97 – OFFERING: \$3,729.52

GOSPEL MESSAGE

June 29, 2025
Third Sunday after Pentecost

Moving in Love

Participating in divisive discourse has become pervasive in this culture, particularly on social media platforms. Conversations regarding religion and politics can swiftly escalate into full-blown battles, and it can be challenging to remain cordial and reflective when confronted with false dichotomies and personal attacks around social issues.

In today's gospel reading, the siblings James and John quickly want to retaliate with violence and aggression against the village that rejects Jesus. However, he rebukes them for their fury. The brothers appear to have disregarded the fact that when Jesus commissioned them earlier with the other disciples to spread the good news, he instructed them that if they encountered rejection, they should merely "shake the dust off [their] feet as a testimony against [the rejectors]" and move on (Luke 9:5). Dusting off their feet was not only for the sake of nonengagement but also for their safety. What good would the news be if every rejection led to violence and war?

It's not easy to dust off our feet and move on when we are engaged in passionate debates. But how do we translate this action into a life-giving practice of discipleship? We practice this spirit of reconciliation during worship when extending peace to our neighbor. We engage in loving discourse when we pray and share a meal around Jesus' table.

Our engagement as disciples is steeped in the reminder that Jesus came to bring abundant life and love into the world. Finding ways to stay connected to one another while balancing the moments that call for dusting off one's feet and moving on is not simple or easy. Gatherings and connections within and outside of worship allow us to practice God's abundant grace and mercy, whether by stepping away or by moving in close for the sake of care and love for neighbor and self.