

**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Sunday, September 14, 2025**

**Opening Words   1 Timothy 1: 12-17**

**The Lord's Grace to Paul**

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**\*Hymn "Amazing Grace" Hymnal 378 V 1-3**

Amazing Grace!  
How sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost,  
but now am found;  
was blind but now I see.

`Twas grace that  
taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did  
that grace appear  
the hour I first believed.

Through many  
dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come;  
tis grace hath brought  
me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

**Introduction of the Generosity Brochure**

**Call to Worship**

We come seeking refuge in a world where goodness and good news can feel far away.

**God is our hope and our refuge.**

We come searching for safety in a world that often calls foolishness wisdom and wisdom foolishness.

**God is our hope and our refuge.**

We come longing for rest in a world that bombards us with all the ways people work against the abundant life and flourishing of their neighbors.

**God is our hope and our refuge.**

Come, children of God, to find refuge and hope in God, who delivers and restores us.

**May God teach us and guide us to find refuge and be refuge with and for our neighbors today and every day.**

**Hymn "It's Me, It's Me O Lord" Hymnal 352**

It's me (it's me),  
it's me, O Lord,  
standing in the need of prayer.  
It's me (it's me), it's me,  
O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.

Not my brother, not my sister,  
but it's me, O Lord,  
standing in the need of prayer.  
Not my brother, not my sister,  
but it's me, O Lord  
standing in the need of prayer

It's me (it's me),  
it's me, O Lord,  
standing in the need of prayer.  
It's me (it's me), it's me,  
O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.

Not the preacher, not the deacon,  
but it's me, O Lord,  
standing in the need of prayer.  
Not the preacher, not the deacon,

but it's me, O Lord  
standing in the need of prayer

It's me (it's me),  
it's me, O Lord,  
standing in the need of prayer.  
It's me (it's me), it's me,  
O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.

Not my father not my mother,  
but it's me, O Lord,  
standing in the need of prayer.  
Not my father, not my mother,  
but it's me, O Lord  
standing in the need of prayer

## **Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

### **Anthem**

#### **Prayer for the Day**

This world would deny you, Lord,  
and rely on human wisdom  
in their search for answers  
to questions they have yet to ask,  
but we will praise you,  
and exalt your name,  
for we know that you are Alpha,  
the beginning of all things,  
and Omega, the end,  
and all that is between.  
We have known your healing.  
We have known your provision.  
We have known your victory.  
Our sorrow has turned into dancing  
and our tears to songs of joy.  
We shall praise you ever more. Amen

#### **Prayer of Confession**

**O Most Patient God,  
we recognize how much we need you for life itself.  
But how often have we behaved  
as if we did not know or even care about you?  
How often have we become the ones who do not carry out  
justice?**

**How often have we tried to dominate others,  
even as you stand with them?  
How often have we participated in the desolation of your  
creation  
by our treatment of the heavens, the earth, and its waters?  
Forgive us for these times when we have lost our way.  
All Loving God, we want to be among those whom you seek.  
Shower your mercy upon us.  
Find us and lead us safely home to faithfulness.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

My friends, when we are lost, all is not lost.  
God is seeking us, ready to turn our lives around,  
Gathering us in to the people of God.  
Let us rejoice in God's mercy! **Amen.**

### **Hymn "It's Me, It's Me O Lord" Hymnal 352 V.1**

It's me (it's me),  
it's me, O Lord,  
standing in the need of prayer.  
It's me (it's me), it's me,  
O Lord, standing in the need of prayer.

Not my brother, not my sister,  
but it's me, O Lord,  
standing in the need of prayer.  
Not my brother, not my sister,  
but it's me, O Lord  
standing in the need of prayer

### **Gospel Lesson: Luke 15: 1-10**

#### **The Parable of the Lost Sheep**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."

## **The Parable of the Lost Coin**

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon "Lost?" Pastor Scott Clawson**

**\*Hymn "Amazing Grace" Hymnal 378 V. 4-6**

The Lord has promised  
good to me, his word  
my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be,  
as long as life endures.

Yea, when this flesh  
and heart shall fail,  
and mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess, within the veil,  
a life of joy and peace.

When we've been there  
ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days  
to sing God's praise than  
when we'd first begun.

