

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

July 26, 2026 • 9am

SUMMERSING

9th Sunday after Pentecost • Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 10

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

PRELUDE *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Faith Bells

SUMMERSING HYMN REQUESTS

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Congregation: Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

PARISH NEWS

COOKIE WALK

Evan Griswold

THE FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12 pew Bible page 302

Stephen Dean

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you."

PSALM 119:129-136 *pew Bible page 558*

Lector: Your decrees are wonderful; therefore I obey them with all my heart.

Congregation: When your word is opened it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

L: I open my mouth and pant because I long for your commandments.

C: Turn to me and be gracious to me, as you always do to those who love your name.

L: Order my footsteps in your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me.

C: Rescue me from those who oppress me, and I will keep your commandments.

L: Let your face shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.

C: My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your teaching.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:26-39 *pew Bible, page 1,032*

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *hymnal 172* Halle, Halle, Hallelujah



GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40-42 *pew Bible, page 889*
Even the smallest gestures of faith are appreciated by God.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 10th chapter.

Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord!

⁴⁰ "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Despair As Opportunity

Pastor Bob Stelter

Sermon manuscript is available on our website: www.faithloves.org/media

HYMN OF THE DAY *hymnal 385 (stand)*

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice and sing! Now is the
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; bring flow'rs of
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to -



tri - umph of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:
song to strew his way; let all the world re - joice and say:
life which can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:
day with one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

APOSTLES' CREED

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us proclaim our faith.

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.**

THE PRAYERS *stand or kneel*

Marti Poole, Assisting Minister

Assistant: Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Assistant: God our wisdom and our song, we pray for bishops, candidacy committees, those preparing for seminary, those awaiting call as deacons or pastors, and all who seek to lead your disciples in any way. God of grace,

Congregation: hear our prayer.

A: God our breath and our heartbeat, help us to recognize signs of your presence among us. Protect and support diverse ecosystems, from national parks to family farms, from ranches to wild places. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God our peace and our guide, help civic leaders hear all their peoples' stories with compassion and curiosity, and remind us of your love from which we can never be separated. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God our intercessor and our lawgiver, dismantle the barriers to care and recognition of all who live with chronic illness, mobility struggles, pain, and uncertainty. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God our redeemer, may we trust your love above and beyond all else that distracts, annoys, frightens, exhausts, or divides us. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: God who seeks, finds, and saves, for our community's part in the ongoing gift of creation, and for the riches of faith and hope which came before, we give you thanks. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Individual prayer petitions are invited.

Pastor: Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

Congregation: Amen.

CHILDRENS TALK

THE PEACE

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

Congregation: And also with you.

OFFERING FOR MISSION AND MINISTRIES

OFFERING ANTHEM *Love Consecrates The Humblest Act* arr. Randolph Currie

OFFERTORY *Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil* hymnal 512

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o - pen to the seed of your
word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where
love can grow and peace is un - der - stood. When my heart is hard,
break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

OFFERING PRAYER

Marti Poole, Assisting Minister

Assistant: Merciful God,

Congregation: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

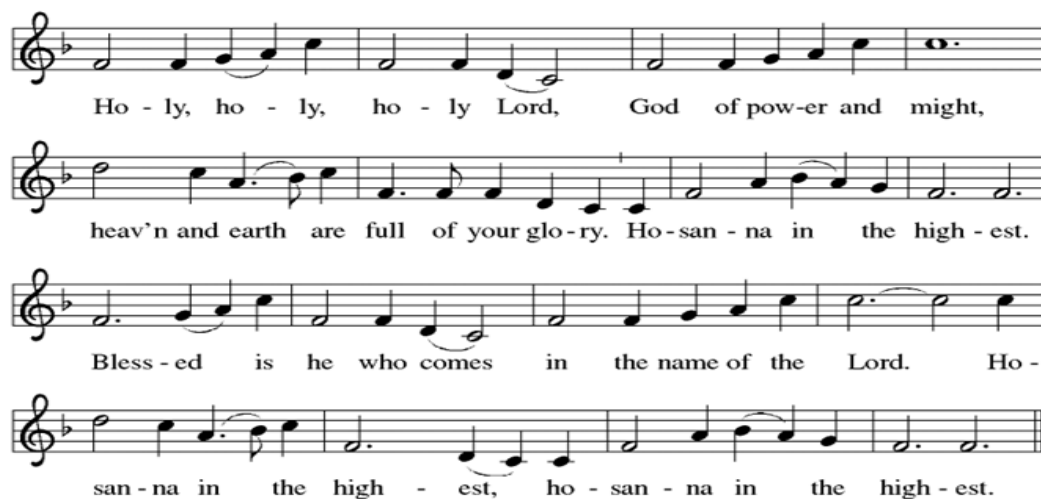
GREAT THANKSGIVING *Now the Feast & Celebration*

Pastor: The Lord be with you. And al - so with
Pastor: you. Lift up your hearts. We
Pastor: lift them to the Lord. Let us give
Congregation: thanks to the Lord our God. It is
right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE FOR THE PENTECOST SEASON

Pastor: 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR THE PENTECOST SEASON

Pastor: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

On the night before he died for us, 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.*

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Congregation: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Come to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body
of Christ for the world. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: With one will and one voice, we pray:

All: 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 FROM PASTOR STELTER

LAMB OF GOD *hymnal, page 208 (seated)*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Our Father, We Have Wandered

1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
 2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
 3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
 be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
 com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
 In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
 grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
 in glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
 Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

COMMUNION BLESSING *stand*

Pastor: Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His Grace.

