



St. Luke's
Episcopal Church

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Holy Eucharist II
Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 27, 2026
10:00 am



A Meditation for St. Michael and All Angels

Revelation 12:7-12

War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,

“Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Messiah,

for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down,
who accuses them day and night before our God.

But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony,
for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.

Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them!

But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you
with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”



Entry into Worship



✠ Opening Acclamation ✠

Blessed be God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God’s kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid.

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Children depart for Children's Chapel



The Lessons



Old Testament

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

¹ Hear my teaching, O my people; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² I will open my mouth in a parable; I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

³ That which we have heard and known, and what our forefathers have told us,
we will not hide from their children.

- ⁴ We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, and the wonderful works he has done.
- ¹² He worked marvels in the sight of their forefathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.
- ¹³ He split open the sea and let them pass through; he made the waters stand up like walls.
- ¹⁴ He led them with a cloud by day, and all the night through with a glow of fire.
- ¹⁵ He split the hard rocks in the wilderness and gave them drink as from the great deep.
- ¹⁶ He brought streams out of the cliff, and the waters gushed out like rivers.

New Testament

Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form, he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death--even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name
that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*



Gospel Hymn

O worship the King, all glorious above

Hymnal, #388 (vs. 1)



The Gospel

Matthew 21:23-32

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*



Sermon

The Rev. Dr. David Gortner



The Nicene Creed

*We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.*

*On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*



The Prayers of the People



Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

Concluding Collect

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals: Mercifully grant that, as your holy angels always serve and worship you in heaven, so by your appointment they may help and defend us here on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*



Confession and Absolution of Sin

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Children return from Children's Chapel



The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Greet one another with the peace of Christ.



Announcements



Offering



Offertory Anthem

Turn thy face from my sins

Thomas Attwood

Offertory Hymn

What wondrous love is this

Hymnal, #439



The Holy Eucharist



✠ The Great Thanksgiving ✠

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us adore the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

We praise and adore you with all our hearts and minds and strength, O God, for from the very beginning you delighted in your creation. You exulted to play among your sons and daughters. You urged our universe into being, breathing life into the void, and, over primal waters, sending out your Word to call forth the creatures of the deep.

You filled us, also, with your breath of life. Our bodies move in harmony of movement with all that surrounds us. In the dance of creation, the world joins with your Spirit and anticipates the fulfillment of your presence.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it.

Let the trees clap their hands, and the rivers sing with joy.

You set us a place in this your garden of delight, where we could take our part in creation. And now, in gratitude, in deep gratitude, we join our voices with all your creatures in ceaseless song:

Sanctus

WLP, #858

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. * Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner, harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983).



Holy and Divine Lover, you have never ceased to bless us, and shower us with gifts. You formed us in your image. You gave us the breath of life, the power to know, the ability to delight, and the desire to share with creation in your abundance.

But how often we have betrayed you, and squandered your gifts! How often we have deceived ourselves, and hurt one another! We sought only after ourselves, and we tried to possess what we were meant to enjoy, leaving us without happiness, fulfillment, or passion.

Yet, though we are daily unfaithful to you, you have never abandoned us. Daily you have searched us out and called to us. And when we could only see you as Judge, remote and unapproachable, you came to us tender and vulnerable. You lured us again and again to rekindle our love for you and your creation. You have never abandoned us.

I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine.

Through the ages, you have endured our fickleness, as we turn against each other, as we refuse you, as we search for you, lonely but arrogant and despising of ourselves. Dining with Abraham and Sarah, wrestling through the night with Jacob and calling Moses to approach you on bare feet, in ever-new ways you continued to pledge yourself to us. With a shielding cloud in the heat of day and a fiery light in the darkness, you journeyed with your chosen people Israel through the wilderness.

I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine.

