

MESSAGE SONG *“This Little Light of Mine”* (sts. 1-5)

1 This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2 Don't you try to blow it out; I'm going to let it shine;
Don't you try to blow it out; I'm going to let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3 Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm going to let it shine;
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm going to let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

4 All around the neighborhood; I'm going to let it shine;
All around the neighborhood; I'm going to let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

5 Hold it high so all can see; I'm going to let it shine;
Hold it high so all can see; I'm going to let it shine;
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Arr. By Harry Dixon Loes, Public domain

MESSAGE OF THE DAY
“GOD’S MINISTRY VS. MOB MENTALITY”
(Text: Proverbs 16:27, Revelation 3:8)
The Rev. Peter Gueldner

(Please stand)

STATEMENT OF FAITH *Apostles’ Creed*
C. I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

P. Together let us pray as our Lord Jesus taught us...

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**

BENEDICTION

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ + and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C. Amen.**

(Please sit)

CLOSING SONG *“God Is So Good”* (sts. 1-4)

1 God is so good, God is so good,
God is so good, He’s so good to me.

2 He cares for me, He cares for me,
He cares for me, He’s so good to me.

3 He loves me so, He loves me so,
He loves me so, He’s so good to me.

4 I praise His name, I praise His name,
I praise His name, He’s so good to me.

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P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!
C. **Thanks be to God!**

* * * **TO GOD BE THE GLORY** * * *

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CONNECTION SERVICE
September 14, 2025
10:30am



PRELUDE
WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP SONG *“Thy Word Is a Lamp”* (sts. 1-2)
Refrain: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path. (2x)

1. When I feel afraid, think I’ve lost my way,
Still You’re there right beside me,
And nothing will I fear as long as You are near.
Please be near me to the end. *Refrain:*

2. I will not forget Your love for me and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side,
And I will love You to the end. *Refrain:*

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(Please stand)

INVOCATION
P. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and
of the Holy Spirit.
C. **Amen**

CONFESSION OF SINS AND FORGIVENESS

P. Almighty God, have mercy on us for Christ’s sake.
C. Almighty God, I am unworthy of You and Your grace and mercy. I have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. And I cannot free myself from this condition. Therefore, I take refuge in Your loving-kindness; and I ask for Your forgiveness. We ask for Your forgiveness.

P. Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you and for His sake He forgives you. As a called and ordained servant of the Lord, and on His behalf, I say to you, “You are forgiven.” In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C. Amen.

(Please sit)

FIRST READING *Ezekiel 34:11-24*

¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.
(continued...)

¹⁷“As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Be-hold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?
²⁰“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scat-tered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

L. Here ends the first reading.
C. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING *1 Timothy 1:5-11*

⁵The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. ⁶Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, ⁷desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.
⁸Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it law-fully, ⁹understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the un-godly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, ¹⁰the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, en-slavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, ¹¹in accordance with the glorious gospel of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

L. Here ends the second reading.
C. Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL READING *Luke 15:1-10*

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”
³So he told them this parable: ⁴“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoul-ders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repent-ance.
⁸“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

P. Here ends the reading of the Gospel.
C. Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please sit)

TITHES & OFFERING

(While the music is playing, please bring your offerings forward and place them in the plate.)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE