



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Fremont, Ohio 43420

Pastor Tim Miller

93.1FM

Church: 419-332-6820

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www.faithfremont.org

9th Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, 2025

Setting 3 with Holy Communion

*Congregation please stand as you are able.

Introduction

Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part in today’s assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

Prelude: *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* Arr. Janet Linker

Welcome & Announcements: Joys and Concerns

Signing of the Pew Register by all present.

***Opening Hymn:** *Gather Us In* ELW 532

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: Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

First Reading:

Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

R: A reading from Genesis, the 15th chapter.

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading:

Psalm 33:12-22

¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

¹³ **The LORD looks down from heaven,
and sees all¹ humankind.**

¹⁴ God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.

¹⁵ **God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.**

- ¹⁶ A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
- ¹⁷ **The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.**
- ¹⁸ Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
- ¹⁹ **to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**
- ²⁰ Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD,
our helper and our shield.
- ²¹ **Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.**
- ²² Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you.

Second Reading:

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

R: A reading from Hebrews, the 11th chapter.

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that

they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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.

***Gospel**

Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 12th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: [Jesus said:] ³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into.

⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

***Sermon Hymn:** *O Master, Let Me Walk with You* **ELW 818**

***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: In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

R: Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Let your lovingkindness be on those in need, *especially those we name at this time (Pause for people to be named)*. Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Global Refuge and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

R: Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

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

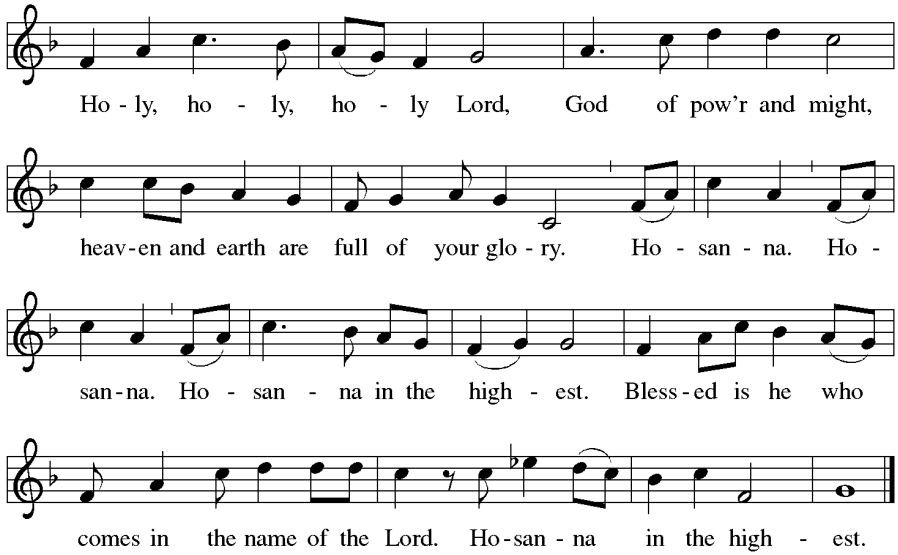
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;

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. Come, 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 502 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

ELW 802 *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

***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:** *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!* ELW 413

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Postlude:** *The Joy Processional* **Janis Dunson Wilson**

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LIFE IS OFTEN HARD, FOR MANY REASONS. So we gather to be fed and strengthened by Jesus, our Good Shepherd; to be assured of his presence and goodness. Welcome to worship.

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given in celebration of our 39th Wedding Anniversary, August 9th, by Gary & Bonnie Overmyer.

YOUTH & GROWTH COMMITTEE will meet Monday, Aug. 11th at 5 p.m.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE will meet Wed., August 13th, at 7:00 p.m.

PLEASE CONSIDER TEACHING SUNDAY SCHOOL for grades Pre-K - Kindergarten. After 22 years, Peggy Koch is retiring. Thank you.

FREE CHRISTIAN CONCERT – Hopefest in downtown Willard, Ohio. **TODAY, August 10, from 5 to 9 p.m.** featuring Cochren & Co. and Caleb and John.

GAMES – GAMES – GAMES!

Tuesday, September 9th – 7:00 p.m. – Fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite game and come to play.

