

Sunday, September 28, 2025 – 9:30 a.m.

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

TODAY’S FOCUS: Who is my neighbor?

PRELUDE — Brooke Balbuena

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS — Bonnie Clark

- Lin and Brian are on vacation this week ***[please don’t publish that we are out of town]***
- Carbon Valley Help Center Empty Bowls on Saturday, 10/4 from 11:00 to 2:00 at the High School
- Also coming up;
 - 1) Terry Murray’s Celebration of Life is Sunday 10/12 at 1:00pm with light reception after
 - 2) Jessica LaSalle’s Celebration of Life is Saturday 10/18 at 10:30 am with cold lunch after
- Our Charge Conference is Thursday night, 10/30, at 7:00 pm via Zoom. To attend, let Lin know and she will make sure you get the Zoom link.
- Anyone visiting for the first time or the first time in a long time?
- Let’s begin our worship by passing the peace of Christ to one another.

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST** — Bonnie Clark

***OPENING HYMN** “How Great Thou Art”

***CALL TO WORSHIP** — Bonnie Clark

One: We gather today to worship God, who listens when we call.

Many: We gather to rest in the shadow of God’s wings.

One: We gather to pray to God, who answers us when we call.

Many: We gather to lift our voices in the shadow of God’s wings.

One: We gather to praise God, who rescues us when we call.

Many: We gather to rejoice in the shadow of God’s wings.

One: Beloved, come! Let us worship our God, who covers and delivers us in Love.

Many: We gather to worship in the shadow of God’s wings.

One: I will say of the Lord,

All: “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, April 2025.

OPENING PRAYER — Suzanne Gallagher

SPECIAL MUSIC — ??

HYMN

TFWS #2233 “Where Children Belong”

CHILDREN’S STORY — Sharon Goldade

SCRIPTURE: Luke 10:25-37 — Bonnie Clark

²⁵ Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶ He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” ²⁷ He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind: and your neighbor as yourself.” ²⁸ And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this and you will live.” ²⁹ But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰ Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii [the denarii was the usual day’s wage for a laborer], gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” ³⁷ He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

MESSAGE “Who is my neighbor: A Matter for Interpretation”

Suzanne Gallagher

RESPONSIVE HYMN

TFWS #2236 “Gather Us In”

(vs 1, 2 & 4)

1. Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreaming, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in — the lost and forsaken, gather us in — the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young — our lives are a myst’ry, we are the old — who yearn for your face,
We have been sung throughout all of hist’ry, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in — the rich and the haughty, gather us in — the proud and the strong;

Give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away
But here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in — all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

OFFERTORY — Brooke Balbuena

***DOXOLOGY** UMH #94

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** — Bonnie Clark

ALL: God of grace, we ask that you accept our offerings of love and our commitment to nurture all your children with the love of Christ. May our gifts this morning show our acceptance of your blessings and your loving care for us. Use these gifts to change hearts, to change lives, and to change the dire circumstances in which some of your children live. We ask this in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER — Suzanne Gallagher

All: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** TFWS #2223 "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, we are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

REFRAIN: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, we will walk with each other,
we will walk hand in hand, and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: **REFRAIN**

3. We will work with each other, we will work side by side, we will work with each other,
we will work side by side, and we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride: **REFRAIN**

4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Jesus,
God's only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: **REFRAIN**

***BENEDICTION** — Suzanne Gallagher

POSTLUDE — Brooke Balbuena

Prelude/Postlude—Brooke Balbuena

Offertory— Brooke Balbuena

Organ —Betsy Foushee

Special Music — ??

Liturgist — Bonnie Clark

Accomp.— Brooke Balbuena

Song Leader— Bonnie Clark

Violin — Rae Ann Norell

Guest Speaker — Suzanne Gallagher

Children's Message—Sharon Goldade