



WEEKLY WORSHIP

love all ● live spiritually ● rejoice in hope ● show hospitality

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Week of September 20, 2026
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Community Prayer

O God, from your providing hand even the dissatisfied and grumbling receive what they need for their lives. Teach us your ways of justice and lead us to practice your generosity, so that we may live a life worthy of the gospel made known through your Son Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

*"Reprinted and Revised Common Lectionary Prayers,
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Call to Worship

One: In the prayers and the praise, in the words and the wonder:

Many: we are given enough joy to live each day.

One: In the promises made to all, in the mercy offered to each:

Many: we are given enough grace to share each day.

Sermon

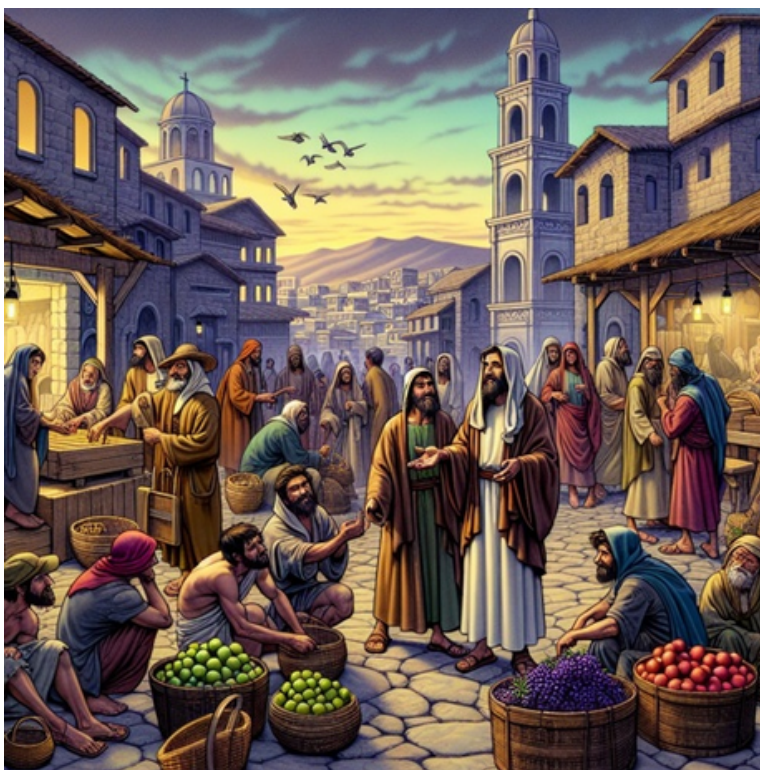
From The Rev. Kara Hillhouse

Matthew 20:1-16

But Lord, It's Not Fair!

Matthew 20:1-16

“ ‘For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’ ”



Scripture Reading

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45

“O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually. Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he uttered, O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

Then he brought Israel out with silver and gold, and there was no one among their tribes who stumbled. Egypt was glad when they departed, for dread of them had fallen upon it. He spread a cloud for a covering, and fire to give light by night. They asked, and he brought quails, and gave them food from heaven in abundance. He opened the rock, and water gushed out; it flowed through the desert like a river. For he remembered his holy promise, and Abraham, his servant. So he brought his people out with joy, his chosen ones with singing. He gave them the lands of the nations, and they took possession of the wealth of the peoples, that they might keep his statutes and observe his laws. Praise the Lord!”

SEEK THE LORD
AND HIS
STRENGTH;
SEEK HIS FACE
CONTINUALLY.

PSALM 105:4



Prayers & Praises September 20, 2026

In Our Church

Family:

- Donna Baker
- Cec Burkhart
- John Burkhart
- Joan Dietrich
- Polly Putney
- Bob Throop
- Marvin Thurber
- Phyllis Thurber
- Jessica Vocasek
- Roger Vocasek

Prayers for Rev. Bruce Frogge, Stephanie Frogge's brother, who has been diagnosed with a serious bone marrow disease. Further genetics testing is in progress to determine type and treatment plan.

Prayers for Jim Christ's nephew, Dennis Christ, in Oregon, continued prayers for healing and comfort as he goes through chemotherapy.

Prayers for healing for Vince Ortega's sister, Linda De Los Santos, who has been diagnosed with liver cancer.

Prayers for Marvin and Phyllis Thurber, who have moved to Salt Creek Senior Living.

Prayers for Diane Zabokrtsky's mom, Elaine Clayton, who is in the hospital.

Prayers for John Burkhart, who is recovering from for heart rhythm issues.

Prayers for Cec Burkhart for continued healing.

Prayers for Bob Throop for continued healing and strength.

Prayers for Roger Vocasek as he looks for a job.

Prayers for Jessica Stehlik-Vocasek for her health issues.

Prayers for Katelyn Long for continued healing and strength.

Our Timothy

- Rev. Bruce Frogge, Cypress Creek CC in Spring, TX

In the Nebraska Region: Unadilla Christian Church - Leaders

Our Global Ministries in: Haiti

"Father in heaven, we ask You to please visit every single child and every single parent You have entrusted to us in this work, so that they may find the strength of the Holy Spirit to keep moving forward—for it is You who have called us to this harvest. Amen."



Song of the Week

Let the Whole Creation Cry

Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high." Heaven and earth, awake and sing, "Praise to our almighty King." Praise God, angel hosts above, ever bright and fair in love; sun and moon, uplift your voice; night and stars, in God rejoice!

Men and women, young and old, raise the anthem loud and bold; join with children's songs of praise; worship God through length of days. From the north to southern pole let the mighty chorus roll: "Holy, holy, holy One, glory be to God alone!"



For more information and stories about our Global Ministry partners visit www.globalministries.org



SEPTEMBER

Call to Confession

One:

We continue to believe that we must earn our way into God's heart. But God's grace is freely given and without end. Let us open our lives to this beautiful gift, as we acknowledge together the ways we miss the mark, praying:

Prayer of Confession

Many:

It seems we cannot decide, O God. We say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our own needs. We claim to cling fast to Christ, but forget to take him with us when we leave this place. Forgive us, Lord, and have mercy upon us. Instead of grumblers, may we be ambassadors of grace. Instead of complaining, may we carry compassion to those who hurt. Instead of whiners, may we be workers with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, and spread the hope of the Good News wherever we go.

Good News of God's Grace

One:

Hear the Good News—the mercies of the Lord are from everlasting to everlasting. God has kept his covenant: we are loved, we are forgiven, we are a new creation.

Many:

Thanks be to God! Amen.



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