

Luke 9:62



No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.

Sunday, June 29, 2025

The Third Sunday after Pentecost

Service Theme

**UNDIVIDED ATTENTION:
ON CHRIST'S CALL FOR COMMITMENT**

There are different types of followers: the half-hearted versus the committed. Jesus is uninterested in followers who pay attention to his Word and will only when their other pursuits provide the time. Jesus wants followers who are all in . . . who love him above all things . . . who would be willing to leave everything else behind if that were what it would take to be with him. We simply do not have it inside us to produce that level of commitment. But in the gospel, we see how Jesus went all in for our salvation. As we witness the way Jesus made our eternal happiness the focus of his undivided attention, the Spirit creates within us the very commitment that Christ seeks.

735 Before You I Kneel

CW 735



1 Be - fore you I kneel, my Mas - ter and Mak - er, to of - fer the
 2 Be - fore you I kneel and ask for your good - ness to cov - er the
 3 Be - fore you we kneel, our Mas - ter and Mak - er; es - tab - lish the



work of my hands. For this is the day you've giv - en your
 work of my hands, for pa - tience and peace to shape all my
 work of our hands, and or - der our steps to seek first your



ser - vant; I will re - joice and be glad
 la - bor; your grace for thorns in my path.
 king - dom in ev - 'ry small and great task.



for the strength I have to live and breathe, for each
 Flow with - in me like a liv - ing stream; wear a -
 May we live the gos - pel of your grace, serve your



skill your grace has giv - en me, for the needs and op - por -
 way the stones of pride and greed, till your ways are dwell - ing
 pur - pose in our fleet - ing days, then our lives will bring e -



tu - ni - ties that will glo - ri - fy your great name.
 deep in me and a har - vest of life is grown.
 ter - nal praise and all glo - ry to your great name.

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Jeff Taylor, b. 1957; Stuart Townend, b. 1963

Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Jeff Taylor, b. 1957; Stuart Townend, b. 1963

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The Service

Service of Word and Prayer (page 266)

I rejoiced with those who said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty!

Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

The Lord is near to all who call on him,

to all who call on him in truth.

Time of the Church

Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees,

that I may follow it to the end.

Your word is a lamp for my feet,

a light on my path.

Faith comes from hearing the message,

and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

The following prayer is spoken:

Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Elisha commits himself completely to the work to which the Lord had called him, leaving family and wealth behind.

¹⁹So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. Elisha was doing the plowing with twelve teams of oxen in front of him, and he himself was driving the twelfth team. Elijah crossed over to him and threw his cloak over him. ²⁰Then Elisha left the oxen and ran after Elijah. He said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother good-bye! Then I will follow you.”

Then Elijah said, “Go back! For what have I done to you?”

²¹So Elisha turned back from following him. Then he took the team of oxen and slaughtered them. Using the equipment from the oxen as fuel, he cooked the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he got up, followed Elijah, and served him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

62C My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone

Psalm 62C

1 My soul finds rest in God a-lone, my rock and my sal -
 2 Find rest, my soul, in God a-lone a - mid the world's temp -
 3 I'll set my gaze on God a-lone and trust in him com -

va - tion; a for - tress strong a - gainst my foes, and
 ta - tions; when e - vil seeks to take a hold I'll
 plete - ly; with ev - 'ry day pour out my soul and

I will not be shak - en. Though lips may bless and
 cling to my sal - va - tion. Though rich - es come and
 he will prove his mer - cy. Though life is but a



hearts may curse, and lies like ar - rows pierce me, I'll
rich - es go, don't set your heart up - on them; the
fleet - ing breath, a sigh too brief to mea - sure, my



fix my heart on right - eous - ness, I'll look to him who hears me.
fields of hope in which I sow are har - vest - ed in heav - en.
King has crushed the curse of death and I am his for - ev - er.

Refrain



O praise him, hal - le - lu - jah, my de - light and my re - ward;



ev - er - last - ing, nev - er fail - ing, my Re - deem - er, my God.

Text: Aaron Keyes; Stuart Townend

Tune: Aaron Keyes; Stuart Townend

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Second Reading

2 Corinthians 11:21b–30

Christ had shown grace to Paul. That grace moved Paul to be committed to Christ, no matter the personal cost.

However bold anyone might be (I am speaking in a foolish way), I am going to be bold too. ²²Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they Abraham's seed? So am I. ²³Are they ministers of Christ? (I am speaking in a crazy way.) I am even more. I've done more hard work, been in prisons more often, been whipped far more, and I've been close to death many times. ²⁴Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵Three times I was beaten with rods. One time I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. I have spent a night and a day on the open sea.

