FIRST READING: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

2 O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?
Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?
3 Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.
4 So the law becomes slack
and justice never prevails.
The wicked surround the righteous—
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

2:1 I will stand at my watchpost,
and station myself on the rampart;
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.
2 Then the Lord answered me and said:
Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.
3 For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come, it will not delay.
4 Look at the proud!
Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faith.

Psalm 37:1-9

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

2 To Timothy, my beloved child:
Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. 6 For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; 7 for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, 9 who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 11 For

continued

Faith beyond Measure

Matters of faith are sometimes tricky to comprehend. Faith is a relationship of trust in God. But how do we measure it? It is, by definition, unquantifiable. Of course, that does not stop us from trying. We want to grade our faith, and we look on the outside for signs of a high faith score.

How often do we mistake material success for God's blessing? It is tempting to look at other people and think they must be more faithful than we are because they have or do more than we do. But there is a flaw in that logic. Quite often, looks can be deceiving. We have all suffered disappointment a time or two (or ten!). Life sometimes deals us more than we can handle. We could have faith the size of a bowling ball, but sometimes things just don't work out.

Jesus' understanding of faith seems different from his disciples' or our own. He teaches the apostles that even the tiniest amount of faith possesses transformative power capable of altering entire realities. The "size" of faith is irrelevant.

God gives every one of us a seed of faith. It is a gift freely given, nurtured through baptism and communion. We build confidence in that faith through worship, prayer, and community. While we struggle to measure our faith, we can increase our confidence and willingness to act on it. When that confidence is low, we can lean on those around us. When it is high, we can strive to build up others, encouraging them in their own relationship with God.

God is calling all of us to be willing and confident servants, sending us out into the world to act on our faith. Like a giant, wild bush that grows from the tiniest seed, our faith can grow, spread, and thrive beyond measure.

Second Reading, continued

this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, 12 and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. 13 Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 14 Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

GOSPEL: Luke 17:5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" 6 The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

7 "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? 8 Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? 9 Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? 10 So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

Next Sunday's Readings: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19.

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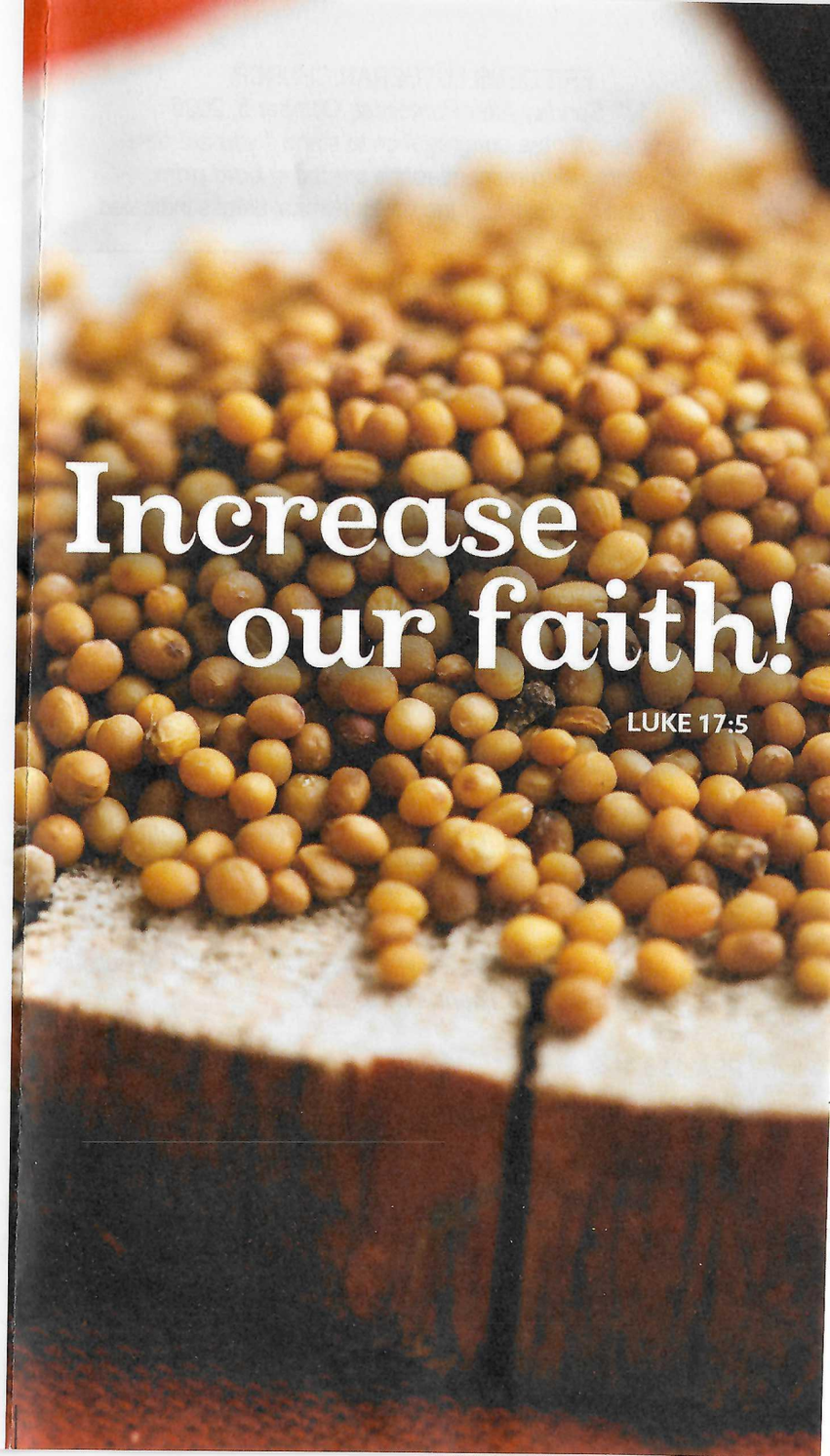


