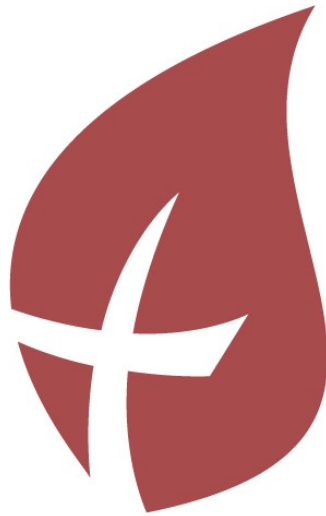


Sunday Morning Worship

November 9, 2025



**FIRSTBAPTIST
CHURCH
UPPERMARLBORO**

7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

301-952-0117 :: www.fbcum.org :: fbcum@firstbaptistum.com

Order of Worship

November 9, 2025

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

Call to Worship — Philippians 2:4-11

Song — Highly Exalted

The Apostles' Creed

Song — In Christ Alone

Scripture Reading — 1 Samuel 2:1-10

Pastoral Prayer

Song — Taste and See (Psalm 34)

Prayer of Thanks

Worship Through Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Message — Zach Schlegel

“My Soul Magnifies the Lord”

Luke 1:39-56

Song — He Who Is Mighty

Benediction

Comfort Rooms: To help accommodate families with small children and individuals with special needs or medical conditions, a live video feed of the worship service is available in rooms 116, 117/118, 119, 120-125.

Visitors & Guests: Stop by the Welcome Desk for church information and to receive a welcome packet.

Call to Worship — Philippians 2:4-11 (ESV)

⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Highly Exalted

Robin Mark | Paul Baloche

Verse 1:

You were despised
You were rejected Lord
Those who passed by
even averted their gaze from the sight
Such was the suff'ring You bore for us

Verse 2:

Led like a lamb a lamb to the slaughter
You spoke not a word but chose to be silent
Though You did no wrong
Nor was deceitfulness found in You
Yet by Your wounds our salvation has come
Yet by Your suff'ring our freedom is won

Chorus:

For God has highly exalted Your name
He has enthroned You on high
Jesus, the name above all names
God has highly exalted Your name
He has enthroned You on high
Jesus, the name above all names

The Apostles' Creed

~~~~~

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, dead and buried.  
On the third day, He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended to 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 universal church  
The communion of saints,  
The forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting.  
Amen.

### **An Explanation of the Apostles' Creed:**

*From as far back as the 2nd century, Christians have used statements of faith like the Apostles' Creed to confess their faith. It was common to use these statements prior to one's public declaration of faith at baptism. Therefore, through the centuries, the Apostles' Creed has become a well-known and useful tool to help believers around the world learn and affirm the foundational beliefs of the Christian faith.*

*At First Baptist Church, we use this brief statement in our public services to declare before God, each other, and the watching world that these are foundational truths of our faith that Scripture has clearly revealed. In doing so, we stand united with Christians around the world and through the centuries by our faith in God, the Father Almighty; Jesus, his only Son; and the Holy Spirit.*

# In Christ Alone

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

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## **Verse 1:**

In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength my song  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground  
Firm through the  
fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love  
What depths of peace  
When fears are stilled  
When strivings cease  
My Comforter, my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

## **Verse 2:**

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

## **Verse 3:**

There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious  
blood of Christ

## **Verse 4:**

No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

## Scripture Reading — 1 Samuel 2:1-10 (ESV)

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<sup>1</sup> And Hannah prayed and said,

“My heart exults in the LORD;  
my horn is exalted in the LORD.  
My mouth derides my enemies,  
because I rejoice in your salvation.

<sup>2</sup> “There is none holy like the LORD:  
for there is none besides you;  
there is no rock like our God.

<sup>3</sup> Talk no more so very proudly,  
let not arrogance come from your mouth;  
for the LORD is a God of knowledge,  
and by him actions are weighed.

<sup>4</sup> The bows of the mighty are broken,  
but the feeble bind on strength.

<sup>5</sup> Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,  
but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger.

The barren has borne seven,  
but she who has many children is forlorn.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD kills and brings to life;  
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD makes poor and makes rich;  
he brings low and he exalts.

<sup>8</sup> He raises up the poor from the dust;  
he lifts the needy from the ash heap  
to make them sit with princes  
and inherit a seat of honor.

For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's,  
and on them he has set the world.

<sup>9</sup> “He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,  
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness,  
for not by might shall a man prevail.

<sup>10</sup> The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces;  
against them he will thunder in heaven.

The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;  
he will give strength to his king  
and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

## Taste and See (Psalm 34)

Jimmy Needham | Shane Barnard | Joseph Rigney