We will have a great time! Don't miss out on our night of fun!!

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

Sign up today on the sheet on the women's bulletin board!

We will have our September General Meeting at

6:30 p.m. in the lounge and then LET THE GAMES BEGIN!!!



SOUPER SOUP COOKOFF AND SILENT AUCTION:

WHAT: Any kind of soup – No Peppers please

WHEN: Saturday, October 4, 2025 at 5 pm

WHERE: Faith Fellowship Hall

COST: \$10.00 for adults and
\$5.00 for kids 10 and under

Tickets sold at door only

UP TO 12 ENTRANTS: Sign-up between July 27th and September 14th.

We request that you be present to win.

RESTRICTIONS: **MUST NOT USE PEPPERS IN SOUP**

– due to some who are allergic to them.

SOUP HERE BY: 4:00 P.M. in a crock pot with no names or identifying marks on it.

SERVING: Women’s Board Members will serve Soup in Styrofoam bowls with entrant’s number on it.

TO ATTEND, EAT AND VOTE: Sign up by Sunday, September 28th – not required – simply to give us an idea of how many to expect.

VOTING: Each person attending will be given 1 ticket to write their number one choice on and drop into a box.

Only one ticket will be issued per person.

PROVIDED: Hot Dogs, Buns, Condiments, Crackers, Tableservice
Drinks: Lemonade, Iced Tea (Sweetened & Unsweetened), Hawaiian Punch, Water, Ice

PROCEEDS: To Flag City Honor Flight (For veterans to view monuments in Washington, D.C.) Free to Veterans, 1 Guardian can fly with them at a cost of \$400. They do 4 flights per year at a cost of \$150,000 per flight to take 80 Vets and their Guardians.

WANTED: Salads and Desserts to add to meal.

Sign-up sheet will be out closer to the time.

PRIZE: \$50.00 Visa Gift Card, Framed Certificate and Apron to sign to be displayed at the church AND “All year bragging rights”

SILENT AUCTION: **Wanted** – Groups or members to help donate Baskets/Items, Craft items, or Services you could provide someone to be included in auction. Sign up between July 27th – Sept. 28th

BE CREATIVE AND HAVE FUN WITH IT!

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE BEGIN A NEW SEASON OF MUSICAL WORSHIP!



May. The choir may participate in additional services during the Advent and/or Lenten seasons. New singers are always welcome to join!



p.m. This choir usually performs one anthem each month from Sept./Oct. through May.



joyful group of singers presents a contemporary anthem periodically for the **8:00 a.m.** Sunday worship service, starting in September and running through May. New singers are always welcome to join!

Faith's Praise Choir, directed by Becky Fox, will also rehearse on Wednesdays, from **7:30-8:00 p.m.** and will meet in the **Sunday School Gathering** room. This

You may contact Darla at 419.680.6717 or Becky at 419.618.6948 if you have any questions and would like more information. We hope to see you soon...

"as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Ephesians 5:19-20 (NRSV)

SANDUSKY COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

More families than ever are facing hunger and are struggling to make ends meet. Your donation to the Sandusky County Food Pantry helps us stock our shelves to meet the needs of families in our communities. No one should go hungry. With your help, no one has to. **DONATE TODAY!**

One time or recurring donations of any size make a difference.

Mail to: P.O. Box 445, Fremont, OH 43420

Or donate online: sanduskycountyfoodpantry.org

THANK YOU!

NWOS WOMEN OF THE ELCA 2025 GATHERING will be Sept. 26-27 at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 315 College Drive, Bowling Green, Ohio. Friday from 1:00-7:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9-3 p.m. Join us for Bible Study, Break-out Sessions, Worship Service, Friday night Program, Business Meeting, Fun, Food and Fellowship and a Silent Auction. Theme is: BE STILL, which encompasses both rest and listening. The Bible Studies for the weekend will be based on these. Break-out Sessions on Contemplative Prayer, Bible Journaling and Party Planning. Hotel accommodations are at the Holiday Inn, Bowling Green. Registration deadline for hotel rooms is August 19th. Deadline for Gathering only registration is September 12th. For a registration form, please inquire in the church office. Bring your Bible, a Reusable water bottle and Dress Casual.

