



Faith
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A community loving Christ,
building disciples, serving all

Go!

Part 5—We Should Expect Opposition. What Then?

Matthew 10:16-33

In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart...!

- John 16:33

It's not the load that wears you down, it's the way you carry it.

- C. S. Lewis

Welcome, Guests!

Friends,

We are glad you are here with us and hope you sense God's presence in worship today. If there is any way we can be of help to you, don't hesitate to ask. Here are a few of the questions we often hear from our guests when they first visit:

- ~ **How long is the worship service here at Faith?** Our worship services typically run 60 to 70 minutes.
- ~ **How can I introduce myself?** We'd love to meet you after the service; don't hesitate to introduce yourself! You can also visit our webpage (www.faithpresby.org), and click on the "I'm New" tab and then the "Introduce Yourself" button. This is a great way to let the pastoral staff know who you are and how we might welcome and serve you.
- ~ **I have kids. Are they welcome here?** Absolutely! We love the sounds of children in the sanctuary. During the children's message at the 9:00 a.m. worship service, kids up to 6th grade are invited to come up front to listen in. Having them stay with you to listen is also fine. After the children's message, children are invited down the hall to Room 4 (grades 3 to 6) and Room 5 (Pre-K to 2nd grade) with our children's staff. Nursery care is available throughout the 9:00 a.m. worship service in Room 7.
- ~ **Are there classes for adults?** Yes. Check the bulletin and listen for announcements in worship about upcoming classes. We currently have in-person and online classes.
- ~ **What if I have trouble hearing the service?** If you have difficulty hearing, please ask one of our ushers for a personal receiver for the hearing impaired. Also, a T-Loop hearing-assist system is available in the back four pews on the right side of the sanctuary. Set your hearing aid to the "T" setting.
- ~ **How can I find out more information about Faith?** Feel free to speak to any of us and if we can't answer your questions, we'll find somebody who can. Our website is a great source of information: www.faithpresby.org. Also, *This Week @ Faith* is a weekly email that goes out on Mondays with information about upcoming opportunities and activities. Email Laura Anderson in our office at landerson@faithpresby.org if you'd like to be included on the email distribution list.
- ~ **What if I'm interested in exploring membership or deeper involvement at Faith?** If you'd like to know more about becoming a member at Faith, or want to understand how you can begin or continue to grow in your Christian faith, we encourage you to contact one of our pastors. You can call the church office at (916) 428-3439 or email one of our staff members. (Email addresses are available on our webpage and further on in this bulletin.) We'd love to meet you and find out how we can be of help.

Again, we are glad you are here with us today!

Grace and peace,

The People of Faith



Faith Presbyterian Church of Sacramento

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

NOVEMBER 9, 2025

Order of Worship

✠ *Those who are able, please stand.*
Please silence all electronics before the start of worship.

Prelude Eunice Bancu; Faith Brass Ensemble (11:00)

Greeting Brett Shoemaker

One: The Lord be with you!

All: **And also with you!**

✠ **Call to Worship & Lighting of the Christ Candles** Amara Markarian (9:00)
Ben Chand (11:00)

✠ **Song of Praise** (All songs used by permission CCLI #676622) *10,000 Reasons*

✠ **Prayer of Confession** Jeff Chapman

✠ **Response to Confession** *Only a Holy God*

✠ **Declaration of Forgiveness**

One: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Let us pass the peace of Christ.

Welcome Jeff Chapman

Presentation of New Members (9:00)

Anthem (11:00) Faith Chancel Choir

The Perfect Wisdom of Our God (K. Getty, S. Townend, arr. S. Kim)

The perfect wisdom of our God revealed in all the universe.

All things created by His hand and held together at His command.

He knows the mysteries of the seas; the secrets of the stars are His.

He guides the planets on their way and turns the earth through another day.

The matchless wisdom of His ways that mark the path of righteousness;

His Word a lamp unto my feet; His Spirit teaching and guiding me.

And O the mystery of the cross, that God should suffer for the lost

So that the fool might shame the wise, all the glory might go to Christ!

