



Sunday, September 14, 2025

For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

—2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 (NRSVUE)

When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest; you shall leave them for the poor and for the alien: I am the LORD your God.

—Leviticus 23:22 (NRSVUE)

Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Bethzatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The ill man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

—John 5:1-9 (NRSVUE)

-Highland, A Place to be Seen, Known, and Loved-

Greeters: Adam Kane, Coralie Werking & Stan Jacobs, Kathy & Dan Missildine, Kim Buzzard

Ushers: Johnny Wood, Davie & Marion Drain, Phyllis Thompson, John Herr, Coleman Harris, Lois Snyder

Welcome Center: Amy Kane and Jean Harris

The Chancel Flowers are presented by:
Marjorie Mann in loving memory of William W. Mann

Gathering in God's Name

Chimes *Jesu, Thou My Heart's Delight* J.S. Bach

Prelude

Welcome & Ministry Highlights Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Minute for Mission Samaritan Center Steven Schedler
Congregational Meeting Jack Snyder

*Call to Worship Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Leader: The Lord is our rock, our fortress and our deliverer;

People: God is our rock, in whom we take refuge.

Leader: In our distress we called to the Lord;

People: We cried to our God for help.

Leader: From the temple God heard our voice; and answered us.

People: Let us worship God together!

*Hymn #210 *Oh God, Our Help in Ages Past*

Children's Blessing Sarah Hostetter

Children: God be with you here.

Congregation: God be with you there.

Silent Prayer of Confession Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Prayer of Confession

Good and Gracious God, you are our strength, our hope, our refuge, and our help. When we call to you, you draw near to us. Our help comes from you, O Lord. You are our protector, our keeper, our salvation. Encourage us to model the help you give. Empower us to be helpers in this world, caring for those in need. Give us compassion, courage, and the ability to see and respond to the needs of others. May we selflessly serve through kind words, a listening ear, and a helping hand. Amen

Kyrie Eleison #572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Leader: Hear these words from the Letter to the Hebrews: This is the covenant I will establish... declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. I will forgive their wickedness and will their sins no more. Friends, believe the good news!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Leader: As we are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ Jesus, let us be reconciled to one another. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

*Gloria Patri #579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Proclaiming God's Word

Scripture Reading 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 ~ Leviticus 23:22 ~ John 5:1-9

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Sermon

The Bible Doesn't Say That:
"God Helps Those Who Help Themselves"

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

Responding to God's Word

Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Dr. Bob Burns

Offertory

Christ is the World's Light

David Schwoebel

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen**

Going in God's Name

*Hymn

Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners

*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Allison Beaulieu

*Benediction Response

Postlude

*PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT

MUSIC: DR. PAUL THORLAKSON, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

ORGANIST: JONATHAN LEFEVER

A/V: GUS BEAULIEU AND JOSH WITMER

Please be advised that services are recorded and you may be incidentally captured on video as part of the recording of the service. The back of the right side of the sanctuary as you enter is out of the range of the camera.

A description of the stained Chancel window can be found in the front of the hymnal.

FM sound devices are available. Please ask an usher for your own personal receiver.
Cell Phones should be silenced during the worship service.

In the event of an emergency, please refer to the card in the pew racks for evacuation and re-assembly information.