

OUR CHURCH FAMILY AT WORSHIP

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2022

11:00 A.M.

TIME OF GATHERING: Read through Announcements, Pray over Concerns, Meditate on Celebrations and the wonder and grace of God, and Thanksgiving to God....

Please sign the red pads and pass it onto the next person in your pew.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Largo from *Xerxes* George Frideric Handel

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Come into God's presence and shout with the heavens,

People: our God is very great!

Liturgist: Clothed with honor and wrapped in glorious light,

People: our God is very great!

Liturgist: Serving tirelessly and caring endlessly,

People: our God is very great!

Liturgist: Calling us to humility and compassion,

People: our God is very great!

All: Let us come into God's presence, to listen and hear God speak.

*HYMN *Living for Jesus* No. 2149

OPENING PRAYER (seated)

Unison: God of majesty and might, blow through this place like a mighty wind. Inspire us with your presence. Cover us with your love, that we might be your people, serving others with care and compassion. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSON *1 Timothy 2:1-6*

Liturgist: The Word of God for God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

*DOXOLOGY *Holy Spirit, Come, Confirm Us* No. 331

**Holy Spirit, come, confirm us in the truth that Christ makes known;
We have faith and understanding through your helping gifts alone.**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *Romans 8:35, 37-39* No. 887

CHOIR ANTHEM *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Cecil Alexander/English Melody

GOSPEL READING Luke 16:1-13
MESSAGE "*Wise Investments*" *Pastor Janet Sattel*

*HYMN *Jesus Calls Us* No. 398

AN INVITATION TO PRAY

+Prayer of Confession

Unison: O God, we want to have our cake and eat it, too: we want to be a friend of the world and still be your friend. Yet, Jesus taught us: "No one can serve two masters." Give us strength and courage to get our priorities straight: help us to seek your kingdom first. Help us to live faithfully and joyfully in the world, and to be friends with the people you call us to serve. Help us also to remember that our best relationship is the one we have with you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+Pastoral Prayer

+Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

+Sung Response *Seek Ye First* No. 405

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness
and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Cantilena* Robert Lau

*Congregational Response TUNE: TALLIS' CANON

**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.**

*HYMN *Nothing Between* No. 373

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor: God wants us to have abundant lives. Jesus says that each of us does have a purpose on this earth.

People: We will go, using our gifts we will discover and live full lives. Amen.

***ORGAN RESPONSE**

***POSTLUDE**

Prelude in C Major

Dietrich Buxtehude

*All stand if possible +All kneel or sit to pray

We thank all those who helped with the service this morning.

Liturgist: Reverend Glen Esler

Welcome back the "Celebration of Faith" choir and Anita Esler, director, after their summer vacation.

Mission Statement for the Church of the Good Shepherd

We are committed to:

- ▶ Connecting persons to Jesus Christ
- ▶ Connecting with broken and hurting people
- ▶ Challenging persons to grow and celebrate their relationship with Jesus Christ
- ▶ Equipping persons and partnering with them to serve in God-powered ministry

2022 Mission Support

International

Heifer Int., UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief),
Congo Partners in Mission, Africa University

Lebanon County

COGS in Motion, Gretna Glen Support, Habitat for Humanity, Iglesia Nuevo Nacimiento,
Lebanon County Christian Ministries (LCCM), Lebanon Rescue Mission, Support
Connections of Lebanon County(SCLC), Good Shepherd Care and Compassion Fund.



Reverend Janet Sadel, Lead Pastor
jsadel@umcogs.org
Reverend Lisa Flory, Pastor
lflory@umcogs.org

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
Celebration of Faith



**"No one can
serve two masters;**

Wise Investments

Luke 16:1-13

Wise Investment

Luke 16:1-13

September 18, 2022

15th Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 A.M.

1500 Quentin Road / Lebanon, PA 17042
church: 717-272-7741 / www.umcogs.org

Sermon Outline:

“Wise Investments”

Luke 16:1-13

Jesus shares a parable that tells us when it comes to the Kingdom of God, Jesus wants us to be clever and creative about his kingdom work.

Jesus warns against making money our primary goal in life.

Another point in this parable is that we should not give up on life if things go wrong. God is willing to give us a fresh start.

God wants us to have abundant life – and that comes when we are being useful. We can discover a full life when we use our gifts.

Each one of us is gifted in a different way. Each of us has been given gifts by God, and if we’re not using them, then we are like the manager who squandered the owner’s property.

Our job is not to hoard the wealth of this world, but to ensure that what comes through our hands is used properly, for the use of God’s kingdom.

Jesus wants us to know that the wisest investment we can make is in his kingdom.

Jesus wants us to live our lives with our eyes on eternity. Kingdom living is not about trying to get into heaven – it’s about becoming more and more like Jesus. That is the goal of our faith.

Our eternal life is not separate from what we do with our time on earth – it is all connected.

If we’re willing to invest in the eternal kingdom and follow Jesus, then we will find, like the steward, that God will change us from one degree of glory to the next and one day he will say to us, “Well done, my good and faithful servant – well done!”

Calendar for Week of 9/18/2022

SUNDAY

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

11:00 - Pageant Practice [Hall]

4:00 - CR Step Study

MONDAY

6:00 - CR Praise band rehearsal [WC]

6:30 - Prayer Shawl meeting [rm 21]

TUESDAY

10am—Staff Meeting

7:00—Who Will Be a Witness? Study [Lounge]

7:00 - SS teachers/helpers meeting [Hall]

WEDNESDAY

7:00 - Celebrate Recovery

7:00 - Traditional Choir Rehearsal [choir rm]

THURSDAY

5:00—Contemporary Design Team

5:30—Traditional Design Team

6:00 - CR Step Study [rm 21]

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

9:00 - Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

6:00—Open Art Night [Hall]

SUNDAY

8:30 / 9:45 - Contemporary [Worship Center]

9:00 - Safe Sanctuary training [Hall]

9:45 - Sunday School

11:00 - Traditional Worship [Sanctuary]

11:00 - Parenting SS Class [Lounge]

11:00 - Pageant Practice [Hall]

12:15 - Annual Golf Outing [Pine Meadows]

4:00 - CR Step Study

4:00 - Youth Group