~~~~~

Verse 1:

I sought the Lord
And He answered me
And delivered me
From every fear
Those who look on Him
Are radiant
They'll never be ashamed
They'll never be ashamed

Verse 2:

This poor man cried
And the Lord heard me
And saved me from
My enemies
The Son of God
Surrounds His saints
He will deliver them
He will deliver them

Chorus:

Magnify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name together
Glorify the Lord with me
Come exalt His name forever

Verse 3:

Oh, taste and see
That the Lord is good
Oh, blessed is he
Who hides in Him
Oh, fear the Lord
Oh, all you saints
He'll give you everything
He'll give you everything

Bridge:

Let us bless the Lord
Every day and night
Neverending praise
May our incense rise

Sermon Notes

“My Soul Magnifies the Lord” :: Luke 1:39-56

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# He Who Is Mighty

Rebecca Elliott | Kate DeGraide

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Verse 1:

Oh the mercy our God has shown
To those who sit in death's shadow
The sun on high pierced the night
Born was the Cornerstone
Unto us a Son is given
Unto us a Child is born

Chorus:

He Who is mighty
Has done a great thing
Taken on flesh
Conquered death's sting
Shattered the darkness and lifted our shame
Holy is His name

Verse 2:

Oh the freedom our Savior won
The yoke of sin has been broken
Once a slave
Now by grace
No more condemnation
Unto us a Son is given
Unto us a Child is born

Bridge:

Now my soul magnifies the Lord
I rejoice in the God Who saves
I will trust His unfailing love
I will sing His praises all my days

This Week at First Baptist Church

Sunday, November 9

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes
 10:00 AM Sunday Worship
 12:00 PM Starting Point Seminar
 6:00 PM Youth Night

Monday, November 10 (Veteran's Day Observed)

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, November 11 (Veteran's Day)

10:30 AM Tuesday Ladies Bible Study

Wednesday, November 12

5:45 PM King's Kids Choir
 6:30 PM Elder-led Bible Study
 AWANA
 Adult Choir & Band Rehearsal

Thursday, November 13

Friday, November 14

Saturday, November 15

6:30 AM Bible Boot Camp
 8:30 AM Titus 2

Sunday, November 16

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes
 10:00 AM Sunday Worship
 6:00 PM Youth Night

Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church

Sunday, November 9

Starting Point Seminar — immediately following worship service
*(Seminar for those interested in church membership. Contact the church office to register
 or use the Digital Communication Card on the back of this bulletin.)*

Saturday, November 22

9:00 AM — Church Security Training

Sunday, November 23

6:00 PM — Thanksgiving Prayer and Dessert Fellowship

Saturday, December 6

11:00 AM — Ladies Christmas Tea

Sunday, December 7

Budget Review Meeting — immediately following worship service

Sunday, December 14

Church Members' Meeting — immediately following worship service

Wednesday, December 24

6:30 PM — Christmas Eve Worship

Praying with First Baptist Church

A Prayer Guide for the week of November 9

Prayer of the week:

One of the ways we learn to pray is by using the examples in Scripture as a springboard and inspiration for our own prayer life. This week, consider using the prayer of the Apostle Paul from the book of Colossians, chapter 1, verse 9:

*“...we have not ceased to pray for you,
asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will
in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,...”*

We recognize our need for God’s help in all the areas of our lives. The categories and requests listed below are intentional ways to pray for each other as a church family. For help in knowing how and what to pray for, look up the Scripture included with each item.