To consummate your love for us, your very Word of invitation became flesh, conceived in Mary's womb as Jesus, your child. You held Mary, body and soul, in your embrace, bringing forth in her the fullness of Delight in the birth of Jesus. Jesus lived among us. He ate and drank with us, in our greatest joys and deepest woes. His only rebuke for the arrogant and proud, Jesus turned none aside from his care.

We rejected him in the body, nailing him to a tree. But you triumphed over us, and raised him bodily from the dead. And our salvation was won.

I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine.

What gift can we give in return? You gave your only child, that we might have life. We offer you ourselves, our souls and bodies. And we set this table: Bread and Wine for us to share.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

And so we declare the great mystery of love:

Christ you dwelt among us.

Christ you died at our hands.

Christ you rose again.

Christ we long for your return.

Divine love, Holy wisdom, Author and Source of all, come down upon this meal of bread and wine. Move over it in a new creation. By your Holy Spirit, make this bread and wine the gift of your presence, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Embrace your people, O God.

Praise to you, O Lord, for the goodness of this food and drink. As we take the bread on our tongue, the wine to our lips, we ask you to feed us with your presence, now known to our senses. By your Holy Spirit, make us also holy, that we may receive your gifts without shame or anxiety, and be united with you and one another through this Sacrament of your Love.

Embrace your people, O God.

May your redemption spread from this feast across the whole creation, that all may be made new, clean, and holy in You. Draw us again to live beneath your shadow, that we and all creation may flourish as a garden and blossom like the vine.

As grain was scattered over the hillsides and then was brought together and made one in this bread, so let all your people be brought together from the ends of the earth into your Kingdom.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you, our God and Creator, in voices of unending praise.

Amen.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

The Lord's Prayer

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

LEVAS, #269

Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: Lena McLin, *Eucharist of the Soul*

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The Bread is broken

Whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst, says the Lord.

Words of Invitation

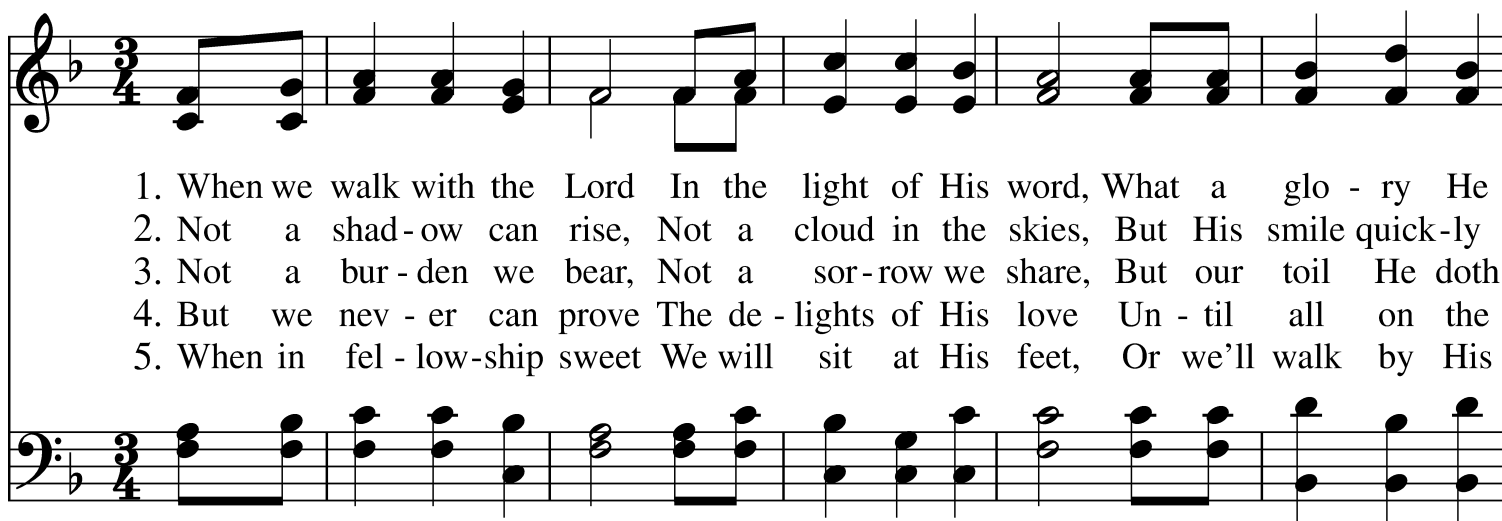
Eat, my friends, and drink, and be filled with joy and love.

