

Psalm 105:1-5

Give thanks to the Lord; call upon God's name; make God's deeds known to all people! Sing to God; sing praises to the Lord; dwell on all God's wondrous works! Give praise to God's holy name! Let the hearts rejoice of all those seeking the Lord! Pursue the Lord and God's strength; seek God's face always! Remember the wondrous works God has done, all God's marvelous works, and the justice God declared—

Matthew 20:1-16

"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. After he agreed with the workers to pay them a denarion, he sent them into his vineyard. Then he went out around nine in the morning and saw others standing around the marketplace doing nothing. He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I'll pay you whatever is right.' And they went. Again around noon and then at three in the afternoon, he did the same thing. Around five in the afternoon he went and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you just standing around here doing nothing all day long?' 'Because nobody has hired us,' they replied. He responded, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the workers and give them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and moving on finally to the first.' When those who were hired at five in the afternoon came, each one received a denarion. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But each of them also received a denarion. When they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 'These who were hired last worked one hour, and they received the same pay as we did even though we had to work the whole day in the hot sun.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I did you no wrong. Didn't I agree to pay you a denarion? Take what belongs to you and go. I want to give to this one who was hired last the same as I give to you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with what belongs to me? Or are you resentful because I'm generous?' So those who are last will be first. And those who are first will be last."



Sunday, September 20, 2026, 9:00 am

**Please stand if it is comfortable for you*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & GREETING

*SONG OF BEGINNING

Sing Praise to God
vs. 1-2, #126 Red Hymnal

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, let us give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name!

People: **We will make known the goodness of God and tell of all that God has done.**

Leader: Remember the wonderful works God has done, God's faithfulness, and God's unfailing promises.

People: **We remember with gratitude and trust that God is always at work among us.**

Leader: Jesus reminds us that the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who gives generously—not according to what we think we deserve, but according to God's gracious goodness.

People: **We come not claiming what we have earned, but rejoicing in the grace we have received.**

Leader: So let us seek the Lord and God's strength; let us continually seek God's presence.

All: **With thankful hearts, we worship the God whose grace is abundant and whose generosity knows no bounds.**

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 105:1-5

*HYMN *Come Sinners to the Gospel Feast*
vs. 1, 4-5, #339 Red Hymnal

PRESENTATION OF THIRD GRADE BIBLES

WITNESSING GOD'S LOVE TO OUR CHILDREN
Children 2nd grade and under may go to the Nursery.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Gracious God, we confess that sometimes our first response to your grace is, "It's not fair!" We look at what others have received and wonder why they should be given so much. We compare their blessings with ours, their work with ours, their lives with ours, and we decide who deserves your goodness. Forgive us, God, when we believe your grace should be measured by our efforts. Forgive us when we think those who have worked longer or sacrificed more should receive more. Forgive us when we resent your generosity because it does not fit our sense of fairness. Now, turn our hearts toward you, O God as we make our silent confessions (*silent confession*).

SUNG RESPONSE *Cares Chorus*
#2215 Black Hymnal

MINISTRY OF MUSIC *God of Grace and God of Glory*

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 20:1-16

SERMON *That's Not Fair!*

*HYMN *There's a Wideness to God's Mercy*
vs. 1-3, #121 Red Hymnal

A TIME FOR PRAYER

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND OUR BLESSINGS

Invitation

Offertory

Doxology

#94 Red Hymnal

*CLOSING BLESSING

*SUNG RESPONSE *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*
vs. 1, #664 Red Hymnal

POSTLUDE

Participating in Worship:

Rev. Jenny Arneson, Pastor

Daniel Taylor, Dir. of Family Ministry, Worship Assistant

Donna Cole, Reader

Heavenly Handbells, Music; Steve Crego, Director

Kevin Rice Myers, Organist

September Theme:

Everything I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten