

***Propers and Music for the
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**
Lectionary 19, Year C | August 10, 2025

PRELUDE “Allemande” — Anthony Holborne (c. 1545–1602);
Michael Neufeld, *clarinet*, & Imogene Stulken, *keyboard*

GATHERING HYMN ACS 1026 “In the Midst of Earthly Life”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

READING Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16

A reading from Hebrews.

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

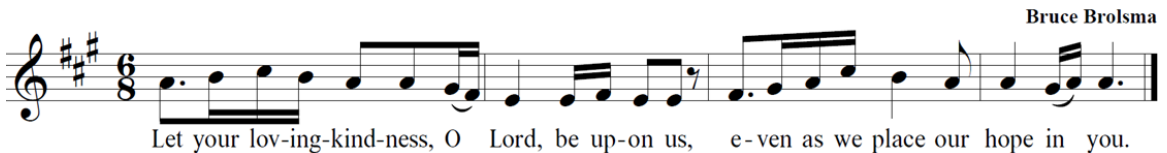
⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For Abraham looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered faithful the one who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, God has prepared a city for them.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 33:12–22

The psalm verses and response are sung by the assembly.



¹²Happy is the nation whose God | is the LORD!

Happy the people chosen to | be God's heritage!

¹³The LORD looks | down from heaven,
and sees all | humankind.

¹⁴God sits firmly en- | throned and watches
all who dwell | on the earth.

¹⁵God fashions | all their hearts
and observes | all their deeds. **Response**

¹⁶A king is not saved by the size | of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by | their great strength.

¹⁷The horse gives vain | hope for victory;
despite its great strength it | cannot save.

¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear | you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your | steadfast love,
¹⁹to deliver their | lives from death,
and to keep them alive in | time of famine. **Response**

²⁰Our innermost being waits for | you, O LORD,
our helper | and our shield.
²¹Surely, our heart rejoic- | es in you,
for in your holy name we | put our trust.
²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, | be upon us,
even as we place our | hope in you. **Response**

GOSPEL Luke 12:32–40

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give the dominion to you. ³³Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If the master comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, the owner would not have let the house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son-of-Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON *Carrie Ballenger*

HYMN OF THE DAY *The New Century Hymnal* 418 “My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff” (see additional insert onsite or hymn packet online)

OFFERTORY MUSIC “Ayre” — Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741);
Michael Neufeld, *clarinet*, & Imogene Stulken, *keyboard*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

ACS 954 “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd”

ACS 1027 “Don’t Be Afraid”

SENDING HYMN ACS 949 “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and
Burning”

POSTLUDE “Corrente” — Arcangelo Corelli (1653–1713);
Michael Neufeld, *clarinet*, & Imogene Stulken, *keyboard*

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SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister and Preacher: Carrie Ballenger; *Assisting Minister:* Susan Worst;
Reader: John Gregg; *Intercessor:* Nathaniel Fasman; *Hospitality:* Nathaniel Fasman and
Susan Worst; *Musicians:* Michael Neufeld and Imogene Stulken

PRAYER LIST

Cheri Agaskar—UniLu member; Matt Arnie—relative of Pastor Carrie Ballenger and Brittany Browning; Ellen Bartlett—sister of Gail Bucher; Margrit Betke—UniLu member; Lorraine and Roland Blanchard—friends of Gail Bucher; Ed Bucher—UniLu member; Gail Bucher—UniLu member; Alice Conway—sister of Karin Kutrieb; Solveig Ericson—UniLu member; Bob Flannery—UniLu member; Barbara Frank—mother-in-law of Anne Howarth; George Gordon—UniLu member; Nancy Gould—UniLu member; Charles Jaferian—grandson of Nancy Gould; Duncan McCoy Norton—son of Megan McCoy; Anne Minton—colleague of Imogene Stulken; The Ralston-Lamb family—UniLu members; Jeanette Searson—sister of Imogene Stulken; Judy Steele—sister of Phyllis Steele; Julie Wilson—UniLu member

For our siblings at Faith Lutheran Church in Cambridge and their pastor, Robin Lutjohann.

For our siblings in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, including the staff of Augusta Victoria Hospital on the Mount of Olives and all those for whom they provide care.

In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we remember the peoples of Cameroon, the Central African Republic, and Equatorial Guinea.

For all who are seeking refuge, who are facing immigration challenges, who have been deported to homes that are not home, and who have been separated from their families.

(revised 8/6/2025)