Continues next page

A lamp unto our feet, the wisdom from above;
His wisdom lights the way, revealing endless love!

O grant me wisdom from above to pray for peace and cling to love!
And teach me humbly to receive the sun and rain of Your sovereignty.
Each strand of sorrow has a place within this tapestry of grace.
So through the trials I choose to say: "Your perfect will in Your perfect way."

Children's Message

Brett Shoemaker

Scripture Reading: Matthew 10:16-33

Stan Keasling (9:00); Karen Chan (11:00)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

*At this point in the 9:00 service, children pre-K to 6th grade are invited
either to be excused to our children's programs or to return and sit with their families.*

Prayer of Illumination

Message

Brett Shoemaker

Go!

Part 5—We Should Expect Opposition. What Then?

After the sermon, 7th & 8th graders are excused to the Youth Room for Donuts & Discussion.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Vicky Chastain

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.

Giving & Receiving of God's Tithe and Our Offerings

Stan Keasling (9:00)

Karen Chan (11:00)



*After worship, you may place your offering in the basket at the back of the sanctuary.
If you would like to give online, you can do so at faithpresby.org, under the "Give" tab.
This QR code will take you directly there.*

Offertory

Eunice Bancu

✠Doxology (literally, Words to Glorify)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

✂Prayer of Dedication

✂Hymn of Faith

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
#466, The Presbyterian Hymnal

✂Benediction

✂Postlude

Eunice Bancu; Faith Brass Ensemble (11:00)

*If you would like to have somebody pray with you for any reason,
there will be a prayer team available in the front row immediately after worship this morning.*

Prayer Team: Laura Anderson & Randy Smith (9:00) and Renee Larsen & Ileana Maestas (11:00)

*The flowers today are given by Rick and Cynthia Crow
in memory of Wayne and Ruth Burkinshaw and their daughter Linda Ashley.*

New to Faith? *We'd like the chance to meet you!*

If you are new to Faith Church, we would like to invite you to an informal reception so we can get to know you, and in turn you can get to know us. Our next Look @ Faith reception is **Sunday, November 30, at 10:15 a.m. in the Fireside Room.**

The reception lasts about 30 minutes. You'll have the opportunity to get to know others who have been coming to Faith, meet some of our leadership, and learn a few things about what makes this congregation unique. You may have questions about this church or about the Christian faith, and that's great—feel free to ask! This is just an informal opportunity to get to know one another. Come join us! *For more info, email Laura at landerson@faithpresby.org.*



As a Reminder...

✓ *Don't have a name tag? Sign up for one in the Welcome Center. Within a week or two, you'll find your new name tag ready for you on the name-tag wall. (Tags are arranged alphabetically by last name.)*



✓ *Printed copies of today's sermon will be available this coming week in the Link Hall foyer. Past messages are available on the church website.*

✓ *A reminder to parents: Thank you for picking up your children from Sunday School or the nursery within five minutes of the end of the service.*

Life Groups @ Faith

Life Groups are small groups (4-12) of people who meet weekly for Bible study, prayer and community. These

groups have been instrumental in fostering spiritual growth and building friendships for many here at Faith. Not a part of a Life Group? We'd love to tell you more. Contact Pastor Jeff Chapman at jchapman@faithpresby.org or (916) 428-3439.



Announcements and Events

Family Ministry



For questions about Faith's Sunday morning children's programs, contact Lindsay Stanford, Director of Family Ministry, at lstanford@faithpresby.org.

Update about Faith's Stewardship Season

Thanks to everyone who has already submitted their pledge towards God's work in and through Faith Presbyterian Church in 2026. As of November 1, 123 pledges have been submitted totaling \$653,830. If you have not yet had the opportunity to complete your pledge card and drop it off, there is still time to do so. (Our Stewardship Team would like to receive all pledge cards by mid-November.) You will find extra pledge cards in the pew racks or Welcome Center. You can also submit your pledge online on our webpage. Look under the "Give" tab.



