

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. ²Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

⁷When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

⁸But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." ¹¹But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean?'" ¹⁴So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

¹⁵Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

Psalm 111

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, ⁹for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. ¹¹The saying is sure:

- If we have died with him, we will also live with him;
- ¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him;
- if we deny him, he will also deny us;
- ¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

On Common Ground

Ten people are healed by Jesus, but only one returns to thank him. That is the central tension of today's gospel story. But there is also a twist, one we may have missed if we were not listening closely: the one who thanked Jesus was a Samaritan.

The faithful of Jesus' time would have known all about the hostility between Judeans and Samaritans. The conflict between the two groups stretched back generations and generations. It was animosity so entrenched that people probably did not remember the specifics of the fight. They just knew they hated the other side. A Judean would never associate with a Samaritan, much less heal one of them.

But as we see in this story and others throughout the gospels, Jesus did not seem to care about the labels the world assigned to people: scribe or Pharisee, sinner or tax collector. Jesus also did not stop to consider whether the person was from Judea or Samaria. He looked into the eyes of all who came to him and saw directly to their humanity. He brought healing and wholeness to everyone.

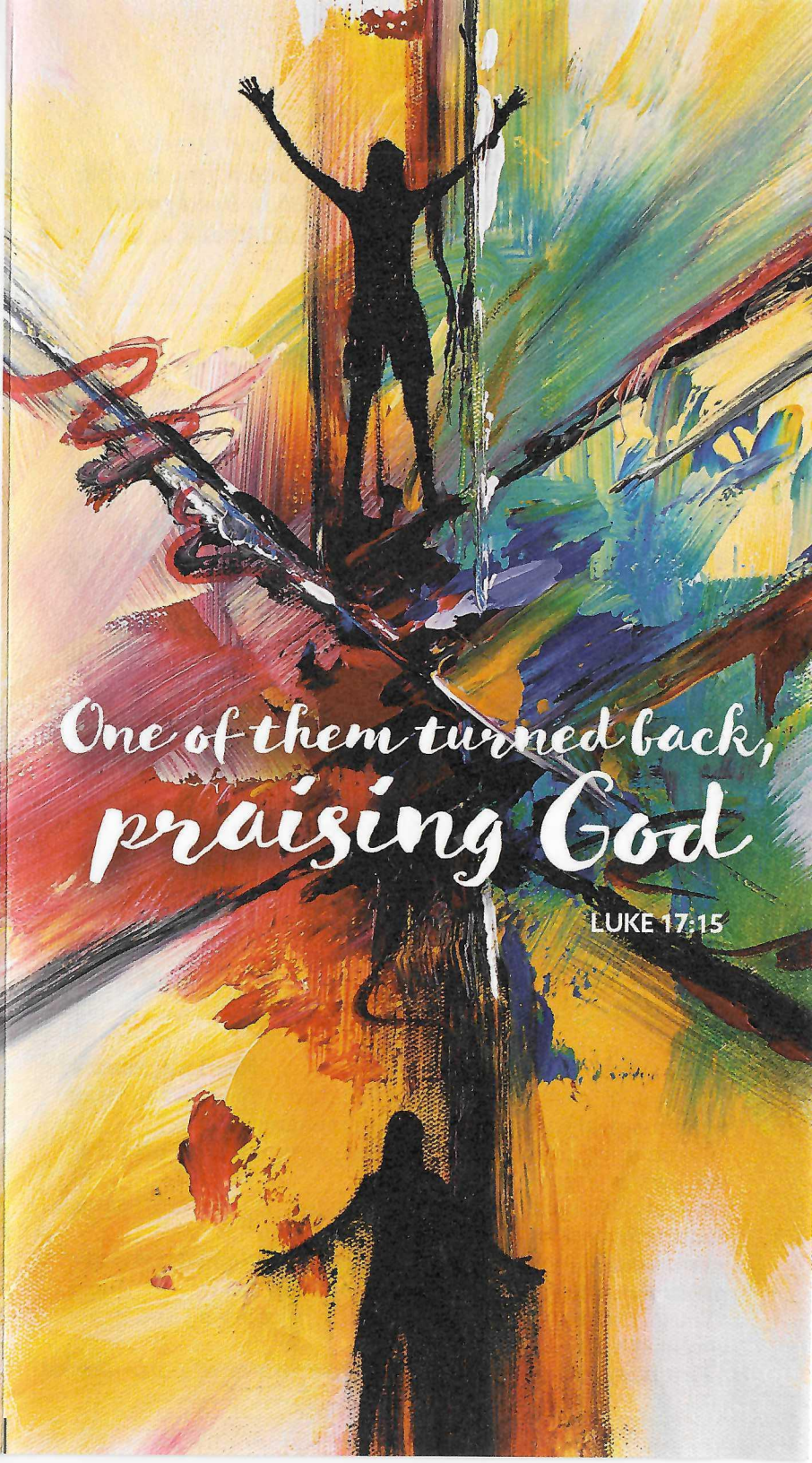
Just as Jesus told the Samaritan, he could tell us, too, that our faith makes us well. God gives us faith that overcomes the destructive words of the world, allowing us to transcend barriers and labels and to recognize the humanity in each individual. God is also calling us as a whole community to go and seek out the Samaritans of our own time and place—anyone whom the rest of the world rejects and reviles—and show them the same compassion and mercy we have received.