Congregation: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev - 'ry - one what he has done.



Let ev - 'ry - one who seeks the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

CLOSING PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray, Gracious God,

Congregation: Guide us the way a good driver follows the road: steady, faithful and always moving toward Your promises.

We thank you for the young people in our church, for the energy, the questions and the hope they bring. Help us make room for them in the front seat of our ministry, not tucked away in the back

Lord, teach us to value every generation. Give our older members the courage to mentor, encourage and walk alongside the young. Give our young people confidence to step forward, serve boldly and discover their place in our mission.

Strengthen Faith Lutheran Church so we travel together like a convoy with each person supporting the other, each one moving toward the same destination of Your grace, Your truth and Your kingdom.

Keep us focused and faithful on the road ahead. Keep us humble enough to learn, brave enough to change and loving enough to welcome all who join in this journey.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SENDING HYMN *hymnal 611*

I Heard The Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav - 'ling days are done.

DISMISSAL

Marti Poole, Assisting Minister

Assistant: Go in peace!

Congregation: We have heard the Good News, we will share the Good News.

Assistant: Serve the Lord!

Congregation: We will love God, love others, serve.**POSTLUDE** *Rondeau* Joseph Mouret**WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY**

ALTAR GUILD	Gloria Fife
GREETERS	George Herbold, Elmer Syler
USHERS	Ritchie Case, John Woods
ASSISTING MINISTER	Marti Poole
LECTOR	Stephen Dean
COMMUNION MINISTERS	Allison & Danny Pressley, Kathy & Bryan Thompson
TECH BOOTH	Tim Stone, Dan Primka, Jim Hallahan

*The arrangements on the altar are given by **Vicki Adams**
in memory of Lisa.*

CHURCH COUNCIL LEADERSHIP TEAM

David Mabry, President • Stephen Dean, Vice President • Mary Bales, Secretary
Carrie Parrott, Treasurer • Pastor Bob Stelter • Ritchie Case
Christina Landau • Connie Rist • Dawn Titsworth • Emily Wright

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PRAYERS

(Prayers are refreshed at the beginning of each month)

Members Mary Bales, Terry Biesboer, Gene Bird, Dave Birkholz, Jan Bishop, Mary Blackburn, Roger Brown, Kathryn Butcher-Kripas, Jaigne Christman, Nancy & Leon Cole, Katie Condon, Michael Condon, Nancy Crain, Nancy Dean, Nancy Dickinson, Michelle Dionne-Kadowaki & family, Irene Dorfinger, Dawn Ellis, Patsy Elmore, John Elmore, Karoline Frasch, Pat Gary, Calvin Giles, Doug Goins, Mary Beth & Alex Green, Jonas Greenman, Anya Holbert, Deb & Doug Houck, Eric Johnson, Peggy Jurkoic, Peggy Lanning, Lin & Mike McKinley, Jen Page, Harold Peters, Joe Pigott, Joe Poole, Dr. Ted Primka, Roberts family, Tricia Saylor & family, Pamela Spaar, Bill Steele, Pat Weaver, John Woods, Matt Wright.

Friends & Families: Alderson family, Brittany Apking, App family, Ben Barton, Dave Berry, Bill Birkholz, Jim Birkholz, Sheila Birkholz, Michael Carfi, Nancy Crain, Michael Damico, the Dennis Family, Brandy & Brian Duke, Dan Edmunds, Richard Eller, Becky Ellison, Favre family, Alanna & Arnie Fenske, Kathi Fenske-Hong, Cindy Gioe, Angél Gobel, Kathie Green, Katie & Matt Green, Gutelius family, Hall family, Leanne Hedges, Jeff Herbold, Joy Hymer, Sarah Jurkoic & Vivek Chavila, Rhonda Kaiser, Barb Korsmo, Karen Lambertsen Priest, Darrin Lee, Bea Little, Loyacano family, Edna Moyes, Scott Nelson, Josh Nichols, Donn Olson, Chris Patrick, Rose & Steve Penney, Bill Porter, Shannon Remington, Mark Rogus, Sarah Ryg, Salles families, Lainey Savilisky, Marilyn Savilisky, Tony Savilisky, Scaglione family, Richard Sena, Jim Shea, Lynn Siegfried & family, Augustina Solace, Garrison Stephens, Leora Stewart, Janine & Tommy Swenson, Audra Tyler Moore, Frank Tyler, Beverly Vasalar, Janet Wengert, Mya, Ro & Haven Wolfe, Sherry Wolfe, Carrie, Chris, David D., David F., Duskin, Felix, Giovanni, Janie, Jodi, Kevin, Matty, & Sarah *and those we name to You*.

