

ONLINE POSTED BY SAT. 5PM

IN-PERSON SUNDAYS @ 10AM & 6PM

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time•Zaccheus•August 17, 2025

Luke 19:1-10; 1 Corinthians 2:11-16 "Not Short-Changing Faith"

Faith is not just about our outlook or prospects; it's also about our insight and inspiration.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

CEL=Celebration Hymnal GTG=Glory to God Hymnal

PRELUDE

"We Are Waiting on You"

arr. Tom Fettke; Soloist: Noah Melton

OPENING SENTENCE

I Corinthians 2:16 (CEB)

Who has known the mind of the Lord, who will advise him? But we have the mind of Christ.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG OF GATHERING

"What A Mighty God We Serve" CEL #672

What a mighty God we serve.
What a mighty God we serve.
Angels bow before Him;
Heav'n and earth adore Him.
What a mighty God we serve. (2X)

CALL TO WORSHIP

God hopes we'll be good

God hopes we'll be strong God hopes we'll be brave

God hopes we'll be faithful yet even when we are not any of those things God wishes to dine with us

SING

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" GTG #611

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us begin with silent prayer...

Holy God, You are hungry for people who listen to you. Help us hear better. You are hungry for people who follow through with your call. Help us be more faithful. You are hungry for people who practice mercy. Help us be more forgiving. You are hungry for people who clamor and work for peace. Help us not stand idly by. You, Lord, are hungry for people who take love seriously as a way of life. Help us really believe in living that way. May we come to reflect your generosity as enthusiastically as we receive it. Thank you for listening, God. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's love can change everything, even the power of our sins over us. And it is God's will that we have this power:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

The Peace of Christ be with you And also with you.

SING

"Gloria Patri"

Glory be to the Father and to the Son And to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning. It is now and ever shall be world without end: Amen, amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Word of God doesn't just inform: it reveals. The Word of God doesn't just tell us the truth, it empowers us to live our true path. The Word of God, by God's own Spirit, teaches us to live. Let us be open to this gift of God and ask for help to understand. Let us pray...

PRAY/SING

"O, How I Love Jesus" CEL #92

O, how I love Jesus! (X3) Because He first loved me.

Listen closely to the Word of God to us all and our ongoing place in God's story...

READ: Luke 19:1-10 (CEB)

Jesus calls upon Zacchaeus.

lesus entered lericho and was passing through town. 2 A man there named Zacchaeus, a ruler among tax collectors, was rich. 3 He was trying to see who Jesus was, but, being a short man, he couldn't because of the crowd. 4 So he ran ahead and climbed up a sycamore tree so he could see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. ⁵ When Jesus came to that spot, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down at once. I must stay in your home today." 6 So Zacchaeus came down at once, happy to welcome Jesus. 7 Everyone who saw this grumbled, saying, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." 8 Zacchaeus stopped and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my possessions to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone, I repay them four times as much." 9 Jesus said to him, "Today, salvation has come to this household because he too is a son of Abraham. 10 The Human One came to seek and save the lost."

READ: I Corinthians 2:11-16 (CEB)

Understanding the depths of a person.

Who knows a person's depths except their own spirit that lives in them? In the same way, no one has known the depths of God except God's Spirit. 12 We haven't received the world's spirit but God's Spirit so that we can know the things given to us by God. 13 These are the things we are talking about—not with words taught by human wisdom but with words taught by the Spirit—we are interpreting spiritual things to spiritual people. 14 But people who are unspiritual don't accept the things from God's Spirit. They are foolishness to them and can't be understood, because they can only be comprehended in a spiritual way. 15 Spiritual people comprehend everything, but they themselves aren't understood by anyone. 16 Who has known the mind of the Lord, who will advise him? But we have the mind of Christ.

One: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us...

All: Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

"Reflecting on Zacchaeus"

ANTHEM "Beyond the Open Door" arr. Gaylen Bourland; Soloist: Noah Melton

SERMON

"Not Short-Changing Faith" Rev. David Ealy

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

SING

"Open My Eyes,That I May See" GTG #451

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

"Fairest Lord, Jesus" arr. Victor Labenske

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly hosts; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.

BLESSING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: The Lord be with you. All: and also with you.

Let us pray...

"Down to the River to Pray" Traditional
O Christians, let's go down,
let's go down, come one down.
O Christians, let's go down,

down to the river to pray.

O Children, let's go down, let's go down, come one down. O Children, let's go down, down to the river to pray.

...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.

SONG OF SENDING

"Guide My Feet"

GTG #741

SENDING & BENEDICTION

Let us say together the Benediction...

Faith is not just about our outlook or prospects; it's also about our insight and inspiration.

"Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us" GTG #187

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us: we are yours. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us: we are yours.