God's love makes us whole. Words can hurt, but thanks to Jesus, words can heal too. More often than not, we will find common ground through God's power to heal, even among the Samaritans.

GOSPEL: Luke 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 121; 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5; Luke 18:1-8.
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One of them turned back,
praising God

LUKE 17:15

FRIEDENS LUTHERAN CHURCH

18th Sunday After Pentecost, October 12, 2025

* Indicates for the congregation to stand if you are able.

Congregation responses are printed in **bold print**.

Liturgy and hymns are in the green hymnal unless indicated

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "Moment Musicale" by Franz Schubert,
arranged by Lani Smith.

***HYMN** "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" P. 543

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** P. 56

***HYMN OF PRAISE** "Praise to the Father" Cover of
Hymnal

***PRAYER OF THE DAY** Spoken in unison
*Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful
goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all
that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body
and spirit, we may with grateful hearts
accomplish all that you would have us do,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.*

FIRST READING 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c Back of Bulletin
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 111 Read responsively

¹ Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

² *Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who
delight in them.*

³ Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness
endures forever.

⁴ *You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are
gracious and full of compassion.*

⁵ You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your
covenant.

⁶ *You have shown your people the power of your works*

in giving them the lands ¹ of the nations.

⁷ The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your
precepts are sure.

⁸ *They stand fast forever and ever, because they are
done in truth and equity.*

⁹ You sent redemption to your people and commanded your
covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰ *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all
who practice this have a good understanding. God's
praise endures forever.*

SECOND READING 2 TIMOTHY 2:8-15 Back of Bulletin
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you,
O Lord.**

***GOSPEL** LUKE 17:11-19 Back of Bulletin
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CONGREGATIONAL MESSAGE The Miller Family

HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God" P. 534

***APOSTLES' CREED** P. 65

***PRAYERS** God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**
The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with
you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Sarabande" by Johann Sebastian Bach,
arranged by Christopher Gale.

***DOXOLOGY** Cover of Hymnal

***OFFERING PRAYER** P. 67

***LORD'S PRAYER** P. 71

***BLESSING** P. 74

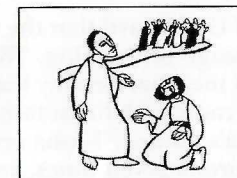
***SENDING HYMN**
"Give to Our God Immortal Praise"

P. 520

***DISMISSAL**

P. 74

POSTLUDE: "On Our Way Rejoicing" by Frances B.
Havergal, arranged by Lani Smith.



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Leaders

Message, The Miller Family Liturgist, Christy Leiter,
Lector, Janet Radel Head Usher, Ed Tietsworth
Ushers, Mike Allvord, Scott Allvord, Mike Deiter
Counters, Kathryn Otto and TBD Greeters, Cindy, Rick
Herring and Joan Smith.

Bulletins - In memory of Katie and Harvey Huntzinger by
Family.

Flowers - In memory of Judy Shutt by Ruth Wetzel.