RSVP Concert at Faith This Friday

RSVP (Reconciliation Singers Voices of Peace), one of Sacramento's premier vocal ensembles, will present a concert here in Faith's sanctuary **this Friday, November 14, at 7:30 p.m.**, with doors opening at 7:00 p.m. The concert is free, but free-will donations will benefit the Firefighters Burn Institute, a local nonprofit that supports the physical, social and emotional well-being of those affected by burn injuries. (Visit ffburn.org for more.) All are invited to come and enjoy RSVP's performance as they give back to their community through music.

GRADES 7-12!

YOUTH GROUP TONIGHT

7:00 p.m. Youth Room

AND...ASK TO JOIN THE GROUP APP HERE —>

Contact Brett Shoemaker for more info and to get on our email list:
bshoemaker@faithpresby.org



Opportunities to Learn & Connect

Adult Sunday School

Visions of the Lord: A Study of Ezekiel

November 9, 16, 23, 30

10:15 a.m., Grace Room

Facilitator: Rev. Dennis Montzingo

Ezekiel, the Old Testament prophet to the Exile, communicates God's timeless messages to his people, who find themselves caught up in a life and a world beyond their control. As we study together the time and challenges of God's people in the 6th century B.C. who found themselves living in exile in Babylon, we will consider and discuss God's surprising and enduring presence and promises not only for their time but also for us in our ever-changing lives and world today.

Here is the upcoming schedule. Please read the weekly Bible texts in advance of each session.

November 9

Shepherds Ezekiel 33-34

November 16

Restoration Ezekiel 36-37

November 23

Gog and Magog Ezekiel 38-39

November 30

The LORD Is There! Ezekiel 40-48

Feel Free to Join In!

The Way of Jesus: Learning to Do What Jesus Did

Wednesdays through November 19

7:00-8:30 p.m., on Zoom

Facilitator: Alice Parente



Do you find it strange that these days, everybody wants to be a leader, but nobody wants to be a follower? Jesus asked *everybody* to become a follower and didn't ask *anybody* to become a leader. So, understanding what Jesus had in mind when he invited people to follow him would seem to be a key task for us as believers.

You are invited to join us for this class that explores specific practices through which we can follow the Way of Jesus. We will practice ways to Be with Him; Become like Him; and Do as He did.

There is no book for this class. We are using articles, podcasts, and videos created by widely renowned apprentices of Jesus, including some who came before us and practiced His way in their day and some who are alive and practicing His way in the here and now.

For more, contact Alice at vsas77@earthlink.net. The Zoom link will be in tomorrow's "This Week @ Faith" email.

Faith Mugs for Sale

These newly designed mugs are part of a gift bag that we have begun offering to guests at the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings.

We bought extra! They are for sale this morning at the Welcome Center.

Each mug is \$10. All funds go to help buy more mugs to give away as gifts to guests, so if you want to donate a bit more, feel free to do so.

Hope it makes your morning brew all the tastier!



Need help with groceries?

We are aware that many families in our community have been negatively impacted by the government shutdown, especially the suspension of SNAP benefits. If you have felt the impact in your own family, please speak confidentially to either Pastor Jeff or Pastor Brett, as we have resources set aside to help members of our Faith community during such hard seasons. If you know families outside the church facing a similar hardship, please let them know about the food resources available at the SSIP Food Closet (24th & Fruitridge), one of Faith's partners in mission. The food closet is open every weekday morning from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Opportunities to Reach Out with Christ's Love

Reaching Out's Christmas Celebration

Saturday, December 13, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Our Reaching Out schedule in November and December is a little different, so we want to be sure you know of the change in our regular schedule well in advance: For these two months, we will host one Reaching Out event on **Saturday, December 13, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.** This will be our annual Christmas celebration -- always a joyful and meaningful gathering! There is sure to be a larger-than-usual turnout, so a whole host of volunteers will be a blessing all around. In addition, there will be an opportunity to sing with Mark Tootle and the Christmas Carolers. Feel free to join in the musical festivities! For more information about this event, contact Reaching Out's coordinator, Cathy Philleo, at philbertcekp@frontiernet.net.



