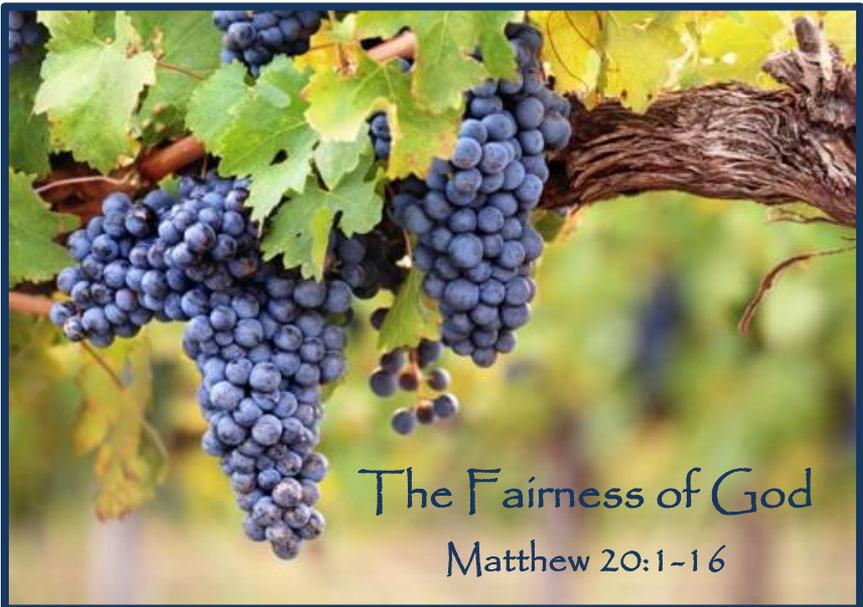


**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
**The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Divine Service One**  
**September 20, 2020**





## The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2020

8:00 and 10:30 AM

### Prayer for the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Dearest Jesus, You who are one with the Father, help us to know that the power behind Your promises is Your deity. You, the only-begotten Son of the Father, are God and, as such, will keep every promise You make. Open our understanding to trust that, because You are God, You could lay down Your life for the sheep and be the sin offering that truly takes away the sin of the world. You could take up Your life again, rising from the dead. You are the resurrection and the life who says, "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies." You will be our judge on the Last Day when You will judge us based on Your life and death for us. Warm our hearts with Your rich promises as we are told in John 10, "I give them [My sheep] eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand." We bow our hearts before You, our Savior and God. Amen.



**The Lord's Supper** is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Cor. 11:17-34), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to speak with the Pastor prior to communing with us for the first time. We thank you for respecting our belief and practice regarding the Lord's Supper.



## Confession and Absolution

### 838 The Saints in Christ Are One in Every Place



1 The saints in Christ are one in ev - 'ry place  
2 In chains for Christ! His pris'n - ers love to sing,  
3 To live is Christ, for us, to die is gain;  
4 Lord Je - sus Christ! Heav'n's praise let earth re - peat;



To serve the Gos - pel of His cost - ly grace;  
For slaves and free re - joice to praise our King;  
Where then shall be our hun - ger, dan - ger, pain?  
The work that You be - gan, You will com - plete.



From those first days to this, our hope the same:  
What though the Church on earth still suf - fers wrong?  
Our joy to preach good news to rich and poor,  
By grace let ev - 'ry foe be - come Your friend;



The love of Christ, one Lord, one sav - ing name.  
The cross of Christ re - mains our pil - grim song.  
Then be with Christ, to live for - ev - er - more.  
Your day, O Christ, shall dawn and nev - er end.

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*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### Exhortation

*1 John 1:8-9*

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

## Absolution

*[John 20:19–23]*

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

*Stand*



## Service of the Word

### Introit



I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving\*  
and call on the name | of the LORD.

**What shall I render | to the LORD\*  
for all his bene- | fits to me?**

I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation\*  
and call on the name | of the LORD.

**Precious in the sight | of the LORD\*  
is the death | of his saints.**

O LORD, I am your | servant,\*  
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have |  
loosed my bonds.