Ongoing prayer items in the life of our church:

- Pray for opportunities and boldness to share the gospel with loved ones (Matt. 28:19)
- Pray for conversions (John 3:3, Acts 16:14)
- Pray for the children of our church to hear and understand the gospel and be saved. (Luke 8:8)
- Pray for the preaching of God’s word – for faithfulness, fruitfulness, and God’s glory (2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, Isa. 55:10-11)
- Pray for increased one to one discipleship relationships in our church family (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray for unity in our diversity both on Sunday and through the week (Rom. 15:13, Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for continued growth and joy in the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-5, 2 Pet. 1:12)
- Pray for growth in holiness, hatred of sin and growth in humility (Prov. 8:13, 1 Pet. 1:14-16)
- Pray for honest, loving relationships in our church (Col. 3:12-13, James 5:16)
- Pray for families: marriages to thrive, parents to teach/love/discipline carefully, and children to obey (Eph. 5:22-6:4)
- Pray that giving would be faithful, joyful, consistent, and sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:9)

Prayer items outside our church:

- Pray that our elected officials would fear God, seek His wisdom, have integrity, humility, and work together for the good of society and not self. (1 Tim. 2:1-2, Rom. 13:1-7)
- Pray for fruitful ministry in other gospel-proclaiming churches in our area. (Rom. 15:20, 1 Cor. 16:1-3, Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray that God would bring a swift end to wars going on throughout the world and establish peace. Pray for protection and care for the many refugees fleeing to safety. Pray that those impacted would trust in God in the midst of their suffering. (Ps. 139:23-24)

- Pray for our ministry partners locally and around the world—Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware (BCM/D), North American Mission Board (NAMB) and International Mission Board (IMB). Pray especially for those we have direct partnerships with: Jeremy McClain (Mercy of Christ Fellowship Church, DC), Joel Kurz (The Garden Church, Baltimore), Daniel and Brandy Spandler-Davison and Susanna Schriever (Bangkok City Baptist Church, Thailand). Pray the gospel would flourish and churches would be planted and strengthened through their work. Pray that God would supply their needs. (Ps 93:4, Col. 1:5-6, 1 Pet. 4:12-17)

Particular prayer items in the life of our church:

- Praise God for a fruitful mission to Bangkok, Thailand (Bangkok City Baptist Church). Our team was able to care for and serve the local church and pastors there, as well as identify potential ways we can continue to serve in the future. Continue to pray God would strengthen the leaders and members of this church and their ministry to other churches and pastors in Thailand, and that the Gospel would flourish through their ministry. (Ps 93:4, Col. 1:5-6, 1 Pet. 4:12-17)
- Pray for the federal workers in our church who are not receiving a paycheck due to the current shutdown. Pray that God will provide for their needs. Pray that they will sense and know God's caring presence in the midst of uncertainty. (Heb 13:5; Rom 12:13)
- Pray for our ministry leaders, deacons, and elders during this budget season as they pray and prepare a budget to present to the church. Pray for wisdom and a God-centered vision for how to use the resources that God has given our church. (James 1:5)
- Pray that good spiritual fruit would come from discipleship efforts in small groups, one to one meetings, and as people show hospitality to others in our church. (1 Pt 4:9; Gal 6:2)
- Pray God would guard our church from fear, anxiety, and disunity. Pray that we would trust that God is good and be assured that He is in control. (John 13:34-35)
- Pray our church family would not grow weary of doing good. Pray we would live and interact with one another in a way that reveals God's steadfast love and mercy to the world. (Gal 6:9)
- Pray that we know a profound contentment no matter what circumstances we find ourselves in – a contentment from knowing God is our help. (Heb. 13:5-6)
- Pray that God would help us comprehend his good design for the church and center our lives around it for the sake of his glory being made known. (Eph 3:10; 3:21)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

Margaret Austin, Alice Copeland, Connie Crawford, Jim and Pat Ernster, Lucie Lowe, Katie Schlegel (death of grandmother), Family of Melissa Thomaswicks (died Oct 29), Bonnie Trott, Glenn Walker

(To submit a prayer request, please use the Prayer Request Card available in the sanctuary and drop them in the offering basket or contact the Prayer Room at 301-952-8877.)

Ministry Spotlight

“Ministry Spotlight” is meant to bring to your attention active church ministries and programs at FBC Upper Marlboro. We hope that each month you will pray for all those serving and consider how you may support their efforts. *You may notify us if you would like to learn more about the ministries at FBCUM by using the Digital Communication Card (see QR code on the back of this bulletin). Pick up a copy of “Places to Serve” in the magazine racks near the exits for information on all the church ministries.*

Women’s Ministry

The FBCUM Women’s Ministry exists to provide Christ-centered opportunities for women to grow together, be equipped, and serve. This ministry facilitates women building up one another in love for the work of the ministry through prayer, discipleship, teaching, fellowship, service and evangelism. The Women’s Ministry supports all FBCUM women and facilitates connections, coordination, and resources for: discipleship, Bible studies, fellowship gatherings, evangelism/works of service opportunities, training topics for practical Christian living, and women’s retreats/events.

