



**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World and  
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October 2025

***Worship and Discipleship by Margo Geesing***

***"Journeying in Faith"***

**October 5, 2025 — *Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost***

**The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 17 verses 5-10**

The first Sunday in October we have a call to faith through service. The disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith. Jesus does not just say, "Poof, your faith is increased!" no does he say, "Pray more!" rather he calls them to service; to awareness of others. He calls them to LIVE their faith to increase it. It is like a muscle – use it and it gets bigger. Jesus uses the image of the mustard seed, something that he uses on a few occasions when speaking of faith. Jesus compares faith to a mustard seed. A mustard seed is one of the smallest seeds, but it can grow to cover large areas because it increases by propagation. So also, is our faith. By using it and trusting it, we can move mountains, or in this case, trees. *How are you growing your faith? Even at this point in life it is not time to go fallow. How are you exercising your faith to make it stronger? Where are the trees that need to be moved in your life?*

**October 12, 2025 — *Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost***

**The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 17 verses 11-19**

The second Sunday in October we have the story of the ten lepers. They all call on Jesus to show them mercy in their illness. All are made clean. Only one returned, before going to the priests to show himself clean and returning to society, to thank and praise God for his gift of mercy. The one who returned was a Samaritan. Here again Jesus uses a Samaritan to show that the Jews are not the only ones who will receive the mercy of God. Jesus did not come to just save the Jewish people, but rather the whole world. [Samaritans were basically enemies of the Jewish people.] Again, Jesus states that his faith made him well. *How often to we ask for God's mercy? How often do we share God's mercy? More importantly, how often do we thank and praise God for his mercy? It is a sign of faith to ask God for mercy, but it is also a sign of faith to thank him for his mercy. There is an almost horrible thing with God. We have a God of love, forgiveness, and mercy but we also have a God of justice. We can ask for his love, forgiveness, and mercy and we can trust we will receive it through Jesus' death and resurrection. At the same time, we should not take this for granted.*

**October 19, 2025 — *Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost***

**The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 18 verses 1-8**

The third Sunday Jesus reminds us to be persistent! This time Jesus tells a story about a widow who is pestering a judge to hear her case. The judge finally gives in, not because it's the right thing to do or his job, but it is tired of seeing and hearing her! Jesus reminds us to pray

always and not to lose heart. God always answers our prayers. Just not necessarily how or when we want. The final statement of the Gospel lesson should give us all pause: *“And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” This is the question that each of us need to answer for ourselves. It is not an easy road to journey in faith. The best reminder we have is in prayer when we can talk and listen to our God. He is not a God way up or out there but one intimately involved in our lives.*

**October 26, 2025 — Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

**The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 18 verses 9-14**

The fourth Sunday we hear a word that is not used much these days: **humble**. It means to be courteously respectful, modest, not proud or arrogant. Today it usually is looked at as having a feeling of insignificance, inferiority, subservience, low in rank, importance, status, quality; lowly. God does not look at what you owned, how much money you made, or what your social status is. He looks at what you did with what you owned and your money, he looks at how you treat others especially those who are looked at as less than. Before God, we are all humble and unworthy. Jesus is the one who allows us to come into the presence of God. He is the one that gave his life so that we might live as children of God. He is the one who makes us co-heirs to the Kingdom. *As we go through our daily routines, keep an eye out for your own thoughts and actions that describe others as less than or your own superiority. Acknowledge them and ask for God forgiveness for them. Strive to do better.*

**October 26, 2025 — Reformation Sunday**

**The Gospel Lesson is from John chapter 8 verses 31-36**

The last Sunday of October we will celebrate Reformation Sunday. We hear Jesus speak of freedom in the Gospel. Jesus is not talking about freedom to do what you want when you want. He is speaking of freedom from sin. By our nature we are a sinful people. We have fallen from grace. We all sin. What Jesus has given us by his death and resurrection is the freedom from the immediate punishment of sin. We are called by our baptism to a new life in Christ. We are call into forgiveness and mercy. It is a gift without price because Jesus has already paid the price. We were given the freedom to love God or reject God. We were given the freedom to follow Jesus or not to. We were given the freedom to live a life of service to others or to be hedonistic. We were given the freedom to live a life of faith and prayer or to go it on our own. What our choices are: how we live our lives, how we treat others, how we treat God is our answer to the freedom Jesus has purchased for us. *This is the story we tell throughout our lives. The story of who God is; who Jesus is; who the Holy Spirit is; what this means to us; and ultimately who we are. Tell the story of a person of faith found in the freedom of service through the grace of the Spirit in the honor of the Father through the love of Christ.*