FRIEDENS LUTHERAN CHURCH
17th Sunday After Pentecost, October 5, 2025
* Indicates for the congregation to stand if you are able.
Congregation responses are printed in ***bold print.***
Liturgy and hymns are in the green hymnal unless indicated

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*HYMN *"Baptized in Water"* *WOV (Blue Book)* P. 693

BAPTISM *Insert*

Greyson William Maurer
Parents: Seth & Megan Maurer

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS P. 56

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

*PRAYER OF THE DAY *Spoken in unison*
Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING HABAKKUK 1:1-4; 2:1-4 *Back of Bulletin*
The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

PSALM 37:1-9 *Read responsively*
1 Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
2 ***For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.***
3 Put your trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
4 ***Take delight in the LORD, who shall give you your heart's desire.***
5 Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD, and see what God will do.
6 ***The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.***
7 Be still before the LORD and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
8 ***Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.***
9 For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

SECOND READING 2 TIMOTHY 1:1-14 *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 17:5-10 *Back of Bulletin*
The Gospel of the Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

CHILDREN'S AND CONGREGATIONAL MESSAGE
Pastor Barry Spatz

HYMN *"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"* P. 479

*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

*DOXOLOGY Cover of Hymnal

*OFFERING PRAYER P. 67

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Spoken)* P. 68

*PREFACE

*"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY" *(Spoken)* P. 69

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION P. 69

*LORD'S PRAYER P. 71

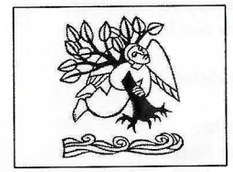
HOLY COMMUNION

*COMMUNION PRAYER P. 74

*BLESSING P. 74

*SENDING HYMN
"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" P. 259

*DISMISSAL P. 74



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Leaders
Service, Rev. Barry Spatz; Lay Assistant, Melody Schwartz; Lector, Ann Miller; Head Usher, Ed Tietsworth; Ushers, Rodney Troutman, Ben Wetzel, Jason Wolfgang; Counters, Jean & Gary Klinger; Greeters, Ruth Wetzel & Orpha Troutman.

Bulletins - In honor of Great-grandsons (10) on what was our anniversary by Ruth Wetzel.
Flowers - In honor of Great-grandsons (10) by Grandma Ruth on what was our anniversary.

FRIEDENS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

510 East Main St. PO Box 375, Hegins, PA 17938 ph. 570-682-9690
Website: HTTPS://www.thefriedenslutheran.com
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 5, 2025 ✠ 17th 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, Pastor Barry Spatz, with Holy Communion and Baptism, 10:30 AM.
October 12, 2025 – Brenda Miller Family, 10:30 AM.

Announcements

- **10/4/2025** – Fall Bazaar. 9:00 – 11:00 AM, hoagies, soup, baked goods and crafts. Signup sheets are downstairs. Need: soups, baked goods, and people to help make hoagies. Orders due to Jean Morris by September 24.
- **10/5/2025** – Fall Sunday School begins. 9:00 – 10:15 AM
- **10/7/2025** – Craft Faire Mtg., 5:30 PM.
- **10/8/2025** – Council Mtg., 6:00 PM.

Prayer Corner

September 21: Carole Hepler. Sympathy for family and friends of Scott Miller.
September 7: Greg Thorne; Meadow Lindenmuth, Chris Kieter.
August 31: Kailey Corado.

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 Schriner; 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; Lori Koppenhaver; Mia Henningsen; Brielle Maurer; Rick Herring.

Youth Event – St. John's is hosting a Youth Night, October 11, 4-7 PM. The United Women of Faith of St. John's UMC in Hegins will host the youth event. Dress-up in your favorite Halloween costume. Prizes will be awarded. Come for the food and Halloween fun. All Tri-Valley students are welcome.

Schuylkill Mission District Reformation Service - Sunday, October 26, 2025, at 2PM the Pine Grove Cluster invites Schuylkill Mission District congregations to join in the celebration of the Reformation in worship and Holy Communion. Rev. Ken Melber, Jr., Associate of the Bishop for Schuylkill Mission District will present the message and preside at the table. Join in the celebration.

Schuylkill Mission District Gathering - Sunday, November 9, 2025 , at 2PM at Jerusalem Lutheran Church, Schuylkill Haven. The afternoon gathering will concentrate on the discussion of church cemeteries. Presenters will be providing various aspects of care and provisions of burial grounds. We invite all members of the Mission District, especially cemetery committee members and interested individuals in the preservation of the resting places of the saints.

Attendance: 30 (9/28/2025)

Offering. September 28, 2025 –	Current Exp.:	$1,177.00
	Other Offering:	$.00
	Total:	**$1,177.00**

Weekly Offering Needed: $2,638.92

Volunteers the Week of 10/12/12025 - Message, Brenda Miller Family **Organist**, Harold Morgan **Liturgist,** Christy Lieter **Lector,** Janet Radel **Head Usher,** Ed Tietsworth **Ushers,** Mike Allvord, Scott Allvord, Mike Deiter **Counters,** Kathryn Otto & TBD **Greeters**, Cindy & Rick Herring, and Joan Smith.