The Vision of the ministry is to foster a strong foundation encouraging spiritual growth, obedience, good works, and reliance on the grace of God to His praise and glory. Through the Women’s Ministry we strive for a commitment to love, unity, service, diversity, equipping, and prayer.

The ministry has several opportunities to serve one another and has scheduled the following activities:

- Future fellowship gatherings similar to the Dessert & Worship Fellowship that was held in October. Women gathered on a Friday evening to hear speakers, testimonies, sang songs of praise, and enjoyed amazing desserts.
- Spring Retreat provides opportunities for fellowship, Biblical training, praise, and prayer. The overnight Spring Retreat is scheduled for March 2026, on the topic of **‘Rest.’** Finding His perfect **Rest** does not happen by accident and neither does cultivating a relationship with the Lord. At the Retreat many will reflect on God’s word, praying and understanding why taking time to spiritually connect is so valuable to all believers. As the decision to attend approaches, consider how an invitation to this uplifting Retreat might benefit some of the women in your life.

Ministry Spotlight

- Prince Georges County Department of Corrections (DOC). The Women's Ministry has established a team that supports a Women's Bible study with inmates who choose to attend at DOC. Ministry members commit to serve through a 6-8 week session from selected Bible studies that enhance understanding biblical principles. This team meets twice a month with the women inmates reading, reviewing, discussing, connecting and focusing on the biblical principles. Prayer requests are also presented by the inmates. Although some may not be able to complete the study, the hope is that this time of pursuing the Word will encourage them to continue to pursue the LORD once they are released.
- The Women's Ministry has a Monthly Prayer meeting via Zoom for the DOC Bible study members and the prayer requests submitted by the women inmates. These prayer requests remind us of God's faithfulness, and encourages us to be reminded that prayer is a constant need and should not be taken lightly. Pray that God will provide wisdom, and strengthen the unity among the members as they serve. The Women's Ministry is a place to serve and is seeking volunteers to join the DOC Bible Study team! If you are interested, please contact Cathy Baskin.



Volunteers are needed to assist with the Spring Women's Retreat by helping with various event needs like event logo design, music, event check-in, preparing goodie bags, name tags, etc. Trish Crandell is the POC for volunteering for this event.

This article reveals, why this ministry is so important to our church and their vision to serve and grow in the Lord. Next week we will hear a testimony that demonstrates the impact this ministry has had on others and we will share prayer requests from the Women's Ministry. If this Spotlight on the Women's Ministry has piqued your interest, please do not hesitate to reach out to Cathy Baskin or Trish Crandell, they look forward to hearing from you.



Announcements

1. Interested in Church Membership? Attend Starting Point TODAY after worship.

Starting Point is a seminar-style meeting following the worship service open to anyone interested in joining our church family or simply learning more about who we are and what we believe. Approximately 12-2:30pm. A light lunch will be served. Join us after worship in the Youth Rooms (120-125).

2. Operation Christmas Child. All boxes must be returned to room 115 today. Thank you so much to all who participated. Please pray God would use these simple gifts to open hearts to the gospel message as they are distributed to children around the world. See Tanya Joy with any questions.

3. Thanksgiving Prayer and Dessert Fellowship :: Sunday, Nov 23, at 6pm. Join us for this special prayer meeting as we dedicate our time of prayer to giving thanks to God for His many blessings. Afterward, stay and enjoy a time of fellowship with one another over dessert and a warm beverage. The church will provide drinks. We ask that each family bring a dessert to share that is ready to serve.

4. Church Security Training. The church is hosting a security training led by our own Bill Lowry on Saturday, November 22, from 9 am - 10:15 am. This is open to anyone who would like to attend, especially hospitality team members and children's ministry volunteers.

5. Ladies' Christmas Tea. On Saturday, December 6th, FBCUM will host a Ladies' Christmas Tea from 11:00AM-12:30PM in the Fellowship Hall. The Christmas Tea is an evangelistic and fellowship event for women of FBCUM to invite non-Christian family, friends, colleagues, and neighbors to enjoy a time of festive fellowship, food, and a short gospel message. See Camille Hawit in the Fellowship Hall for information and invitations after the service.