POSTLUDE "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" arr. Carol Tornquist



PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

The following are prayer concerns & celebrations given to us through email, Prayer Notebook at the entrance, by phone or word of mouth. Please use this list in your prayers through the week.

- Staff of the month: Noah Melton
- The Family of Freda Burgos—(sister of Lora Melton)
- Della Crawford—under hospice care (mother of Steve Crawford)
- The Family of Henry Crisp—(father of Sylvia Crisp)
- Hawfields Child Care Center—direction
- HPC Nominating Committee
- Jimmy Evans—recovering from retina surgery
- Residents of Alamance County who were impacted by the recent floods
- Tom Rich—recovery from angioplasty for leg stents implantation
- Texas flood recovery
- Administration, Students, and Teachers returning to school this week
- Helen Thomas—recovering from back surgery
- Jane Williamson—recovery from surgery to replace vertebrae

Our prayers continue for:

Ron & Pat Baugus, Rose Boderck (Liberty Commons, Rm #103), Susan Loy (Alamance House), Joe & Beverli McAdams, Josephine Minor, Kevin Monroe (White Oak Manor), Betty Sykes & Carol Thompson (Compass Health Room, #A-9), Danny Thompson and Pat Webster

THE 2025 SESSION



COMMUNITY DAY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

As Community Day approaches, we are in need of volunteers to make our event shine before the community. This year we are proud to announce that the Scouts will be selling food, we will have various vendors, face painting, live music, bounce house, craft making, and more games for the kids! Please don't forget about the raffle tickets and fabulous prizes! Now, on behalf of Danny Thompson and the Community Day committee, I am requesting for volunteers for this awesome and fun event! Please feel free to let any of the committee members know (Ira Trollinger, Danny Thompson, Nanette Pedelty, Carol Philips or Sean Cooper) about your volunteering interest. We are hoping to streamline the process so that anyone can just show up and participate without asking many questions.

Here are the following timelines when we need the most volunteers. Please read the information below:

Friday, **Sept. 5th** @ **9 AM through I2 PM**. Moving tables and chairs for easy access and setup the Fellowship Room for Bingo. Please meet at the Fellowship Room to volunteer for this activity.

Saturday, Sept. 6th AM set up. 7 am to 9 am. Need volunteers to setup tables and chairs for the following activities:

- Busy Bees
- Crafts
- Info Booth
- Presbyterian Women
- Bounce House
- Stage
- Bingo

Info booth: 8:45 am to 3 pm. Ira Trollinger will be there. Need two or three addition people at all times. You can pick morning or afternoon, but please respond to we can plan.

Face paint: 10 am to 3 pm. Need some volunteers to manage the line of children and help them decide what they want. You can pick morning or afternoon, but please respond to we can plan.

Games: 9 am to 3 pm. Need some volunteers for the games area at any given time. Set up and manage the games, and people playing as needed. You can pick morning or afternoon, but please respond to we can plan.

Bounce House: 9 am to 3 pm. Need some volunteers at any given time. Please contact Sean Cooper for more details.

Bingo: II am to I pm: Need some volunteers to help manage this game. Please contact Norma Poole for more details.

Clean Up: 3 PM until...: Need volunteers to help take down canopies, move tables and chairs back into the Fellowship building and other class rooms.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHECK YOUR BIAS

What do you see? Is it simply what is before your eyes? What happens when you close your eyes? What happens when you dream or imagine? What we see can sometimes have nothing to do with what's right in front of us. As you observe the world around you and all to which God wants you paying attention, how does what you WANT to see affect your perception? Moving through the week, pray for God's help becoming aware of your own biases and how they might affect what you even want to know, much less what you are able to see. Remember, people of all stripes thought they had a handle on who lesus was before and after the crucifixion.

QUESTIONS AS YOU WORSHIP THIS WEEK

- What does it mean to you for someone to be "tall"?
- What do you think God sees when looking at you?
- What should people know when they look at you?
- How does your bias (we all have it) play into how you see yourself, other people, and God?

THANK YOU!

Debby Ferrell is very grateful to the church family who gave love and support in recent weeks with the prayers, the cards, and texts. They meant so much during the brief illness and death of my father. Thank you, family.

BIBLE HEROES

Just three more weeks for us to feature as a theme in the Morning and Online worship services Bible heroes. We are using the lives of these folks to watch how God operates and contrast their choice-making with our own. From Noah, Abraham, Joshua (Rahab), Moses, Jesus, to the Gospel itself, we will explore people and their stories, examples God gives us

to live, learn and, frankly, laugh at ourselves. We perhaps might find the hero of faith God intends for us to be.