We will continue to collect donations for this special gathering through Thursday, December 11, at 4:00 p.m. Please drop your items off in the bins in the Donation Center. Here are the donations sought for December:

- Winter clothing, including new or gently used and *clean* jackets, coats, mittens and gloves; warm socks (new only). Also, blankets and throws; toiletries and household cleaning supplies; pet food and cat litter.
- In addition, new and gently used items that guests can give as a gift to someone else, including toys, games, and craft and hobby items. Also, Christmas décor and decorations; and gift wrap, gift bags with tissue paper, tape, and bows/ribbons for decorating gift boxes and bags.

Again, please drop off donations in the Donation Center by Thursday, December 11, at 4:00 p.m. Thank you for caring for these neighbors with God's love!

Operation Christmas Child

Our annual Operation Christmas Child event will take place on **Wednesday, November 19, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in Link Hall.** A light dinner will be provided. Everyone is invited to take part! Here are three ways to lend a hand:



- **Donate Some of the Items We'll Be Packing:** On Sundays, November 9 and 16, there will be a donation bin in the Welcome Center. (See the purple flyer in the Welcome Center for a list of desired items.)
- **Join the Packing Party!** Join us on November 19 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., and help us stuff each shoebox with good things.
- **Donate Funds:** Shipping is \$11 per shoebox.

For more about how to get involved, pick up a purple flyer in the Welcome Center.

Run to Feed the Hungry

Just when you thought it was safe to put away your running shoes ... It's time to Run to Feed the Hungry! That's right -- Team "Faith and Friends," under the captaincy of our own Pastor Brett, will hit the streets of East Sac on **Thanksgiving morning, November 27**, to raise funds for the Sacramento Food Bank. You may join the team with this QR code, or look for the direct link in tomorrow's "This Week @ Faith" email. To learn more, visit RunToFeedTheHungry.com, or talk with Pastor Brett.



Are You Interested in Baptism?

Pastor Jeff Chapman will facilitate a class for those who are interested either in being baptized or in having their children baptized (or who are interested simply in learning more about baptism!). The **class will be held between services (10:15-11:00 a.m.) next Sunday, November 16, in Room 2.** If you would like to attend, please contact Pastor Jeff at jchapman@faithpresby.org.



Presbyterian Women Gatherings in November & December

Please take note of the following “holiday adjustments” regarding our November and December PW gatherings:

Our November fellowship will take place on **Wednesday, November 19, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Link Hall.** Back by popular demand, the Eric Rainwater Children’s Choir will be singing for us that day. What a treat! There will also be time to catch up with one another over lunch and to hear from our board members. We will have a raffle, and the bazaar table will be available for your donating/shopping pleasure. Bring your lunch; drinks, chips and dessert will be provided.



At our November gathering, you will also be able to purchase your ticket for our **Wednesday, December 3, Christmas luncheon at The Izakay Restaurant.** Cost per ticket is \$25. You will be able to choose your meal option on November 19, as well as learn more about our 2025 Christmas Mission Partner — Wellspring Women’s Center. We will be requesting donations in support of their ministry. For a list of what is needed, please see the November edition of the PresbyNews, or visit <https://www.wellspringwomen.org/holiday-giving>.

If you will not be at our November fellowship but would like to attend the Christmas luncheon, be sure to **reserve your ticket by the Tuesday, November 25, deadline.** To do so, please contact Kathy Ellis (916-215-4997; trvlkath@comcast.net).

Advent & Christmas Poinsettias

Available to Order on Sundays, November 9 and 16

Faith has a longstanding tradition of decorating our sanctuary with poinsettias for the Advent and Christmas seasons. If you would like to order one or more live plants this year to contribute to the seasonal beauty of our worship space, you will be able to do so for two Sundays starting today. On November 9 and 16, after each worship service, a member of the worship team will be available in the narthex to take your order. Each plant costs \$10, cash or check (checks payable to “Faith Presbyterian Church,” with “poinsettia” as the memo). You may dedicate each plant in honor or memory of a loved one; these dedications will be listed in the bulletin on November 30, the first Sunday of Advent. You may take your plant home with you after Christmas Eve worship.