6. Young Adults to CrossCon :: January 5-7. The Young Adults are planning a trip to CrossCon in Louisville, KY, on January 5-7. If you're interested in joining call or text Tre Fields (301-357-2675). Visit www.crosscon.com to learn more about the conference.

7. Giving. We thank God for the faithful giving of our church family that sustains the gospel ministry here at FBC Upper Marlboro. As a reminder, there are three ways you can give:

- online: click the link or scan the QR code,
- in-person: designated boxes in the church foyer or during the worship service,
- by mail: send to the church office.



Church members with a benevolence request, please contact the church office.



Digital Communication Card

Are you interested in receiving more information about the church, meeting with a pastor, or sharing a prayer need? Scan the QR code to fill in our digital communication card and someone will follow up with you. You're always welcome to contact the church office: 301-952-0117.

The Gospel of Luke: Confidence about Jesus

[Luke 1:39-56](#)

"My Soul Magnifies the Lord"– November 9, 2025



Introduction

Have you ever been in a situation where you have been on high alert? There is a lot of trouble in this world. There are a lot of things that cause inner turmoil, anxiety, anger, etc., but if you remember that you are connected to God, you can be at ease. The problem comes when you forget God.

When the children of Israel were about to enter the Promised Land, they were reminded not to forget the God who brought them there. They would be prosperous, but prosperity led them and can lead you to a false self-reliance forgetting about God.

Trials and sorrows can also cause anxiety and self-reliance. You may think that God isn't listening to your cries for help. In pride, you forget your identity in God and lose sight of His love. You may be tempted to rely on the things of the world to boost your value and on yourself to take care of the problems. How can you get off the world's performance-based roller coaster? Is there a way for you to find your way back to rest and freedom?

Sermon Outline

1. Remember your identity in Christ. Vs. 39-45
2. Fuel your Christian walk with praise. Vs. 46-56

Read & Discuss

1. Read Vs. 39-45

After Mary became pregnant, there would be questions. Mary trusted God and surrendered herself to Him. After hearing that her cousin, Elizabeth was also pregnant, she went immediately and eagerly to see her. She might be the only one who would understand what was happening to her. The trip from Nazareth to Judea took three or four days, giving Mary plenty of time to reflect on what she was just told. It would have been easy for her to have doubts. Seeing Elizabeth and Zechariah gave her confidence.

Her arrival was dramatic. When Mary arrived and was greeted by Elizabeth, the baby that Elizabeth was carrying leapt in her womb. He leapt for joy. Think about that for a moment. Yet unborn, John was a full-fledged human being. He heard the voice of Mary. He was filled with the Spirit. This was an expression of the calling for his life as the forerunner of Jesus - the Messiah. Does the coming Christ make you leap for joy?

Elizabeth was also filled and controlled by the Spirit. Her words were God's words. She told Mary that she was blessed. Of all the young girls in Israel, God chose her. Elizabeth reminded Mary of truth. God didn't choose her because she was sinless, because she was not. She had no list of achievements. God chose her because of His grace. We all need "Elizabeths" in our lives to remind us of truth. Godly friendships are hard work. Love demands that we do the hard work of communication and/or provide practical needs for each other. We need to be patient with each other and assume the best. We must remind each other of the truth of who God is and our position and identity in Christ.

What do you think this incident was like for Elizabeth? Elizabeth had been waiting to have a baby for a long time. She had spent her entire life watching others get pregnant and have a family. This was **her** moment. Then Mary comes, young and pregnant. You might expect her to be jealous, upset or irritated for Mary stealing the spotlight. But how does she respond? She responds with words of humility; "Why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord would come to me?" She was honored. She rejoiced. John the Baptist responded the same way when Jesus started His ministry. Why? Jesus has arrived!! This was why they have joy!! We can have joy as well. God is faithful. He knew what was going on in the lives of Mary and Elizabeth. He hasn't forgotten you. This should transform how you see yourself.

Where do you get your sense of self, your identity, your significance, your sense of worth? Is it in the things of the world - your job, your bank account, your abilities, your looks? If your identity relies on performance, you will experience ups and downs. Basing your value on self is a heavy burden. Jesus lived a perfect life, died in our place and rose again. Look to Him and Him alone for salvation and identity. You don't have to be exhausted trying to be good enough. You can trust in Christ by grace through faith. If you are in Christ, you are a new creation. There is a new way of seeing yourself.

After trusting in Christ, you are walking against the current of the world. How do you fight against the temptation to follow after the things the world has to offer?

2. Read Vs. 46 - 56

A telescope magnifies our ability to see the galaxy up close. As Mary magnified the Lord in praise, she saw, with confidence, how big God is. The rejoicing in vs. 47 was a result of the magnifying in vs. 46. She was praising God because He is mighty.

Joy is found in making much of or magnifying God. The more we have joy in Christ, the more we see our identity in Christ. This helps us go against the flow of the world. Mary saw the greatness of God.

God is holy. He can't be around sin, and He hates sin. God is not indifferent to injustice; He judges it. He is also merciful. His covenant love never fails. We may stumble, but God's love never stops no matter what. In vs. 46-49, Mary's praise was personal. She recognized all that God had done for her. When you see God's attributes in a personal way, you will erupt in praise. This fuels your walk.

Do you remember what God has done for you? Have you trusted God? Do you have a testimony? The Gospel fuels your faith. God commands what we gather each week so that we might have joy.

Mary also praised God for what He would do in the future for other generations. Mary's words were informed by God's past actions, but she is speaking of a future event as it had already happened - a great reversal. The proud will be humbled. The oppressive rulers will be brought down - God will vindicate those who have trusted in Him. The rich will be sent away and the hungry will be filled. Unchecked prosperity will lead to self-sufficiency and self-absorption. God's economy is different from the world's. Your value should not be based on your ability to achieve, how you look, or how you compare. It is based on your identity in Christ.

Do you struggle with where you find your identity? Are you envious of others? God deploys people with tasks and roles. Sometimes those roles are based on gender, but that doesn't make one role more important or better than the other. If you think that way, it can be upsetting. Why? The world puts different value or importance on different roles. Seeing yourself the way God sees you, dignifies you, lifts you up, and sets you free. You do not need to perform to get God's love.

Will you praise God for what He has done for you? Will you praise God for what He will do for you in Christ? When we trust God and lose our life in obedience to Him, He will raise it up. You can have joy. Mary's song becomes your song.

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at.

Next week's sermon text: [Luke 1:57-80](#) "Light for Those Sitting in Darkness"

Family Guide for week of November 9th, 2025

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



Suggestions on getting started:

- Decide on a time & place (breakfast, dinner, before bed, etc.)
- Start simple and short (ten minutes or less). Start with three things: 1) Read God's word, 2) Pray together and 3) Sing together. Scripture memory and catechism questions are *optional* if you have the time. Better to start small than bite off more than you can chew and give up.
- Be flexible. It doesn't need to look cookie-cutter similar for every family. Know yourself and know your kids: their personality, age, maturity, etc. [For younger kids consider starting with a good children's Bible like [The Big Picture Story Bible](#).]
- If you don't know the answer to a question someone has, don't act like you do! Say something like, "Great question, let me look into that." Study, ask a pastor or Christian friend and get back to them.
- Embrace the chaos. Kids are kids – don't expect it to be a perfect roundtable discussion with quiet, attentive children every time. Be patient and persistent. Patterns and habits help to set expectations over time.
- To learn more about family worship check out Donald Whitney's book (available at our church bookstall): [Family Worship: In the Bible, In History, and In Your Home](#).

Family Guide for week of November 9th, 2025

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



Bible Intake: (Listening to God)

Day 1 – Daniel 6:14-28

Day 2 – Daniel 7:1-8

Day 3 – Daniel 7:9-12

Day 4 – Daniel 7:13-14

Day 5 – Daniel 7:15-28

*Read **Luke 1:57-80** in preparation for church on Sunday, November 16, 2025

Prayer: (Talking to God)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.

Pray for a few church members on pg. 34 of our church directory. Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

Thank God for showing us His character through the Bible.

Sing together

"In Christ Alone" – Use the bulletin from Sunday.

Memory verses for the month

Psalms 145:9 "The Lord is good to all, and His mercy is over all He has made."

Luke 1:37 "For nothing will be impossible with God. "

Catechism question for the week¹

Question 17: What is idolatry?

Answer: Idolatry is trusting in created things rather than the Creator.

¹ New City Catechism (<http://newcitycatechism.com/>)