²⁶I have often been on journeys, in danger from rivers, in danger from robbers, in danger from my own people, in danger from Gentiles, in danger in the city, in danger in the wilderness, in danger on the sea, in danger among false brothers. ²⁷I have worked hard and struggled. I've spent many sleepless nights. I've been hungry and thirsty. I've gone without food many times. I've been cold and lacked clothing.

²⁸Besides those external matters, there is the daily pressure on me of my concern for all the churches. ²⁹Who is weak without my being weak? Who falls into sin without my being distressed?

³⁰If it is necessary that I boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

Mark 8:34

Alleluia, alleluia. Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 9:51–62

Jesus teaches that following him means leaving this world behind.

⁵¹When the days were approaching for him to be taken up, Jesus was determined to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²He sent messengers ahead of him. They went and entered a Samaritan village to make preparations for him. ⁵³But the people did not welcome him, because he was determined to go to Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?”

⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. “You don't know what kind of spirit is influencing you.

⁵⁶For the Son of Man did not come to destroy people's souls, but to save them." Then they went to another village.

⁵⁷As they went on the way, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

⁵⁸Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

⁵⁹He said to another man, "Follow me!"

But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

⁶⁰Jesus told him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

⁶¹Another man also said, "I will follow you, Lord, but first let me say good-bye to those at my home."

⁶²Jesus told him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

695 Take My Life and Let It Be

CW 695



1 Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Sermon

Luke 9:51-62

Jesus' determination for your salvation is:

- 1) Your power to love those who oppose you.
- 2) Your motivation to give up everything for His kingdom.

702 Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake

CW 702



1 "Come, fol - low me," the Sav - ior spake, "all in my
2 "I am the light, I light the way, a god - ly
3 "I teach you how to shun and flee what harms your
4 Then let us fol - low Christ our Lord and take the
way a - bid - ing; de - ny your-selves, the world for - sake,
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day,
soul's sal - va - tion, your heart from ev - 'ry guile to free,
cross ap - point - ed and, firm - ly cling - ing to his Word,
o - bey my call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -
I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and
from sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge
in suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the
e'er be - tide, take my ex - am - ple for your guide.
well I show how you must so - journ here be - low.
of the soul and lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."
bat - tle's strain the crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right
hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer

Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;

**in your faithfulness and righteousness, come to my
relief.**

Spare us, Lord, from the lies of the devil and the attacks of
our conscience. Comfort and save us in your patient
compassion.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Guide us, Lord, to the wisdom of your Word and the power
of your promises. Take away our confusion and doubt.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Hear us, Lord, when we come to you in prayer. Make us confident to take you at your word and to follow you in faith.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Empower us, Lord, to walk in your ways and live in your truth. Fill us with your love, that we may love you and one another.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.

You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.

Look with favor upon our nation, and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.

Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.

Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

Hear our prayers for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless us and keep us.

Amen.

775 Before You, Lord, We Bow

CW 775



1 Be - fore you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns a - bove and
2 The na - tion you have blessed may well your love de - clare, from
3 May ev - 'ry moun-tain height, each vale and for - est green, shine
4 Earth, hear your mak - er's voice, your great Re - deem - er own; be -
5 And when in pow'r he comes, oh, may our na - tive land from



rules the world be - low in bound-less pow'r and love. Our thanks we
foes and fears at rest, pro - tect - ed by your care. For this bright
in your Word's pure light and its rich fruits be seen! May ev - 'ry
lieve, o - bey, re - joice, and wor - ship him a - lone. Cast down your
all its rend - ing tombs send forth a glo - rious band, a count - less



bring in joy and praise, our hearts we raise to you, our King!
day, for this fair land—gifts of your hand—our thanks we pay.
tongue be tuned to praise and join to raise a grate - ful song.
pride, your sin de - plore, and bow be - fore the Cru - ci - fied.
throng, with joy to sing to heav'ns high King, sal - va - tion's song!

Text: Francis Scott Key, 1779–1843, alt.

Tune: John Darwall, 1731–1789

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Announcements

Church Cleaners

July 6 – Barnabas // June 13 – Luke

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (29) 9:30 am Worship**
10:30 am Ladies Strawberry Social
3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore
- We (2) 9:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)
- Th (3) 9:30 am Longfield Manor Devotion
Youth Confirmation (W)
- Sa (5) 11:00 am Communicating Christ (Youth)
- Su (6) 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion**
3:00 pm Communion Service in Poltimore
- Pastor will be of town from July 7-9*
- Th (10) 9:30 am Youth Confirmation (W)
- Fr (11) 4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Sa (12) 11:00 am Communicating Christ (Youth)
- Su (13) 9:30 am Worship**

Acknowledgments

Service of Word and Prayer from Christian Worship

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