THE STORY OF OUR CHURCH IS WRITTEN IN OUR CONNECTIONS

Whether we're talking about history or our ever-emerging present, God's goal has always been to connect us with God's Spirit and each other. A big way this happens is through our stories. Linking Lives is an opportunity for folks to share their stories and in so doing help link us together with each other. Over the next 12 months, there will be opportunities for us to learn more about and, most importantly, pray for every family in our congregation. We will feature profiles and have times for personal prayer and chatting as well as bi-monthly opportunities for a podcast featuring faith stories (1st week of the month) and/or burning faith questions or theology (3rd week of the month). Look for your invitation letters to come beginning in August.

THE WORK OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee works at the behest of the congregation, they are seeking to empower and inform the right of the congregation in our system to elect its leadership. Elders Tammy Karnes, Sandy Muller and Carol Phillips are serving to provide us with a recommended slate of nominees. To aid

them in their work, most principally, pray for them. Also, feel free to suggest names to them under these three conditions. First, ensure you have your suggested person's permission to submit their name. Second, make sure that they are, in fact, a member of the congregation. Third, and most important, prayerfully consider God's call on them to serve in this way.

STAFF EVALUATION FEEDBACK NEEDED

It's time again to ask for feedback to help the Administrative Life team and the Session evaluate the work performance of each staff member over the past year. There are formats in the weekly update and blank forms on the table in the vestibule. Complete one on any staff member you have worked with over the past 12 months; be thorough and descriptive. You can cut and paste the format into a document, complete, and email it to dferrell712@gmail.com. Put all paper documents into one of the boxes at the front of each worship area. Return the feedback forms by **August 25th**. Your comments really do help and we look forward to reading them.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

We will be collecting school supplies for children at Garrett Elementary and Hawfields Middle schools through **August 3 I st**. Donated items can be placed in the containers in the vestibule and Fellowship Hall. Items needed are:

- *Composition notebooks (blue, green, red, black and yellow) wide ruled.
- *Plastic folders with pockets and prints (blue, green, red, black and yellow)
- *Plastic folders with pockets no prongs
- *Colored pencils
- *Pencil top erasers or pink erasers

- *Pencil pouches and pencils boxes
- *Glue sticks
- *Scissors
- *Crayons (24 count)
- *Washable markers
- *Headphones (corded) and earbuds
- *Expo Markers (dry erase markers)
 Black
- *Clipboards
- *Highlighters

Front office/Teacher wish list items: Kleenex tissues, Lysol or Clorox wipes, Bandaids, ziplock bags (sandwich size).

COMMUNITY DAY DONATIONS

Once again we will have prize giveaways at Community Day. If you have something you would like to donate or know or work with someone we could ask, please let Ira Trollinger know at iratrollinger@gmail.com

ATTENTION SHEPHERDS:

Thank you so much for your willingness to serve our church family in this important ministry. Please remember to make sure you stay in touch with each of your sheep during these last hot days of summer and especially continue to pray for them. We have been updating, changing and reassigning some of the church family sheep to different shepherds. If you do not know who your shepherd is, please contact the church office or Sandy Muller (336-263-2773). We welcome Kimi Massey to our family of shepherds. If you would like to serve as a shepherd, please let Sandy know.

SAVE THE DATE!

The next Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for Saturday, **October**Ith. More details and registration information will be announced soon. Save the date and save a life!

THE WEEK AHEAD:

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

9:00 AMYouth Sunday School 9:15 AMCoffee & Treats (F. Hall) 10:00 AMTraditional Worship Service 11:00 AMYouth—Council 3:00 PMGirl Scouts Meeting

5:00 PMHawfields Community Meal 6:00 PMFaith @ Night Service

MONDAY, AUGUST 18 7:00 PM "The Chosen" Bible Study

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

10:30 AMStaff Meeting & Prayer 4:00 PMManna Market @ First Baptist 7:00 PMPumpkin Patch Planning Meeting

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

10:00 AMBusy Bees Workshop 1:30 PMHawfields Jammers 5:00 PMLinking Lives Prayer Chat 6:30 PMChoir Rehearsal 6:30 PMNarcotics Anonymous (Fleming)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

9:00 AMCoffee & Prayer @ Habit Coffee 10:00 AMCommunity Life Committee Mtg 6:30 PMAA Meeting (Fleming Room)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

II:00 AM.....Bingo

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

8:00 AM........Walking Group (church track)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

9:00 AMYouth Sunday School 9:15 AMCoffee & Treats (F. Hall) 10:00 AMTraditional Worship Service 11:00 AMYouth—Back to School Sunday 6:00 PMFaith @ Night Service

BY THE NUMBERS	8/10/25
Giving Budget 2025	\$346,202.00
Gen. Fund YTD	
Needed monthly	\$28,850.17
G.F. Month to date	
Needed weekly	\$6,657.73
Last week	
Building Fund	\$130.00
Youth	
Helping Hands Balance	\$295.00

ADDITIONAL RECEIPT:

The above totals do not reflect an insurance payment received for roof repair totaling \$43,407.55.

Leadership & Staff

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Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 8:00AM-3:00PM

TOM BOWDEN

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