FRIEDENS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Church e-mail: friedenslutheran4@gmail.com

Designated Pastor: Pastor Lee A. Diefenderfer, 1295 Red Dale Road,
Orwigsburg, PA 17961, 610-858-4136

Council President: Damaris Merwine, 570-985-0644

Worship time – 10:30 AM

In the name of Jesus Christ, we strive to serve all people in our community and world. We extend a warm welcome to all visitors who are worshipping with us today. Please sign the guest register in the narthex and complete a visitor's pew card, placing it in the offering plate.

October 12, 2025 ✱ 18th Sunday After Pentecost



A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

Calendar

Today's Service, Brenda Miller Family, 10:30 AM.

October 19, 2025 – Karen Koppenhaver, 10:30 AM.

Announcements

- **10/26/2025** – Reformation Sunday. Holy Communion will be celebrated. Please wear red to honor this special day.
- **10/2/2025** – Daylight saving time ends 2:00 AM local time on Sunday, Nov. 2nd so turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday night.
- **11/2/2025** – All Saint's Sunday. Dolores Huntsinger, Steward Miller, and Janice Scheib will be remembered at this service. Holy Communion and Holy Baptism will also be celebrated.
- **11/23/2025** – Christmas in November, Christ the King Sunday. Christian Education Committee will provide a list of items to donate this Sunday.

Prayer Corner

October 5: David Rutko. Sympathy for the family and friends of Chris Keiter.

September 21: Carole Hepler. Sympathy for family and friends of Scott Miller.

September 7: Greg Thorne; Meadow Lindenmuth.

We continue to pray for... Daniel Carl; Ron & Gloria Gutshall; Bailey Romberger, Ed Sipple; Avalyn Koppenhaver; Kandy Distefano; Tony Gaborik Jr.; Andrea Klinger; Marvin & Wenda Ruch; Carol & Kenny Dinger; Bill & Joan Loveland; Paul Bennick; Lee and Linda Kiefer; Larry Wetzel; Misty Rice; Angela Romberger; Dennis & Barbara Krammes; Deanna Dietz; Rev. Don Schwartz; Tracy Geist; Bruce Bonner; Jared Kiefer; Bill Wolfgang; Judy Barton; Gary Orner; Rev. Bill & Linda Danis, Diane Wehry; Denise Clark; Jane Pennypacker; Terry Schwartz; Dave Schriener; Donna Wolfgang; Brad Ludwig; Robert Schneider; Marcy Coleman; Missy Shomper; Wendy Kimmel; Lila Kiefer; Elaine Wert; Bobby Miller; Jean Morgan; Linda Warfield; Andrea Bixler; Mary Jane Allvord; Greg Readinger; Jim Fetterolf; Palmer Geist; Alex Snyder; Melanie Klinger; Jimmy Henningsen; Sue Richcrick; Dirk Klinger; Joe & Saralynn Grantz; Dirk Klinger; Andrea Klinger; John Wolfgang; Rick Herring.

Thank You

- Thank you to everyone who sent cards, notes, and called with birthday wishes. I received a beautiful book with so many special messages from many of you in the Friedens congregation. It was a very special birthday.
Julie Klinger
- I would like to thank Terry and Melody Schwartz for the donation of a phone for the office. Also, to Gary Klinger and Christy Leiter for programing the phone.
Sue Deiter

Attendance: 51 (10/5/2025)

Offering. October 5, 2025 —	Current Exp.:	\$1,308.00
	Other Offering:	\$45.00
	Total:	\$1,353.00

Fall Bazaar, October 5, 2025 — Profit: \$3,535.80 (WELCA).

Raffle Basket Profit: \$1,000.00 (Friedens Community Outreach Fund).

Weekly Offering Needed: \$2,638.92

Volunteers the Week of 10/19/2025 - Service, Karen Koppenhaver
Organist, Harold Morgan **Lector,** Scott Deiter **Head Usher,** Ed Tietsworth
Ushers, Larry Klinger, AJ Kline, Ann Miller **Counters,** Melody Schwartz, Christy Leiter **Greeters,** Peggy Hand, Damaris Merwine.