You may also place your order online using the QR code at right. The deadline for online orders is Sunday, November 16, at 12:30 p.m.

When you order your plant, there will also be an opportunity to **sign up to water all the poinsettias and the Christmas tree once or twice during Advent.** For more, talk with Paul Kinney or email him at pk@radiofilms.com.



Serving on Sunday at Faith

	Serving Today (11/9)		Serving Next Sunday (11/16)	
	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Acolyte	Amara Markarian	Ben Chand	Liam Ndichu	Jack Van Duyn
Coffee Hosts	Karena & Mike Van Duyn	Ken Finch Tanis Toland	John & Stephanie Homen	Cathy Coupal Bonnie Schrader
Communion Servers	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Greeters	Bob & Cindy DeYoung	Bruce & Jean Kern	Bill Edgar & Linda Olsen-Edgar	Kerrilee Blunt Janeil Hogue
Lock-up	N.A.	Bob Bagby	N.A.	Jon Coupal
Media Center Techs	Dave Anders Paul Kinney	Rick Hom	David Nash Anthony Shelton	Jon Coupal
Pew Crew	<i>Serving 11/10—11/13</i>	Cheryl Chan	<i>Serving 11/17—11/20</i>	Michele Yarbrough
Prayer Team	Laura Anderson Randy Smith	Renee Larsen Ileana Maestas	Sherry Beams Rich Hendricks	Chelle Ellis
Teller Escorts	Jennifer Anders	Paul Heaton	Bob DeYoung	Jarvis Arellano
Tellers	N.A.	Bill Edgar Paul Heaton	N.A.	N.A.
Ushers	Walter & Audrey Newport	Jarvis Arellano	Stan & Cynde Keasling	Terry Fong
Welcome Ctr.	Terry Fong	Pam Rock	Candi Okada	Georgianne Becker
Worship Asst.	Stan Keasling	Karen Chan	Dawn Vollmar	Bruce Kern

Faith Worship Band: Eunice Bancu, Michaela Bannerman, Shane Bannerman, Esther Chapman, Andrew Chen, Sue Kim, Cindi Kinney, Paul Kinney, Carolyn Kubish, Paul Philleo, Zach Roberts, Mark Tootle, Makayla Van Duyn, Vickie Weaver-Owens and Jill Whitney.

Faith Brass Ensemble: José Hermocillo, Tom McDuffie, Fred Noteware, Dan Pehrson, Steve Rock, Laura Schneider and Carolyn Tillman (Director).

Faith Chancel Choir: Cynthia Abbott, Gregory Collins, Joe De Illy, Sally Evey, Jessica Flash, Paul Heaton, Janeil Hogue, Dane Huntingdale, Sue Kim, Cindi Kinney, Paul Kinney, Carolyn Kubish, Barbara LaPlaca, Kay Lum, Phil Lum, Betsy Pehrson, Dan Pehrson, Paul Philleo, Ken Pisor, April Reichert, Edna Rush and Charlotte Van Wagner.

Faith Staff Members ~ Contact Us

Laura Anderson ~ Office Manager

Eunice Bancu ~ Accompanist

Jeff Chapman ~ Pastor/Head of Staff

Marlys Emery ~ Financial Assistant

Kimberly MacArthur ~ Interim Director of Congregational Care

Brett Shoemaker ~ Associate Pastor

Lindsay Stanford ~ Director of Family Ministry

Mark Tootle ~ Director of Music Ministry

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All Members of the Church ~ Ministers

Faith Presbyterian Church ~ 625 Florin Road, Sacramento, 95831 ~ www.faithpresby.org ~ (916) 428-3439