IT'S NEVER EASY OR CONVENIENT to give the time and attention to our marriages that they need, but a Marriage Encounter Weekend provides a concentrated and safe environment to do exactly that. God commands us to love, which means love is not simply a feeling but an action. Husband and wives, rediscover your hearts, grow your commitment, don't risk letting your marriage relationship simply drift along. Commit a weekend to growing your marriage November 7-9 at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, Streetsboro OH. Go to GodLovesMarriage.org for more information about the benefits, costs, and details, and then get it on your calendar because *drifting* will never get your marriage to where you want it to be.

ASSISTING TODAY

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

9:00 a.m.

Greeter: Paul Antesberger & Cindy Zorn

Lector: Darla Brown

Acolyte: Evan McBride

Communion: Paul Antesberger & Randy Brown

Counters: Ann Waggoner* & Anne Gerner

Fellowship Time Host:

Altar Guild: Anna & Julia Norris

ASSISTING NEXT WEEK

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

Special Music: Karly Paeth

9:00 a.m.

Greeter: Pat Forsyth & Kathleen McClain

Lector: Kim Smith

Acolyte:

Communion: Ginger Walker & Annie Gazdecki

Counters: Dave Kocsis* & Judi Neill

Fellowship Time Host:

Altar Guild: Anna & Julia Norris

PRAYING DAILY



For healing and hope: Paul Antesberger, Joan Bolen, Patty Carrigan, Mary Ann Diekman, Denny Fahle, Millie Fetterman, Della Humbarger, Denny Krumnow, Bill Leutenegger, Dean May, Stan Moyer, Nancy Mylander, Sandie Reed, Ken & Gloria Root, Bob Schneider, Bill Seibert, Janet Tressler, Linda Woessner. Mick Rogers, Terri Titkemeier.

The Family of: Jim Schwartz

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 – Aug. 10 to Aug. 17

Sunday

Aug. 10-----9 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 10 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time

Monday

Aug. 11-----8 a.m. Men’s Group in Fellowship Hall
 10 a.m. Valley View Tea Time with God
 11:30 a.m. FLCW Visitation at Bob Evan’s
 5 p.m. Youth & Growth Committee

Tuesday

Aug. 12-----6:30 p.m. Executive Council
 7 p.m. Church Council

Wednesday

Aug. 13-----7 p.m. Endowment Committee

Thursday

Aug. 14-----3 p.m. Christ Care

Friday

Aug. 15-----

Saturday

Aug. 16-----

Sunday **BLESSING OF THE QUILTS, FLEECE, & PRAYER SHAWLS**

Aug. 17-----9 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
 10 a.m. Sunday School & Fellowship Time

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2025: ATTENDANCE: 127 – OFFERING: \$5,499.52

GOSPEL MESSAGE

August 10, 2025
9th Sunday after Pentecost

Always Ready

For which events are you always prepared? Perhaps the coffee is always on in your house, awaiting the unannounced guest at any hour. Or perhaps you always have your passport up to date, ready to take advantage of that spur-of-the-moment vacation deal that arrives in your inbox. Being prepared for what life brings us, knowing we're ready to tackle whatever comes our way, can give us a sense of security.

Today's gospel reading takes the idea of readiness to divine proportions as Jesus reminds the disciples to be prepared for God's inbreaking at any moment. How are we prepared for God to show up in our everyday life? How are we prepared to encounter God being at work, even now?

God's kingdom is like a grand wedding party where everyone is invited and has a light to shine. God's realm is like a gigantic feast where all are fed and no one goes away empty. God's reign is one in which humanity can invest in things that last, instead of hoarding for lean times, because in the community of God there is enough for all so we never need to be afraid.

While many people might hear this reading as referring only to Christ's final coming, in our liturgy we are reminded that Christ arrives in many and various ways all the time. We are blessed by the Holy Spirit in the waters of baptism, in the bread and wine of the eucharist, in the face of our neighbors as we greet one another with God's overwhelming peace.

The kingdom of God is always at hand, breaking through the ordinary and mundane in extraordinary ways. Today we are reminded to be ready for it, to look for it, to anticipate it with fearless expectation. So, how are we ready to encounter Christ today?