**NINTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST October 12, 2025**

**Prairieland Parish**

*As we unite**in worship today, we extend a warm welcome to each one present. May we together experience the presence of God*

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***We Gather to Prepare Our Hearts to Meet Our Lord***



**Prelude**

**Welcome**

 **Announcements**

Once again today, we are called to celebrate our faith and to embrace ways of living out that faith that might grow and change but, in the end, will remain true to the words and witness of Jesus Christ.

The mentor to the young Timothy focuses our attention on persistent. Both bringing us to the importance of worship and questions of why?

Why do we do what we do?

Why do we read from this ancient text week after week?

How does this book written in a different context by different people over a long period of time have anything to say to us today and the world in which we live now?

The purpose behind the attention to the “why” of worship is to maintain a focus.

Distractions abound, and our text draws attention to an inclination to wander off in search of something new to a distracted mind or itching ears.

Come, let us center ourselves in God’s words of purpose for his beloved children:

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather here to worship seeking a focus for our being.

**God calls us to worship the Word made flesh.**

We gather here to worship, though we feel drawn in too many directions, overwhelmed with too many tasks, chasing after something we can’t quite name.

**God calls us to worship leaning into the Spirit of Truth**

We gather here to worship, wondering and hoping, doubting and uncertain, frustrated and afraid. But we are here.

**God calls us to worship with our whole selves. We are here; let us worship with joy.**

**OPENING PRAYER** (Psalm 119, 2 Timothy 3–4)

**Lord, your words are sweet to the taste, sweeter than honey; let them be our daily meditation and our study. Give us ears to hear, for we marvel at your instruction. Train us in righteousness, grant us patience and persistence, and equip us for every good work. Inspire our faith and give us voices to proclaim your message. Guide our feet, keep us from every false way, for you alone speak the words of life. Amen.**

**Praise Hymn UMH#140 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

**1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;**

**there is no shadow of turning with thee;**

**thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;**

**as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

**Refrain:**

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;**

**all I have needed thy hand hath provided;**

**great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,**

**sun, moon, and stars in their courses above**

**join with all nature in manifold witness**

**to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Refrain**

**3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,**

**thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;**

**strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,**

**blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain**

***We Hear God’s Word***

**New Testament Reading………………………………………………………………………** **2 Timothy 3:14-4:5**

**New Revised Standard Version**

*14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is inspired by God and is[a] useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.*

*4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: 2 proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. 3 For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires 4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. 5 As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.*

The Word of God for the People of God, **Thanks be to God!**

**Children’s Sermon**

**Faith Hymn FWS #2004 “Praise the Source of Faith and Learning”**

**Praise the source of faith and learning**

**that has sparked and stoked the mind**

**with a passion for discerning**

**how the world has been designed.**

**Let the sense of wonder flowing**

**from the wonders we survey**

**keep our faith forever growing**

**and renew our need to pray.**

**God of wisdom we acknowledge**

**that our science and our art**

**and the breadth of human knowledge**

**only partial truth impart.**

**Far beyond our calculation**

**lies a depth we cannot sound**

**where your purpose for creation**

**and the pulse of life are found.**

**May our faith redeem the blunder**

**of believing that our thought**

**has displaced the grounds for wonder**

**which the ancient prophets taught.**

**May our learning curb the error**

**which unthinking faith can breed**

**lest we justify some terror**

**with an antiquated creed.**

**As two currents in a river**

**fight each other’s undertow,**

**till converging they deliver**

**one coherent steady flow,**

**blend, O God, our faith and learning**

**till they carve a single course,**

**till they join as one, returning**

**praise and thanks to you, the Source**.

**“Message”**

**Joys/Concerns**

**PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

Merciful God, how wonderful is your law, how gracious are your ways. In your words are sweetness and in your path is life. Coming as children of your own choosing, we offer our praise to your holy Name and we lift our thanksgivings to your glory.

Your promises are true.

But our hearts turn away from you. We fall in love with the concerns of this world

We are selfish, and we do not wish to learn. O Lord, forgive our iniquity and turn us back to you, the Source of our life.

Your life-giving Spirit has been breathed into the sacred writings that instruct us for salvation through faith. Take away the itching in our ears and ground us in your word that we might proclaim the truth to an unbelieving world, bringing it back to the truth.

O Merciful Lord, this day there are many who are discouraged and have lost heart because of their suffering, many who need to feel your love and presence and today we raise to you …………... Wrap them in your loving arms and give them comfort. If their affliction is not removed in this life, then grant them strength to endure. Give to all in distress your peace.

Write your words in our hearts O Lord, for we come to you in prayer this day in the name of Jesus Christ your Son who taught us…Our Father…

**Offertory**

**Doxology**

**Offertory Prayer**

Holy God, as we offer our gifts to you this day, we pray that, in our giving, we may be reconnected to the reason why we follow and the reason why we give. In Christ, we pray, our guiding light. Amen. (2 Timothy 3:14-4:5)

**Departing Hymn** **UMH #600 “Wonderful Words of Life”**

**1. Sing them over again to me,**

**wonderful words of life;**

**let me more of their beauty see,**

**wonderful words of life;**

**words of life and beauty**

**teach me faith and duty.**

**Refrain:**

**Beautiful words, wonderful words,**

**wonderful words of life.**

**Beautiful words, wonderful words,**

**wonderful words of life.**

**2. Christ, the blessed one, gives to all**

**wonderful words of life;**

**sinner, list to the loving call,**

**wonderful words of life;**

**all so freely given,**

**wooing us to heaven.**

**(Refrain)**

**3. Sweetly echo the gospel call,**

**wonderful words of life;**

**offer pardon and peace to all,**

**wonderful words of life;**

**Jesus, only Savior,**

**sanctify forever.**

**(Refrain)**

**Benediction**

May the living word of the Lord dwell with you.

May it live through you.

May it fill your thoughts and deeds.

May it fill your mouth with God’s message of love.

May it sustain you in good times and bad.

May it equip you for a ministry of peace and hope!

**\*POSTLUDE**