



## The Parable of the Lost Sheep

# MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

(\* Indicates when people are invited to stand)

### PRELUDE:

*"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"*

*Trad. Irish Melody*

### WORDS OF WELCOME

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

"There is no God!" people say.

**"I can do what I like!" everyone thinks.**

"Who cares about God?" questioners ask.

**"I'm here for me; I don't answer to anyone!" the foolish think.**

God looks for faith.

**Will God find it?**

God looks for care of the poor.

**Will we provide it?**

God looks for love.

**Will God find it in us?**

#### OPENING PRAYER

God of wind and fire, blow through our lives. Release us from all that binds us, and free us from thoughts the fears that keep us from union with you and with one another. Lay waste to the burdens that impede us, and wash away the debris that weighs us down. As we strive to follow your path, guide us onto the road of the righteous. Make us of a refuge to the poor, a deliverer to the captives, and a friend to those who dwell alone. In hope of your mercy, we pray.

**Amen.**

#### \*HYMN: 103

*"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

*vs 1-4*

## PRAYER OF YEARNING

**God of heaven and earth, be with us in our need. Though we often go astray, we seek your love and mercy. Though we often listen to fools who say, "There is no God," our hearts belong to you. Be our Shepherd and guide our ways, for we are lost and afraid and weary of wandering. We long to be welcomed home in your gracious mercy. Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Thank you, King of the ages, for coming to us. Thank you for loving us with utmost patience and for fitting us in your glory.

**Amen.**

## \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

### OLD TESTAMENT: Exodus 32:7-14 (NIV)

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go down, because your people, whom you brought up out of Egypt, have become corrupt. They have been quick to turn away from what I commanded them and have made themselves an idol cast in the shape of a calf. They have bowed down to it and sacrificed to it and have said, 'These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.'"

"I have seen these people," the Lord said to Moses, "and they are a stiff-necked people. Now leave me alone so that my anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them. Then I will make you into a great nation."

But Moses sought the favor of the Lord his God. "Lord," he said, "why should your anger burn against your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out, to kill them in the mountains and to wipe them off the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce anger; relent and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to whom you swore by your own self: 'I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and I will give your descendants all this land I promised them, and it will be their inheritance forever.'" Then the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

## SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM: 14 (NIV)

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

**They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good.**

The Lord looks down from heaven on all mankind to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.

**All have turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.**

Do all these evildoers know nothing? They devour my people as though eating bread; they never call on the Lord.

**But there they are, overwhelmed with dread, for God is present in the company of the righteous.**

You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor, but the Lord is their refuge.

**Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the Lord restores his people, let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!**

#### **EPISTLE: I Timothy 1:12-17 (NIV)**

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.**

#### **SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **\*GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10 (NIV)**

The gospel according to Luke.

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.

“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.”

#### **SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **REFLECTIONS ON GOD’S WORD**

Pastor Rob Odum

**HYMN: 3040**

*“You Are My All in All”*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Most gracious God, we bring these gifts, as we bring ourselves. We are nothing special in ourselves. But you seek us, you gather us together; and in your arms, our lives come together. Bless us and these gifts, that together we may be a blessing and return your glory to you, where it belongs.

**Amen.**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC:**                   *"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"*

*Anon.*

**\*DOXOLOGY: 94**                   *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

## **\*AFFIRMATION FROM ROMANS 8:35, 37-39**

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?

**No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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. Amen**

**\*CLOSING HYMN: 98**                   *"To God Be the Glory"*

*vs 1-3*

## **\*BENEDICTION**

Like a lost sheep, you are found by the Good Shepherd.

**Like a lost coin, you are gathered up by God.**

Be a good shepherd to those who are lonely.

**Be a good home for those longing to belong.**

Go in the untiring goodness of God, the unending patience of Christ, and the infinite peace of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**\*POSTLUDE:**                   *"Mighty to Save"*

Arr by Smith and McDonald

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September	Liturgists	Ushers
14th	Lynn Sirna	Peter Fetzer & Jackson Lang
21st	John Hurley	Peter Fetzer & Jackson Lang
28th	Connie Ziegler	Peter Fetzer & Jackson Lang



### Memorial UMC

#### **General Information & Staff**

3450 South 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, Greenfield, WI 53219

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**Pastor:** Rev. Rob Odum, 414-238-8367

**Pastor's Email:** [robdodum@gmail.com](mailto:robdodum@gmail.com)

**Liturgist:** Carolyn Ettlie

**Director of Music:** Sarah Brumm

**Hymn Leaders:** Sarah Brumm,

Summer Ketchell, Emily Bergeron

**Pianist & Organist:** Karen Fetzer

**Live Stream Production Team:**

Brad Weller, Xylia-Sophia Conn,

John Stoekl, Tom Rowe, Greg Ettlie

**Office Administrator:** Peggy Leonhardt

**Hours:** Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am-1pm

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** Sunday, 9:15

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sunday, 10:30

**CERAMICS:** Mondays, 1-9pm

**CHANCEL CHOIR:** Thursday, 6:30-7:25pm

**JOYFUL BELLS:** Thursday, 7:30-8:30pm

**DINING OUT GROUP:** Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, Benny's Café, 5354 S. 27<sup>th</sup> St, 5pm

**SASSY SOWERS:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 10am-1pm

**WOMEN'S BREAKFAST:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 9am at Myers

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 8:30am at Myers

**BLESSING OF THE BOWLS & CAFÉ:** September 21st

**185th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:** October 11<sup>th</sup>, 4pm

**QUILT BLESSING:** November 16th

