

August 7 & 10, 2025
9th Sunday after Pentecost



Undivided Attention On Heavenly Treasure

Last week Jesus warned us against overvaluing earthly wealth. This week Jesus warns against undervaluing heavenly treasure. Last week, Jesus exposed the folly of greed. This week, Jesus exposes the folly of worry, even when faced with the prospect of having a seeming shortage of resources. This week might be the bigger challenge! When it seems we lack providence or protection for our daily lives, it can be hard to avoid worry. So, Jesus asks us to give our undivided attention to him, that he might take our worries away. Jesus points to creatures that do not labor or toil yet eat every day. Even more, Jesus points to our Father who promises to give us the heavenly treasures of his kingdom. Jesus assures us that our Father will throw in any needed earthly possessions as well. We can rest from our worries, confident that our loving Father knows all we need.



Opening Hymn

By Faith CW²¹ 868



1 By faith we see the hand of God
2 By faith our fa - thers roamed the earth
3 By faith the proph - ets saw a day



in the light of cre - a - tion's grand de - sign,
with the pow'r of his prom - ise in their hearts,
when the longed - for Mes - si - ah would ap - pear



in the lives of those who prove his faith - ful - ness,
of a ho - ly cit - y built by God's own hand,
with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death



who walk by faith and not by sight. v. 2
a place where peace and jus - tice reign. *Refrain*
and rise tri - um - phant from the grave. *Refrain*



We will stand as chil - dren of the prom - ise; we will fix our



eyes on him, our soul's re - ward. Till the race is fin - ished and the



work is done, we'll walk by faith and not by sight.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: arr. Ruth N. Coleman, b. 1953; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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Stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins, Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

Absolution (pronouncement of forgiveness)

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Song of Praise

By Faith CW²¹ 868

4 By faith the church was called to go
in the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost
to deliver captives and to preach good news
in ev'ry corner of the earth. (*Refrain*)

5 By faith this mountain shall be moved
and the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail,
for we know in Christ all things are possible
for all who call upon his name. (*Refrain*)

Prayer of the Day

M: Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and willing to give far more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Be Seated

THE WORD

First Lesson

Genesis 15:1–6

In faith, Abram treasured all the LORD's gracious promises.

¹After these events the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision. He said, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward."

²Abram said, "Lord God what can you give me, since I remain childless, and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³Abram also said, "Look, you have given me no offspring, so a servant born in my house will be my heir."

⁴Just then, the word of the Lord came to him. God said, "This man will not be your heir, but instead one who will come out of your own body will be your heir."

⁵The Lord then brought him outside and said, "Now look toward the sky and count the stars, if you are able to count them." He said to Abram, "This is what your descendants will be like." ⁶Abram believed in the Lord, and the Lord credited it to him as righteousness. (EHV)



Psalm of the Day

Keep Me as the Apple of Your Eye Psalm 121d CW²¹

Refrain

Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of your eye.

Hide me, hide me in the shad - ow of your wings.

Tone

I lift up my eyes to the / mountains—
where does my help / come from?
My help comes / from the LORD,
the maker of heav- / en and earth.
He will not let your / foot slip—
he who watches over you will not / slumber;
indeed, he who watches over / Israel
will neither slum- / ber nor sleep. *Refrain*

The LORD watches / over you—
the LORD is your shade at / your right hand;
the sun will not harm / you by day,
nor the / moon by night.
The LORD will keep you / from all harm—
he will watch o- / ver your life;
the LORD will watch over your coming and / going
both now and for- / evermore.
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Tune: Jane Marshall

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Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:1–3,8–16

The gift of faith allows us to see the treasure that is found in the city whose architect and builder is God.

¹Faith is being sure about what we hope for, being convinced about things we do not see. ²For by this faith the ancients were commended in Scripture.

³By faith we know that the universe was created by God's word, so that what is seen did not come from visible things.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go to a place that he was going to receive as an inheritance, and he left without knowing where he was going.

⁹By faith he lived as a stranger in the Promised Land, as if it did not belong to him, dwelling in tents along with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

¹¹By faith Abraham also received the ability to conceive children, even though Sarah herself was barren and he was past the normal age, because he considered him faithful who made the promise. ¹²And so from one man, and he as good as dead, descendants were born as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand along the seashore.