This Week @ Faith: November 9–15

SUNDAY

- **Worship—9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)**
- Class: Ezekiel—10:15 a.m. (Grace Rm)
- Reception for New Members—10:15 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Membership Interest Class—10:15 a.m. (Rm 2)
- Our Savior's Anglican Church—12 p.m. (Link Hall)
- Deacons Meeting—12:30 p.m. (Rm 2)
- Nominating Committee—1:30 p.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Immanuel Indonesian Church—4 p.m. (Link Hall)
- Youth Group—7 p.m. (Youth Rm, Link Hall)
- AA Meeting—7 p.m. (Rm 2)

MONDAY

- Faith Staff Meeting—9 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- BSF Leaders Meeting—9 a.m. (Link Hall, Rms 2, 4, 5, 7)
- Faith Crafters—1 p.m. (Rm 2)
- Men's Life Group—1:30 p.m. (Choir Rm)
- Men's Discipleship Cohort—5:30 p.m. (Grace Rm)
- Women's Discipleship Cohort—5:30 p.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Session—7 p.m. (Sanctuary, Choir Rm)
- Women's Discipleship Cohort—7 p.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Women's AA Meeting—7 p.m. (Rm 2)

TUESDAY

- Morning Prayer—7:30 a.m. (Online)
- BSF—9 a.m. (All rooms)
- Life Group—2:30 p.m. (Choir Rm)
- Life Group—3 p.m. (Rm 2)
- AA Meeting—8 p.m. (Rm 2)

WEDNESDAY

- PW Board Meeting—9:15 a.m. (Rm 2)
- Women's Life Group—10 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Kids Club—5 p.m. (Link Hall)
- Worship Band Rehearsal—6 p.m. (Choir Rm)
- Life Group—7 p.m. (Choir Rm)
- Men's AA Meeting—7 p.m. (Rm 2)

THURSDAY

- Men's Life Group—7:30 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Staff Prayer—9 a.m. (Online)
- Life Group—9:30 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Life Group—10:30 a.m. (Grace Rm)
- Choir Rehearsal—7 p.m. (Choir Rm, Sanctuary)
- AA Meeting—8 p.m. (Rm 2)

FRIDAY

- RSVP Concert—7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY

- Rise Against Hunger—Set-up Crew—8 a.m. (Link Hall)
- Prayer Group (outside group)—8 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Tai Chi—8:30 a.m. (Courtyard)
- Rise Against Hunger—9 a.m. (Link Hall)
- Faith Brass Ensemble Rehearsal—9:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)
- Camellia Juniors Concert—4 p.m. (Sanctuary)

2025 Calendar at a Glance

Upcoming dates of note in our life at Faith

November 15	Rise Against Hunger
November 19	Operation Christmas Child
November 27	Run to Feed the Hungry
November 30	First Sunday of Advent
December 3	Advent Midweek Worship
December 10	Candlelight Service of Remembrance
December 12	Family Ministry "Christmas Time" Gathering
December 17	Service of Lessons & Carols
December 24	Christmas Eve Worship at 7:00 & 11:00 p.m.

The Faith Church office is open Monday to Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Friday by appointment.

Faith Presbyterian Church of Sacramento
“The Next Step”

A Resource for Life Groups and/or Personal Application

November 9, 2025



Matthew 10:16-33 (NRSV)

¹⁶ “See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; ¹⁸ and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹ When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; ²⁰ for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ²¹ Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; ²² and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³ When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

²⁴ “A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ “So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² “Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.”

Message Notes

Go!

Part 5—We Should Expect Opposition. What Then?

Questions to Consider...

The following questions and scriptures are provided for Life Groups and individuals who want to reflect further on today's message.

1. Read Matthew 10:16-25. Listen for what speaks to you or surprises you in this section of the Scripture this week.
2. When Jesus says that he is sending us out as “sheep among wolves,” how does that shape or change the way you think about following him?
3. Has it been your own experience that trouble is the “habitat” of discipleship? Can you remember a time when sharing your faith or standing up for truth brought rejection or at least misunderstanding?
4. How might John 16:33 (on the front of the bulletin) be a helpful link in understanding this part of Jesus' words (vv. 16-25) and introducing the next part (vv. 26-33)?
5. Now read verses 26 to 33, the rest of this week's passage. Listen for the shift in tone and message of Jesus' words. What do you notice?
6. Dale Bruner said, “Trouble is the habitat; trust is the habit.” Are there any *habits of trust* that have sustained you when trouble comes your way? How might you lean into a new habit to build trust in this season?
7. Just as Jesus helped Peter reclaim his missionary heart on the beach in John 20, how might Jesus be inviting you (and our community) into a grace-filled reunion of who we were meant to be in this call to missionary discipleship?