Communion

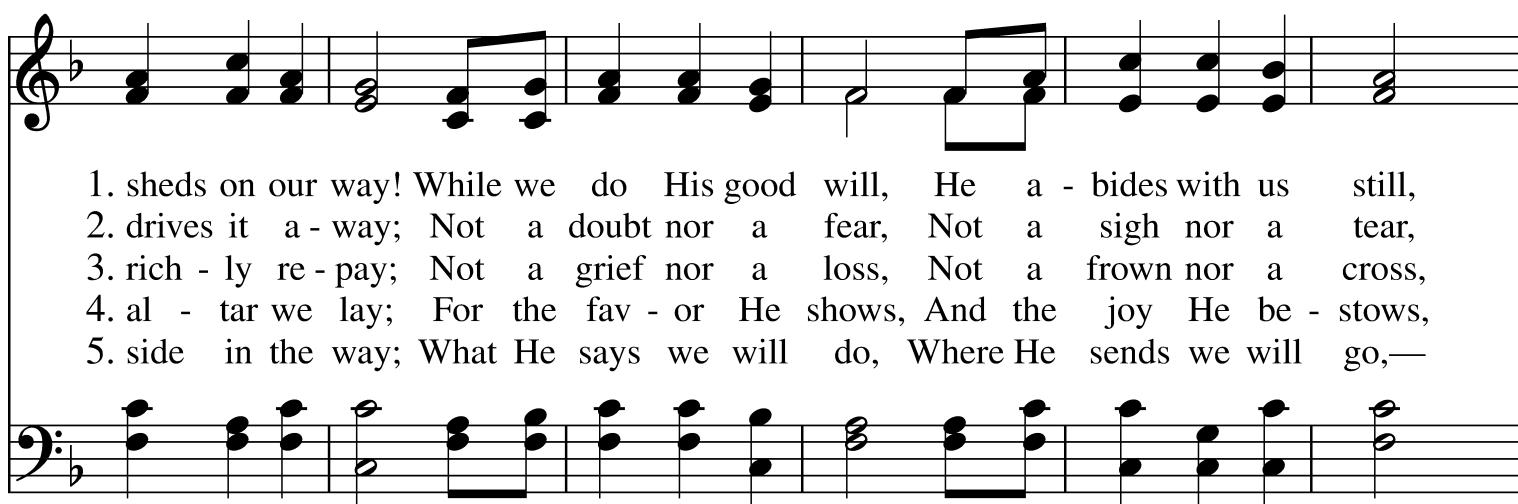
Communion Hymns

Trust and obey

LEVAS, #205



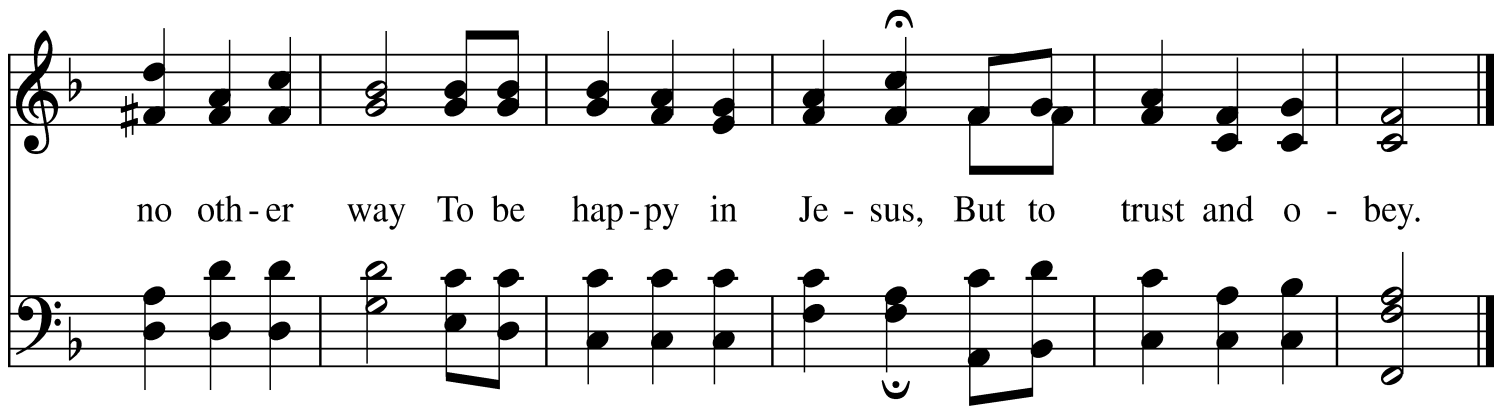
1. When we walk with the Lord In the light of His word, What a glo - ry He
2. Not a shad - ow can rise, Not a cloud in the skies, But His smile quick - ly
3. Not a bur - den we bear, Not a sor - row we share, But our toil He doth
4. But we nev - er can prove The de - lights of His love Un - til all on the
5. When in fel - low - ship sweet We will sit at His feet, Or we'll walk by His



1. sheds on our way! While we do His good will, He a - bides with us still,
2. drives it a - way; Not a doubt nor a fear, Not a sigh nor a tear,
3. rich - ly re - pay; Not a grief nor a loss, Not a frown nor a cross,
4. al - tar we lay; For the fav - or He shows, And the joy He be - stows,
5. side in the way; What He says we will do, Where He sends we will go,—



1. And with all who will trust and o - bey.
2. Can a - bide while we trust and o - bey.
3. But is blest if we trust and o - bey. Trust and o - bey, for there's
4. Are for them who will trust and o - bey.
5. Nev - er fear, on - ly trust and o - bey.



Words: J. H. Sammis. Music: D. B. Towner.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

Hymnal, #438

Prayer after Communion

*Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth into the world as a people forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.*



Sending into the World



Hymn

Ye holy angels bright

Hymnal, #625

Blessing and Dismissal