¹³One by one, all of these died in faith, without having received the things that were promised, but they saw and welcomed them from a distance. They confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. ¹⁴Indeed, people who say things like that make it clear that they are looking for a land of their own. ¹⁵And if they were remembering the land they had come from, they would have had an opportunity to return. ¹⁶Instead, they were longing for a better land—a heavenly one. For that reason, God is not ashamed to be called their God, because he prepared a city for them. (EHV)

Stand

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

How Firm a Foundation *CW²¹ 800*



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose



is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow,
 my grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not, de - sert to its foes;



What more can he say than to you he has said,
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 for I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,
 the flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,



to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

Text: A Selection of Hymns, London, 1787, ed. John Rippon, alt.
 Tune: Genuine Church Music, Winchester, 1832, ed. Joseph Funk
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Luke 12:22-34

Jesus assures us that we have a Father in heaven who knows what we need better than we do.

²²Jesus said to his disciples, “For that reason I tell you, stop worrying about your life, about what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³Certainly life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing. ²⁴Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap; they have no warehouse or barn; and yet God feeds them. How much more valuable are you than birds! ²⁵And who of you by worrying can add a single moment to his lifespan? ²⁶Since you are not able to do this little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. But I tell you, not even Solomon in all his glory was dressed like one of these. ²⁸If this is how God clothes the grass in the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, how much more will he clothe you, you of little faith? ²⁹Do not constantly chase after what you will eat or what you will drink. Do not be worried about it. ³⁰To be sure, the nations of the world chase after all of these things, but your Father knows that you need them. ³¹Instead, continue to seek the kingdom of God, and all these things will be added to you.

³²Do not be afraid, little flock, because your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions and give to the needy. Provide money bags for yourselves that do not become old, a treasure in the heavens that will not fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (EHV)

Installation of an Early Childhood Director (Sunday at Shirley)

Installation of Lil’ Sprouts Board (Sunday at Shirley)

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord Almighty, our shield and our great reward, you have filled our hearts with faith in your Word, and clothed us in the righteousness of your Son, Jesus.

Our help comes from the Lord, **the Maker of heaven and earth.**

Even though we deal with many earthly problems, help us set our mind on heavenly things.
Strengthen our faith and drive out our fears.

Our help comes from the Lord, **the Maker of heaven and earth.**

As we live as strangers and pilgrims in this world, let your commands and promises guide us.

Open our lips to confess our hope before the world.

Our help comes from the Lord, **the Maker of heaven and earth.**

We pray for those who have served in the defense of our country and now bear wounds of body or mind. Give them help, healing and patience.

Our help comes from the Lord, **the Maker of heaven and earth.**

Guard and protect your church so that everything the devil and the sinful world set against us comes to nothing.

Our help comes from the Lord, **the Maker of heaven and earth.**

Your Son has taught us not to worry about food or clothing and has assured us of your fatherly care. Calm all the doubts and fears of your people, especially those who suffer in mind or body [especially...]. Since all power is yours and you are pleased to give us the kingdom, move all your people to trust your power, your plan and your timing.

Our help comes from the Lord, **the Maker of heaven and earth.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer.

Heavenly Father, in your mercy you provide food and drink for the nourishment of our war, bodies. Calm our worries and erase our doubts. Grant, good Lord, that as we receive all we need for body and life, we also receive nourishment for our souls from him who is the Bread and Water of life, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) and warns there are dangers in taking communion in an improper way (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), we practice close communion. WELS, ELS, and members of other churches around the world who are in fellowship with WELS are welcome to commune with us. If you would like to learn more about becoming a member and communing with us in the future, please speak to pastor or an usher.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



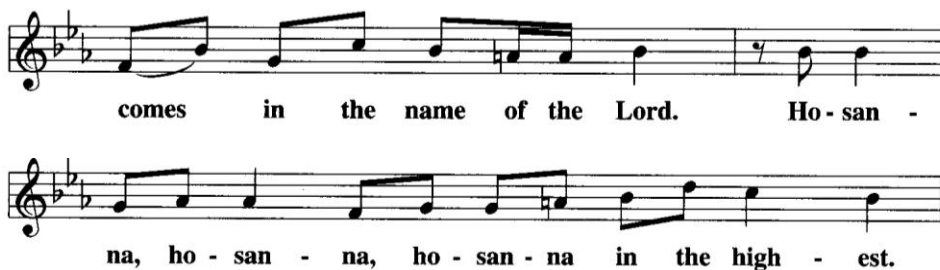
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



Words of Institution

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



Be Seated

COMMUNION

Please remember to register for communion

Morrison and Shirley Location: Marking "C" on the communication card in your pew. Please place communication card in basket behind the last pew as your leave today.

Distribution helps:

Morrison Location: 2 individual cups of white grape juice are available in each tray for those who prefer/need to have a nonalcohol alternative to wine. Gluten free wafers are also available. Hold your hand palm down to let the server know you would like the gluten free wafer.