Table to Table: Something for kids and adults to consider together

Do you think following Jesus is hard?
How does God help us when it *is* hard?

Meeting With God This Week

To help you LISTEN to God...

For your continued times of meeting with God daily, we offer the following passages from God's Word for your reflection. If you need a Bible, let us know and we'll give you one. We encourage you to keep a journal at hand to write down what you hear as you listen to God's Word. If you are new to all this, these steps may help you get started:

Invite - Find a time and space where you can have at least fifteen minutes of privacy and silence. Begin by taking a moment to simply ask God to meet you. Expect God to answer your prayer and show up.

Scripture - Read slowly through the passage for the day (we offer suggestions below). Read it again, if you like. Pay attention to phrases or ideas that particularly strike you.

Listen and Reflect - Use a journal to write down what you hear God saying in these verses. What is God telling you about himself? What is God telling you about your life? What is God telling you he wants you to do or to do differently? What questions are raised? What promises are revealed? Write what you hear.

Respond - Use the 3 R's. **#1 - Rejoice!** What have I heard from God which causes me to praise God and give thanks? Pray accordingly. **#2—Repent.** What have I heard from God that brings to light sin in my life or change that needs to take place? **#3—Request.** What have I heard from God that informs the way I pray for myself and others? (The guide in the column to the right, "To Help You Speak with God," may be useful as you pray for others this week.)

Suggested Scriptures for the Week, as we offer God a portion of each day in His Word.

Monday:	Ephesians 3 / Psalm 95
Tuesday:	Ephesians 4 / Psalm 96
Wednesday:	Ephesians 5 / Psalm 97
Thursday:	Ephesians 6 / Psalm 98
Friday:	Philippians 1 / Psalm 99
Saturday:	Philippians 2 / Psalm 100
Sunday:	I Timothy 1-6 / Psalm 101

To help you SPEAK with God...

♦Pray for Our Faith Family, Especially...

Stan & Cynde Keasling ~ Carol Keller ~
Kathy Keller ~ Marc & Nicole Keller; Dustin,
Skyler ~ Paul & Betty Keller

♦Prayers for Healing & Comfort:

For Healing & Strength: Carol Keller, Bob Johnson, Clara Murrels, Kristen Bye, Barbara Tracy, Cheryl Chan, Bob DeYoung, Georgina Borton, Beverly Sommerdorf, John Ellis, Sandy Smoley, Lyndon Thomson, Nick LaPlaca, Barbara Hull, Skip Watt.

♦Church Leadership:

Marlys Emery	Financial Assistant
Paul Philleo	Elder, Mission
Audrey Newport	Deacon, Parish 11

♦Other Opportunities for Prayer

Prayer Chain: Contact Alice Parente at vsas77@earthlink.net to share a prayer concern or to become part of the prayer chain.

Pre-Service Prayer: We meet in the Fireside Room every Sunday morning at 8:30 for prayer before worship. All are welcome.

Prayer After Worship: If you would like someone to pray with you, our prayer team will be available at the front of the church immediately following worship this morning.

Tuesday Morning Zoom Prayer Gathering:

All are welcome to join us for prayer on Zoom Tuesday mornings from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m. Using a psalm or other scripture as our guide, we pray together—some silently, some aloud. Most of us keep our cameras off. It's wonderful to start our day in this way together. The Zoom ID is **871 3470 6671**.

The logo features the word "PRAYER" in large, white, sans-serif capital letters above the word "GATHERING" in smaller, white, sans-serif capital letters. Both words are centered within a dark blue rectangular background that has a subtle gradient and a slight shadow effect.