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. *Thanks be to God.*

*The Liturgy is drawn from a combination of sources:
The Book of Common Prayer (Rite II); The Book of Occasional Services; Enriching Our Worship;
and adaptations to prayers made by the Rector of St. Luke's.
The Eucharistic Prayer was written by the Rector of St. Luke's and approved by the Bishop.*

Serving Today

Readers	Jean Imperatrice, Cary Miller
Chalice/Cruet	Christopher Wigley, Matthew Gardner
Acolytes	Reese Johnson, Ella and Nate Wickham
Ushers	Gordon and Terri Radford
Altar Guild	Melissa Kilmer
Technology	Michelle Johnson
Greeters	Jeane and Brent Neumark, Christopher Wigley
Children's Chapel	Erica Waterman, Barbara Webb
Coffee Hour	The Kilmers

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Dr. David Gortner	Rector
The Rev. Glenda Empsall	Deacon
Erica Waterman	Lay Minister, Christian Formation
DeDe Pederson	Parish Administrator
Eric Betz	Music Director
Ty Peterson	Organist



Welcome to St. Luke's! We are so glad to have you join us in worship and fellowship. We are a reconciling, affirming and inclusive Christian community. We welcome all people in worship, love and service just as God created them.



God is with you. You are loved. You are welcome here, as we seek to follow Jesus on his Way of Love. Join us as we seek to move deeper in faith, closer in bonds of love, and wider in our sharing, celebrating, and embodying of Jesus' overflowing, unconditional love in North Idaho.

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