

**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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*"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."*

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**OCTOBER 2, 2022**

**October 2, 2022**  
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

*A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.*

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who is eager to forgive  
and who loves us beyond our days.

**Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge  
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.  
God of mercy and forgiveness,  
**we confess that sin still has a hold on us.**  
**We have harmed your good creation.**  
**We have failed to do justice,**  
**love kindness,**  
**and walk humbly with you.**  
**Turn us in a new direction.**  
**Show us the path that leads to life.**  
**Be our refuge and strength on the journey,**  
**through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.**  
**Amen.**

Beloved of God:  
your sins are forgiven ✝ and you are made whole.  
God points the way to new life in Christ,  
who meets us on the road.  
Journey now in God's abiding love  
through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

# GATHERING SONG *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* (MELITA) (all verses)

## My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on nothing less than  
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I  
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -  
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my  
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and  
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are  
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.  
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

### *Refrain*



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.  
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**


# CANTICLE OF PRAISE




My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none like you.



All of my days I want to praise the won - ders of your might - y love.




My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref - uge and strength;



let ev - ry breath, all that I am nev - er cease to wor - ship you.




Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise



to the King. Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the



sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands;



for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.



Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## CHOIR ANTHEM      *BY FAITH*

### FIRST READING: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

A reading from Habakkuk.

*Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.*

<sup>1</sup>The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,  
and you will not listen?

Or cry to you “Violence!”  
and you will not save?

<sup>3</sup>Why do you make me see wrongdoing  
and look at trouble?

Destruction and violence are before me;  
strife and contention arise.

<sup>4</sup>So the law becomes slack  
and justice never prevails.

The wicked surround the righteous—  
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

<sup>2:1</sup>I will stand at my watchpost,  
and station myself on the rampart;  
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,  
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

<sup>2</sup>Then the LORD answered me and said:  
Write the vision;

make it plain on tablets,  
so that a runner may read it.

<sup>3</sup>For there is still a vision for the appointed time;  
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it;

it will surely come, it will not delay.

<sup>4</sup>Look at the proud!

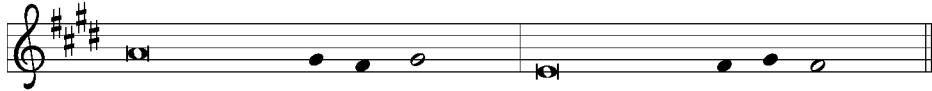
Their spirit is not right in them,  
but the righteous live by their faith.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 37:1-9**

*(Sung responsively between choir and congregation, beginning with the choir)*



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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<sup>1</sup>Do not be provoked by | evildoers;

do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.

<sup>2</sup>**For they shall soon wither | like the grass,  
and like the green grass | fade away.**

<sup>3</sup>Put your trust in the LORD | and do good;  
dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.

<sup>4</sup>**Take delight | in the LORD,  
who shall give you your | heart's desire.**

<sup>5</sup>Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust | in the LORD,  
and see what | God will do.

<sup>6</sup>**The LORD will make your vindication as clear | as the light  
and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.**

<sup>7</sup>Be still before the LORD and wait | patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

<sup>8</sup>**Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone;  
do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil.**

<sup>9</sup>For evildoers shall | be cut off,  
but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- | sess the land.

### **SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1:1-14**

A reading from 2 Timothy.

*This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

<sup>2</sup>To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup>I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup>Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup>I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. <sup>6</sup>For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; <sup>7</sup>for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

<sup>8</sup>Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, <sup>9</sup>who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, <sup>10</sup>but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. <sup>11</sup>For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, <sup>12</sup>and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. <sup>13</sup>Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

<sup>14</sup>Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -  
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -  
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

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## GOSPEL: Luke 17:5-10

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.*

<sup>5</sup>The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” <sup>6</sup>The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

<sup>7</sup>“Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? <sup>8</sup>Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? <sup>9</sup>Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? <sup>10</sup>So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**PASTOR BARB’S SERMON**

**WAYNE DALE**

## HYMN OF THE DAY *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* (all verses)

### My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,  
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's  
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!  
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.  
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!



Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

## **CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** *(Please respond.)*

*P: God of grace, C: hear our prayer.*

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## OFFERTORY

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.  
Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And  
now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

*Last time*

Text: Henry Smith  
Music: GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith

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## OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, source of all good things,  
you have blessed your children with many gifts,  
and each of us can serve and help build your kingdom here on earth.  
**We know at times we have denied our giftedness  
and dismissed the impact our gifts can have.**  
**As we offer our tithes and offerings today,  
remind us that you seek not only that we open our wallets  
but open our hearts and our whole being  
to the work of making your love and compassion the norm,  
not the exception in this world. We pray this in Christ's name. Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 and ever. Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD:

### HYMN *Jesus Loves Me!* (all verses)

#### Jesus Loves Me!

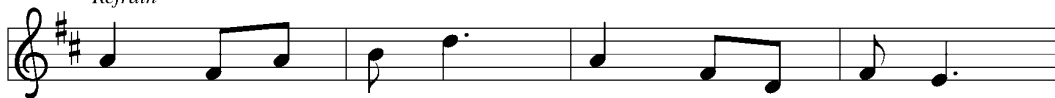


1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;  
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;  
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.  
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.  
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

#### *Refrain*



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

## PSALM 100

A Psalm of thanksgiving. We read together:

<sup>1</sup> **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.**

<sup>2</sup> **Worship the LORD with gladness;  
come into his presence with singing.**

<sup>3</sup> **Know that the LORD is God.  
It is he that made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

<sup>4</sup> **Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise.  
Give thanks to him, bless his name.**

<sup>5</sup> **For the LORD is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.**

Let us pray: When you hear the words, “For your Word of life, O God,” please respond **“we give you thanks and praise.”**

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you  
with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor  
and ✠ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* (all verses) Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

## SENDING IN SERVICE

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLE/SILENT PRAYER

## POSTLUDE

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### SERVING TODAY

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Organist ..... Doug Mummert  
Head Usher ..... Linda Berberich  
Acolyte ..... Sam Mull  
Lector..... Sam Mull  
Securing Offering ..... Edna Harris & Becky Pecha  
Attendance last Sunday ..... 56

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome Visitors!** We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

**For now, the offering plate will continue to be placed in the back of the church in front of the Baptismal Font.** Thank you for your continuing support of the ministries of Solomon's as we join God in the work of sharing Christ's love.

**Office Hours for Pastor Barb** are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon or call for an appointment.

**Prayer requests for the following)** *Barbara Beckner, Tracy Fredericks, Louis Norman, Lanny Haugh, Heather Carman Shull, Betty Sterner, Jenny Barnes, Ray Rotz, Matthew, Lexi and Brooke Bowen, Sarge and Barb Weaver, Patricia Furry, Tina Smith, Nancy Marshall, Milissa Fogle, Marie Dovey, Beth Floyd, Jean Jackson, David Johnson, Joe and Karen Wolfinger, Jennie Matthews, Kristen Hardman, Patricia Yetter, Carol Locke, Linda Wepking, Frances Kramer, Darrell Veilleux, Ukrainian Nation, Peace for the World.* If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire. **Note:** At the beginning of each month, the Prayer Request List will start anew. If you would like to remain listed on the next month's list, or if you would like to have your name removed from the list before the end of the month, please call the office.

**Help is needed to serve a dinner on Tuesday, October 11.** See sign-up sheet on table in Sunday School room.

**Sunday School is in Session** - Adult Sunday School classes begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Sunday School room. Children's Church will be held during morning worship and will meet downstairs at 10:20 a.m. Confirmation Class will be held at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room in the Fellowship Center.

**Apple Butter and Candy Order forms are here!** Candy making – mark your calendars **Thursday 11/3/22 & Friday 11/4/22**. We will be making candy on Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Keep Friday, November 4 open as an extra day of candy making if needed. Apple Butter & Candy Order Forms are in the newsletter or see Zoe Mummert for a copy. Apple Butter Order Forms will need to be turned in by Sunday, Oct. 9. **Candy Order Forms will need to be turned in by Sunday, Oct. 23**. We will **set up on Wednesday evening, November 2 at 6:30 pm**. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Sunday School Room. Candy can be picked up Saturday, Nov. 5 10-12, and Sunday Nov. 6 after church.

