

Welcome!

October 12, 2025

“Distracted Discipleship”
Matthew 6:25-34

“The persistence of trouble of all kinds day after day means that the provision of God is not an unqualified promise but an affirmation of God’s providential intention.”

--E. Frank Tupper, *A Scandalous Providence*

We Gather for Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Prayers: For wellness in our community. For the family of Bud Blackwell, Howard Helton, Sally Haverkamp, Carolyn Stribling, Wendy Hall, Tom Post, Paulette Booker, Karoline Berg, Lois Wolfe, and Mary Shelton. For those recovering from natural disasters, Gaza, Ukraine, all refugees, all elected officials, peacekeepers, change agents, the ICCC, and our fellowship community.

Prayer Table & Offering: Our Prayer Table gives us the opportunity to sign a notecard for someone who is in special need of prayer. We also place our offering plate on the Prayer Table because all our gifts to God are prayerful offerings. We understand spirits nudge can come when we least expect it. To make supporting Church ministries simple and safe, you will find the QR code on the prayer table is an easy link to our PayPal account, norrisRF.

Dollar Sunday: Dollar Sunday will be held today, October 12th. Offering will go to Quilts of Valor for material to make quilts for veterans. This is in preparation for Veterans Day in November.

Women's Fellowship Meeting: Women's Fellowship will meet after church on Sunday, October 12th to finalize plans for the 88th annual Fall Bazaar. We are still accepting donations except for clothing and books.

Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck: The Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck dinner is scheduled for Sunday, October 19th after service. All are welcome. Bring your favorite dish to share.

Supper Club: Supper Club will be on Monday, October 13th at 6 pm at Litton's in Fountain City. Come join this group for good fellowship and food. Please let Susan Miller know if you would like to join us so we can make a reservation. Open to all!

The Lighting of the Peace Candle

Call to Worship:

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

Many: Sing the glory of God's name; give God glorious praise.

One: Say to God: How awesome are your deeds!

Many: Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.

One: All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you.

Many: Come and see what God has done:

One: He is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

Many: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;

One: All those who practice it have understanding.

Many: God's praise endures forever.

--Adapted from Psalm 66

***Hymn: "Immortal, Invisible"** (Black Hymnal, p. 1)

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes.
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
not wanting, not wasting, but ruling in might;
Your justice like mountains high soaring above,
your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 Your life is life-giving - to both great and small;
in all life you're living, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves and as flowers,
then wither and perish - but naught dims your powers.

4 So perfect your glory, so brilliant your light,
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;
All praise we now render as your angels do:
in awe at the splendor of light hiding you.

We Offer Our Prayer and Praise

Morning Psalm: 111

Hymn: “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”
(Black Hymnal, p. 506)

1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.

2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful,
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to our God in prayer!

3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
burdened with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge,
take it to our God in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to our God in prayer!
Jesus' arms will take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

Pastoral Prayer

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

We Attend to the Word

Sermon: "Distracted Discipleship" Dr. Bill Ireland
Matthew 6:25-34

***Hymn: “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”**

(Black Hymnal, p. 252)

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
much we need your tender care;
in your pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use your folds prepare.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us, yours we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us, yours we are.

2 We are yours, in love befriend us,
be the guardian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear your children when we pray;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear your children when we pray.

3 Let us always seek your favor;
let us always do your will;
Jesus Christ, our only Savior,
with your love our spirits fill.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.

***Benediction**

***The Irish Blessing**

**May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind blow at your back.
May the sun shine warmly on your face,
May the rain fall softly on your field.
And until we meet again,
Til' we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.**

Postlude