Shirley Location: one individual cup of purple grape juice is available in each tray for those who prefer/need to have a nonalcohol alternative to wine. There are gluten free combination cups also available on the distribution table. Take one from the table if you would like the gluten-free combination cups that has both a gluten-free wafer on one side and wine on the other. **DRIVE IN WORSHIPPERS:** If you'd like communion today, please turn on your hazard lights ◀▶ during the distribution hymn. Leave them on until after Pastor visits your car. He will bring a combination cup which contains a wafer on one side and wine on the other.

You can use the questions on page 295 (blue hymnal), page 156 (red hymnal), on page 16 of this service folder, or the review of Lord's Supper on page 293 (blue hymnal) to prepare for communion.

Distribution Hymn

I Come, O Savior, to Your Table CW²¹ 670



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to your ta - ble, for weak and
2 O grant that I in man - ner wor - thy may eat and
3 I should not be your sheep, dear Sav - ior; I stray in
4 O let me loathe all sin for - ev - er as death and



wea - ry is my soul; O Je - sus, you a -
drink and be re - stored, and, dwell - ing on your
sin's ac - cursed ter - rain. And yet you par - don
poi - son to my soul, that I through will - ful



lone are a - ble to sat - is - fy and make me whole.
bound - less mer - cy, look on - ly un - to you, O Lord.
my be - hav - ior; my faith - ful Shep - herd you re - main.
sin - ning nev - er may see your judg - ment take its toll!

Refrain



Lord, may your bod - y and your blood be for my soul the high - est good.

- 5 Your holy heart has one obsession,
one blessed thing it burns to do—
to cleanse the sinner from transgression;
so I, a sinner, come to you. (Refrain)
- 6 My soul is burdened; Lord, relieve me,
by all this weight of sin oppressed!
Though sinful, yet, in grace receive me
and feed me as your grateful guest. (Refrain)
- 7 Within me, Lord, your vision traces
a heart of deep humility
that mourns its sin and yet embraces
the merit you have earned for me. (Refrain)
- 8 By faith I call your holy table
the testament of your deep love,
for by your gift I now am able
to know the heart of God above. (Refrain)
- 9 This meal with blessing is abounding:
to poor ones wealth, to weak ones pow'r,
to angels joy, to hell confounding,
and life for me in death's dark hour. (Refrain)
- 10 My heart has now become your dwelling,
O blessed, holy Trinity.
With angels I, your praises telling,
shall live in joy eternally. (Refrain)

M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dedication (Sunday at Shirley)

Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

Closing Hymn

Children of the Heavenly Father CW²¹ 502



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther safe - ly
2 God his own doth tend and nour - ish; in his
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his



in his bos - om gath - er; nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things he
Lord his chil - dren sev - er; un - to them his grace he
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; his the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; in his might - y arms he bears them.
show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, abr.; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, Sweden, 1873

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I Come, O Savior, to Your Table

Text: Friedrich C. Heyder, 1677–1754, abr.; (sts. 1, Ref, 2, 4, 8–10): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; (sts. 3, 5–7): tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, Leipzig, 1756

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Special thanks to the many volunteers from Morrison Zion and Immanuel Shirley who have helped with Lil' Sprouts and are committed to continue to serve the Early Learning Center. Thank you to the many people who have donated time, energy, and financial gifts to Lil' Sprouts. We ask God's continued blessings that Lil' Sprouts may be a blessing to children, parents, and our community.

Exploratory Committee

Alec Otto (Chairman), Danielle Ripp, Jake Geidel, Hillary Geidel, Nick Dobberpuhl, Mike Zirbel, Kelly Sullivan, Andrea Lemke, Lana Ossmann, Sandi Zirbel, Pastor Ruddat, Pastor Enderle, Jeremy Wittig, Ann Potter (Consultant).

Early Childhood Director

Danielle Ripp

Lil' Sprouts Board

Alec Otto (Morrison LT Rep), Nick Dopperpuhl (Maintenance, Shirley Council Rep), Hillary Geidel (Promotions), Lana Ossman (Finance), Jeremy Wittig, Sandi Zirbel, Mike Zirbel, Jake Geidel (Advisory), Pastor Enderle (Advisory), Pastor Ruddat (Advisory)

Special Gifts

Bernadine Lemke Memorial
Designated offerings

From the Giving Tree

Steve and Debbie DeMerrit
Mike and Lana Baerenwald
Jake and Hillary Geidel
Pastor Dave and Kelly Ruddat
Mike and Sandi Zirbel
Anonymous Donations

PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: *He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: *I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: *I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: *His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: *In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: *I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: *I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.