**Apple Butter Orders:** Order forms need to be turned in October 9 and can be picked up with candy orders on Saturday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> 10-12 or Sunday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> after church.

**Choir Practice** - Thursdays at 7:00PM.

**Many thanks to Edna Harris for all the time and energy she gave to fulfill her duties as treasurer for the past two years.** Edna will be stepping down from treasurer at the end of the year. Prayerfully consider if you feel called to serve in this ministry.

**Power Pack Meals:** The power pack program has resumed for the 2022-2023 school year. Please place the items you donate in the gray tote in the Sunday School room. Monetary donations are also accepted, write your check to Solomon's, and put Power Pack in the memo line.

**Sign-up Sheets for worship assistants** for the rest of the year will be on the side table in the Sunday School room. Communion: bread, set-up, clean-up, and assistant will be on a monthly basis. If you can't commit to the entire month, please see if you can share the month with someone else. Acolytes and Lectors are on a weekly basis. If you find you can't fulfill a chosen date, please call someone to take your place. Let Kimberly in the office know so the bulletin and newsletter info stays up to date. Thank you for your commitment to help provide opportunities for meaningful worship at Solomons. Kimberly will publish the schedule for each month in the newsletter.

**Bulletin Announcement Forms** are located in both pamphlet racks. Please submit all bulletin announcements to the office by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday for inclusion in the bulletin.

**Council Minutes, Monthly Financial Statement and Committee Minutes** are available in the library for anyone to read.

**OCTOBER 2, 2022**  
**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

*The righteous live by faith.*



**DAILY BIBLE READINGS**

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 17:5-10</b>	<b>Faith the size of a mustard seed</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4</b>	<b>The righteous live by faith</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>2 Timothy 1:1-14</b>	<b>Thanksgiving and encouragement</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Romans 1:16-17</b>	<b>The power of the gospel</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Galatians 3:10-14</b>	<b>Faith is the only way</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Hebrews 10:32-39</b>	<b>A call to persevere</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalm 37:1-9</b>	<b>Trust the Lord</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Luke 17:11-19</b>	<b>One leper gives thanks to God</b>

**SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

*Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.*

**Habakkuk 2:4 (NRSV)**

**PRAYERS AND BLESSING**

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Almighty God, give us the confidence to trust in your justice and loving presence now and always through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

God of our future, we thank you for this food that gives us the strength we need to serve others in love as we place our trust in you through Jesus Christ. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May God bless you with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 1:13)

**CARING CONVERSATIONS**

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What have you seen, read, or heard about that seems unfair and unjust?
- When something bad happens, where do you feel God is in that moment?



## HYMN OF THE WEEK

*O Holy Spirit, Enter In*



## DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4.

The prophet, Habakkuk is complaining and wondering: why do the wicked prosper? This is an age-old question. Life is just not fair. Violence and destruction continue and the righteous look doomed. God's answer is *"the righteous live by their faith"* (Habakkuk 2:4b). This text is also quoted in Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, and Hebrews 10:38. These few words hit an important chord for New Testament faith. Faith in God involves the "long game," not routine experiences of victory after victory. History is full of moments where God's law and justice are overshadowed by the din of evil. God's answer to Habakkuk is now our answer received through faith in Christ. Hang in there with faith in God. God's way will win the day, even if it doesn't appear so now. The apostles in Luke 17:5 say to the Lord, *"Increase our faith!"* It's not about the quantity of faith we have. It's about the qualities of the God in whom we place our trust.

*Discuss:* When life seems unfair, how do you rely on your faith in God?

*Pray:* **God of the ages, when our confidence is low, when we see wickedness, remind us again and again that in Christ we can rely on your faithfulness now and always. Amen.**

## SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you support someone who feels they have been treated unfairly?

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Jesus told a parable about the kingdom of God by comparing faith to a small mustard seed. (Luke 17:5-10). Cut an apple in half and count the seeds. Talk about what would happen if each seed became a tree and produced countless apples. Now compare your faith to a seed and name the ways you can bear fruit for the kingdom of God. Conclude by praying: **Lord God, help us to trust in you and bear fruit that gives glory to you and serves the work of your kingdom through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**