

CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD,  
WE SEEK, SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST.



NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2024  
10:30 A.M.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH  
901 EAST STROOP ROAD  
KETTERING, OH 45429-4688  
(937) 298-0136

# NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## *Introduction*

Someone is casting out demons in Jesus' name who isn't part of Jesus' own circle, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

## *Heavenly Hosts*

When angels show up in the Bible, there is a good chance they have arrived to stir things up. They are a sign that a surprise is in store and that God is nearby. In scripture, angels are messengers of God. They protect us, guide us, minister to us, and point us toward God's power and might.

The angels we meet in today's reading from Revelation are not porcelain cherubs to put on a shelf. They are mighty, battle-hardened warriors. It is hard not to be swept up in John's mystical vision of this great battle in heaven. It is like a good fantasy novel: an army of angels, led by Michael, face off against a great red fiery dragon, with seven heads and ten horns.

This struggle is not confined to an ancient past or a distant future. It occurs whenever and wherever the faithful face down the powers of injustice, sin, and the forces that defy God. The seventy sent out by Jesus had done just that. Where do we see this confrontation play out in our world today? How might we equip ourselves to join in the cause?

The ultimate victory over evil is won not by a human army but by a celestial one. The dragon knows its time is short because love always wins. We do not have to save the world by our own power because God and all the company of heaven do it for us. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, God has already won. As Jesus tells his first followers, "Your names are written in heaven."

Michael and All Angels is sometimes described as a festival of strong will and courage. Positioned just a few days after the fall equinox as the days become shorter and colder, it's a reminder that we do not have to face the enemy alone. Michael and his angels in Revelation demonstrate that Christ's love and protection accompany us every step of the way.

# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## WELCOME

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Pr. Bob Swanson*

## \*\* CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God, **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## \*\* GATHERING SONG

*God Is Here! (ELW 526)*

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer  
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long  
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's  
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of

praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure  
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;  
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,  
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;

what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the  
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -  
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants  
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's

world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts  
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,  
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore  
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

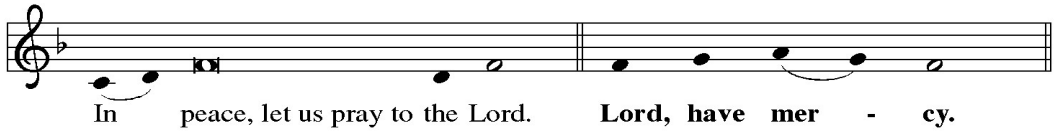
wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.  
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.  
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.  
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

**\*\* GREETING**

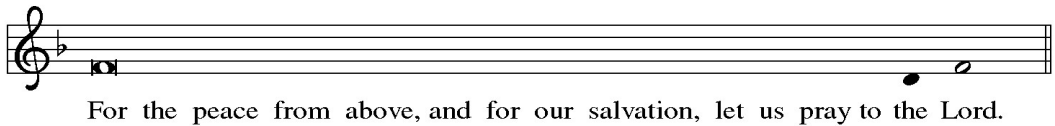
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**\*\* KYRIE**

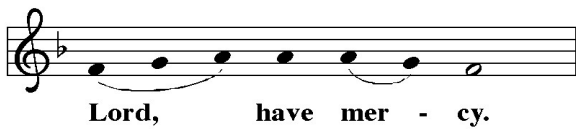
*Assistant Minister*



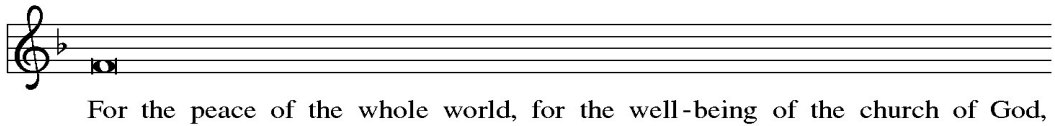
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