## **Benediction: Pastor Scott Clawson**

**May God bless us with the clarity to recognize the world as it is, the hope to dream God's dream together, and the power to make God's dream a reality here and now. Amen.**

## **Prayer of Dedication**

**Postlude:** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **9:30 AM WORSHIP LEADERS**

Lay Reader: Chris Berry  
Ushers/Greeters: Kocher Family

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **NMUMC by the Numbers: September 7, 2025**

8:15 AM: 18   9:30 AM: 33   11:00 AM: 61   Online: 14  
Children's Sunday School: 21   Adult Sunday School: 6

**Total Offering:** \$17,132.11   *Regular Offering:* \$8,967.11\*  
Building Fund: \$3,228.00   Food Pantry: \$50.00  
Hope4Kids: \$580.00   Memorial Fund: \$75.00  
New Ministry Center, egg sale: \$45.00  
New Ministry Center, yard sale: \$287.00   Organ Fund: \$150.00  
Outreach, Perry Gaver: \$100.00   Parsonage Rent: \$3,150.00  
Pastor's Discretionary Fund: \$500.00  
*\*Regular Offering Needed to Meet Weekly Budget: \$5,503.92*

### **Church Meetings**

Mon. Sept. 15: 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal – 6:30 PM – ED Building  
Tuesday, September 16: Scripture to Life – 10:00 AM – Sanctuary  
Tuesday, Sept. 16: Church Council \_ 7:00 PM \_ ED Building Kitchen  
Wed. Sept. 17: Wed Bible Study – 7 PM – Contact Patty Robinson  
Thurs., Sept. 18: Women's Retreat Planning – 6 PM – ED Building  
Thurs., Sept. 18: 11:00 AM Choir Rehearsal – 6:45 PM – ED Building  
Friday, Sept. 19: Setup for Women's Retreat – 4:30 PM – Schoolhouse  
Saturday, September 20: Women's Retreat – 9:00 AM - Schoolhouse  
Saturday, September 20: Disciple – 10:00 AM – Contact Nick Wood  
Sunday, September 21: New Ministry Center Q&A

**The Generosity Team is excited to announce the launch of the Capital Campaign** that will invite congregants and members of the community to support and be a part of the funding of the New Ministry Center (NMC). On Sunday, September 7th and September 14th, the Generosity brochure will be handed out to all who attend any of those services. Those who are not present during those dates will also receive a brochure either in person or by mail. On September 21st a question-and-answer time will be built into the end of the 9:30 am service and the beginning of the 11 AM. On September 28th there will be a Special Charge Conference Vote for the members of NMUMC to approve going ahead with fundraising and building the New Ministry Center. If the Charge Conference vote is approved, members of the Generosity Team will schedule individual meetings with each congregant to ensure that everyone can participate in this endeavor. Please be in prayer for both teams and start reflecting on how you can contribute generously to the New Ministry Center (NMC).

**Save the Date: Women's Retreat | September 20 | 9:00**

**AM- 3:00 PM | Schoolhouse**

You are lovingly invited to join us for a soul-refreshing Women's Retreat as we gather to rest, reconnect, and remember the truth of God in us. Together, we will explore how His presence transforms our hearts, empowers our daily walk, and unites us as women of faith. **Please RSVP by Saturday, September 6, 2025.**

**Please e-mail Susan Stevens at  
susanstevens329@gmail.com OR Text: 240-277-2581**

**Fresh Start Service:** This service will be held at 8:15 am at Fairview Chapel. (6802 Boyers Mill Rd, New Market 21774) The design for this service is for those who want to get an early start on their Sunday and those who are seeking an alternate worship experience. Acoustic guitar, prayer, a short inspirational message, and Communion will be highlighted. The service is designed to last a half hour. OR join us later for an evening service at 6:00 PM

Our speaker this Sunday is **Pastor Patrick Sullivan**

### **Daily Devotions Starting 9/15/2025**

#### **Monday (9/15)- Jeremiah 8: 18- 9: 1**

Have you ever lost hope or trust in the Lord? What was your "Balm of Gilead" that gave you reassurance?

#### **Tuesday (9/16)- Psalm 79: 1-9**

How can you pray today for those who do not know the Lord? What words of honey can you speak into their ear?

#### **Wednesday (9/17)- Amos 8: 4-7**

How do the words of Amos speak to those whose only concern is gaining more wealth rather than listening to the needs of the underprivileged?

#### **Thursday (9/18)- Psalm 113**

Use this as a speaking prayer today. Repeat the words out loud. What verses comfort you?

#### **Friday (9/19)- 1 Timothy 2: 1-7**

How can you pray for the leaders of nations today? What would be the focus of your prayer?

#### **Saturday (9/20)- Luke 16: 1-13**

Is today's scripture enticing us to be dishonest? How can shrewdness in the people of God benefit the Gospel message? Or, does today's passage convey a hidden message that we are missing?

#### **Sunday (9/21)- Worship in person or online.**