Joy at the birth of: Leo Nolan Rountree to Brittany Moore & Douglas Rountree; grandson of Bob Moore.

Comfort in the midst of death for the families and friends of: Teresa Swenson, Ashley Jones, Wally, Mike Mack, Renate Kuehn, Barb Humphrey.

Hope and recovery for all the victims of the earthquakes in Venezuela and the typhoon in China and Taiwan.

Shepherd of Hope Pantry Friends: Captain Chance, Paul & Teresa, Hardy, Jackie, Christie, Westen, Charlie, Lynn, Tonya, Rin, Shelley, Willie, James, Mary, Judy & family, Courtney, Betty, Joyce, Joshua, Veloz, Jose, Judy or Angel & her unborn baby, Linda, Betty, Amber, Sgt. Weitzel, Kat, Autumn, Jayden, Zach, Kyle, Susan & family *and those known to God*.

Salvation Army Vickie, Stephanie, Teresa, Jennifer, Leah, Jennifer, Sandra, Randy, Robert, Alfredo, Stephen, Matthew, Gibby, James, Chris *and those known to God*.

Concern & Assistance: Those dealing with addiction while incarcerated. Veterans. Mentally & physically challenged. First Responders. Refugees and those living in fear of deportation. The people of Nigeria, Iran, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia. Persecuted Christians.

Partnerships: Bishop Yehiel Curry & the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Bishop Kevin Strickland & the Southeastern Synod; Alicia & David Brondos, Missionaries in Mexico; Seminarian Sam Sosebee; Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry; Via de Cristo Ministry; English Language Learning (ELL) Classes; Quiet Music Ministry; Tyson House; Deacon Ministry; Knox Area Rescue Ministry; Salvation Army Homeless Shelters; Street Hope; Alzheimer's Support Group; Cole Center Parkinson Band and Caregivers; Mercy Ships; Guatemala Lutheran Church & School; AL-ANON; Narcotics Anonymous.

Peace & Protection for all armed forces, especially: Jacob Cole, Anthony Hu, HM, Andrew McDonald, Alena Nawlrooki, Alex Primka, Sam Thompson, Chris Yonke, Mitchell Yount.

WELCOME

We're glad you're here. Please fill-in a yellow worship card or scan the QR code so we can stay in touch!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rally Day | Pews and Pizza

- August 9 is a loaded day that includes Rally Day, Back to Church Sunday, Blessing of the Backpacks, bounce house and games between services and a whole church effort to clean all the pews after the late service. We will serve pizza and Pastor Bob will provide music.

Sunday School

- Sunday School for youth returns to its regular time (between services) Sunday, August 16! We look forward to seeing the youth learn and grow with each other.

WAYS TO GIVE

 Give with cash or check in the offering plate during service.

 Give online using the QR code or visit faithloves.org and select "Donate Now".



CONTACT

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 faithloves.org

As followers of Jesus, we rejoice in God's plan for a just, loving and peaceful world. We commit ourselves to making it a reality for all people everywhere. Just as all are welcome at the Lord's table during holy communion, all are welcome to this family of faith. People of all races, ages, social status, sexual orientations and gender identities are united here in our mission to love God, Love Others, Serve.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 26

- 9 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Fellowship, Adult Sunday School
- 11:11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service
- 5 p.m. Celtic Worship Service

Monday, July 27

- 12 p.m. Via de Cristo Reunion
- 6:15 p.m. English Language Class

Tuesday, July 28

- 1:30 p.m. Bible Study Class
- 5 p.m. Salvation Army Shelter Visit
- 7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Wednesday, July 29

- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, July 30

- 7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Friday, July 31

- 9:30 a.m. Cole Center Caregivers
- 7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, August 1

- 11 a.m. Al-Anon

Sunday, August 2

- 9 a.m. Traditional Worship
- 10:15 a.m. Fellowship, Adult Sunday School
- 10:15 a.m. Refugee Team Meeting
- 11:11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

STAY CONNECTED



faithloves.org



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Faith Guest wi-fi password: *beblessed*

LECTIONARY READING

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

M: 1 Kings 3:16-28, James 3:13-18, Psalm 119:121-128

T: 1 Kings 4:29-34, Ephesians 6:10-18,
Psalm 119:121-128

W: Proverbs 1:1-7, 20-33, Mark 4:30-34,
Psalm 119:121-128

Th: Proverbs 10:1-5, Philippians 4:10-15,
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

F: Isaiah 51:17-23, Romans 9:6-13,
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

S: Isaiah 44:1-5, Matthew 7:7-11,
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

S: Isaiah 55:1-5, Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21,
Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:13-21

FAITHFUL RESPONSE

Offerings last week: \$9,305

Offerings year to date: \$544,286

SERMON NOTES

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal dashed lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice. There are no other markings, text, or illustrations on the page.