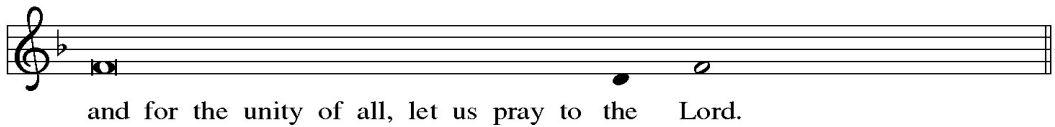
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



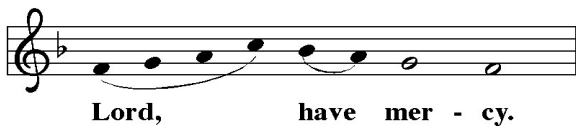
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



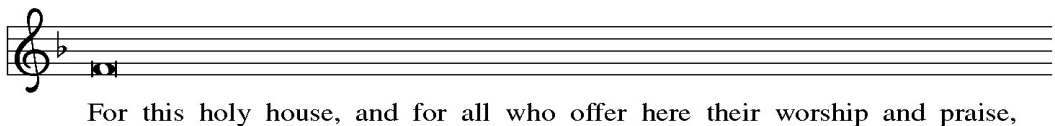
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



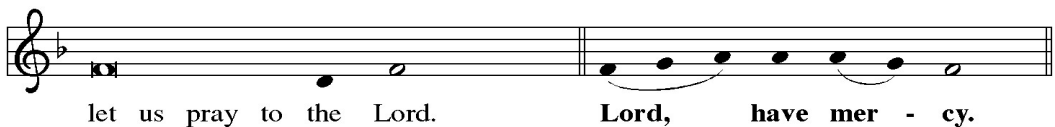
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



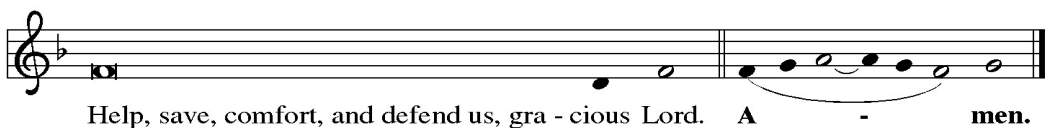
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



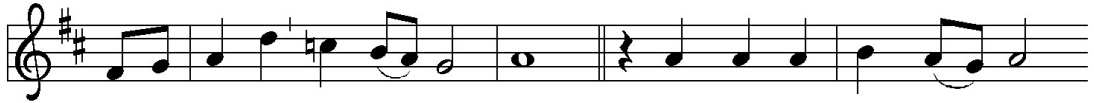
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

\*\* CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

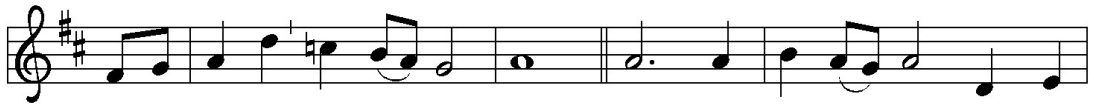


who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

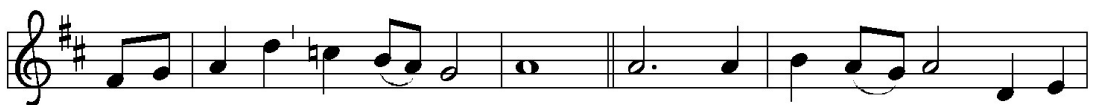


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

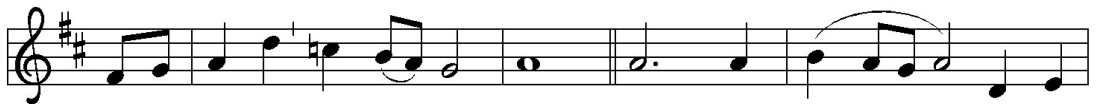


glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**\*\* PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

# WORD

*Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,  
Jesus interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.*

## **FIRST READING**

**Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29**

*What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?*

A reading from the book of Numbers.

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at." Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery." So the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you." So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!"

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**



*The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes. (Ps. 19:8)*

The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

**Who can detect one's own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,**

**O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

## SECOND READING

**James 5:13-20**

*Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.*

A reading from the book of James.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**\*\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*\* GOSPEL**

**Mark 9:38-50**

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.*

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. “If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. “For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**YOUTH MESSAGE**

**MESSAGE**

*Pr. Bob Swanson*

**(Verse 1 - All)**

**The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;  
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.  
He wraps himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,  
And trembles at his voice, and trembles at his voice.**

**(Refrain - All)**

**How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

**(Verse 2 - All)**

**And age to age he stands, and time is in his hands;  
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.  
The Godhead, three in one: Father, Spirit, Son,  
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.**

**(Refrain - All)**

**How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

**(Music Ministers/All)**

**Name above all names, worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing: How great is our God!  
Name above all names, worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing: How great is our God!**

**(Refrain - All)**

**How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great, how great is our God!  
How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!  
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

**\*\* APOSTLES' 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 power of the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
**he descended into hell.**  
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 INTERCESSION**

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

*Each intercession concludes:* Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**OFFERTORY**

# MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Lift up your heads; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your voices; **we lift them up to God.**

Lift up your hearts; **we lift them up to God.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

And so we gather at the table. We come from many different places in life. And as we come together around the table we discover that our differences are not something we just tolerate, but that our differences are indeed a blessing. So come, children of God, just as you are. Wherever you are on this journey of life and faith, you are welcome here - here in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Come, children of God, come and remember. Remember the stories that Jesus' friends tell: Stories of bread broken and shared to feed a multitude; stories of gathering both enemy and friend together around a common table; stories of unlikely guests revealing the face of the sacred.

On a night of both celebration and betrayal Jesus took bread, blessed it and broke it; gave it to his disciples and said, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Then Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so we pray: Lord, bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking that our eyes might be open, and that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst, indeed in one another .

## **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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

*Refrain*

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,  
 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,  
 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

*Refrain*

but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.  
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."  
 and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

**\*\* TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and always keep you in God's grace.  
**Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**\*\* BLESSING**

God all mighty, God most merciful bless you, keep you, and give you peace.. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

*I Will Follow*

(Music Ministers)

Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay;  
Where you move, I'll move. I will follow.

(Verse 1 - Music Ministers)

All your ways are good, all your ways are sure;  
I will trust in you alone.  
Higher than my sight, high above my life;  
I will trust in you alone.

**(Refrain - All)**

**Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay;  
Where you move, I'll move. I will follow you.  
Whom you love, I'll love. How you serve, I'll serve.  
If this life I lose, I will follow you, yeah.  
I will follow you, yeah.**

(Verse 2 - Music Ministers)

Light into the world, Light into my life,  
I will live for you alone.  
You're the One I seek, knowing I will find,  
All I need in you alone.

**(Refrain - All)**

**Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay;  
Where you move, I'll move. I will follow you.  
Whom you love, I'll love. How you serve, I'll serve.  
If this life I lose, I will follow you, yeah.  
I will follow you, yeah.**

**(Music Ministers)**

In you, there's life everlasting.  
In you, there's freedom for my soul.  
In you, there's joy, unending joy,  
And I will follow!

**(All)**

**Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay;  
Where you move, I'll move. I will follow.  
Whom you love, I'll love. How you serve, I'll serve.  
If this life I lose, I will follow you, yeah.  
I will follow you, yeah.  
I will follow you, yeah.  
I will follow you, yeah.**

**\*\* DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

**Created, Saved & Gifted by God, we Seek, Serve & Share Jesus Christ.  
Hallelujah, Thanks Be To God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**"W + 2" = Worship Plus Two**

**Make a commitment to not only worship each week  
but also try to find a way to serve in the congregation  
and seek out a way to serve our community.**

**YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD**

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