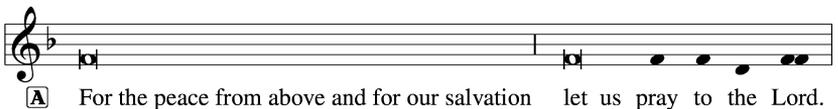
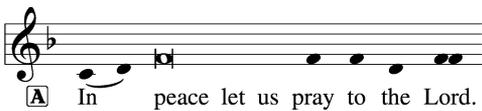
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving\*  
and call on the name | of the LORD.



## Kyrie

Mark 10:47





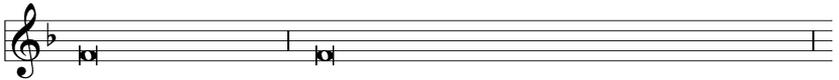
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**G** A - men.

## This Is the Feast

*Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9*



**G** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb \_\_\_\_\_ who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**G** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**G** A - men.



die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

*John 6:68*

**G** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel: Matthew 20:1–16

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

**G** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' So the last will be first, and the first last."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*



## 853 How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord,  
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find  
3 We mar - vel how Your saints be - come  
4 In what You give us, Lord, to do,

When once we heed Your call: To live ac - cord - ing  
Your yoke is hard to bear; If world - ly pres - sures  
In hin - dranc - es more sure; Whose joy - ful vir - tues  
To - geth - er or a - lone, In old rou - tines or

to Your Word And dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,  
fray the mind, And love it - self can - not un - wind  
put to shame The cas - ual way we wear Your name  
ven - tures new, May we not cease to look to You,

That You are Lord of all And will not let us fall.  
Its tan - gled skein of care: Our in - ward life re - pair.  
And by our faults ob - scure Your pow'r to cleanse and cure.  
The cross You hung up - on— All You en - deav - ored done.

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## Sermon

### "The Fairness of God"

Text: See the Holy Gospel Reading

*Stand*



## Nicene Creed

- ☒ I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from  
heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the  
Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the  
living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic  
Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

*After each portion of the prayer:*

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.



## Offering

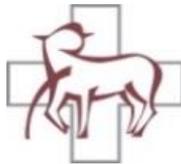
*There is an offering plate in the back of the sanctuary where you can deposit your offerings.*

*Stand*

## Offertory

*Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*

What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

The musical score is written on six staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music is a simple, melodic setting of the psalm text.

## Service of the Sacrament



*Please read our Statement on Holy Communion on the inside cover of the bulletin before communing with us.*





san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13*

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C** **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 and ever. Amen.**

## The Words of Our Lord

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;  
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

*John 20:19*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

*John 1:29*



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

### *Personal prayer before Communing*

*Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen*



### **Distribution**

#### *Personal prayer of thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament*

*Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

### **Thank the Lord**

*[Psalm 105:1-3, 42-43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8-10]*



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

## Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

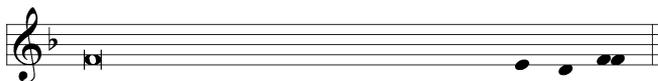
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Benediction

*Numbers 6:24–26*



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A - men.



# *Soli Deo Gloria!*

*(To God alone be the glory.)*

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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## 738 Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



Whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
Your hands swift to wel - come, Your arms to em - brace:  
Whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



Be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
Be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,  
Be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
Be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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Tune: Public domain

### **“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life September 20, 2020**

“The Adoption Creed: ‘Not flesh of my flesh, nor bone of my bone, but still miraculously my own; never forget for a single minute, you didn’t grow under my heart, but in it.’”

*A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)*

***But I call to God,  
and the Lord will save me.  
Evening and morning and at noon  
I utter my complaint and moan,  
and he hears my voice.***

***Psalms 55:16-17***



Find Pastor Skelton's Bible Study based on First Samuel posted on [facebook.com/holycrosshighlandsranch](https://www.facebook.com/holycrosshighlandsranch) and click on videos to see the Bible Study and worship services.



The Altar Guild is now accepting flower donations beginning September 6. If you are interested in donating flowers to adorn the chancel, please sign up on the flower calendar located on the bulletin board in the narthex. The price for the floral arrangement is \$30. Please leave a check or cash in an envelope marked as "flowers" in the offering plate. Orders need to be placed by the previous Sunday.

The Altar Guild is also looking for volunteers to assist with duties during the 10:30 service. Please contact Angie Otto at 303-798-9799 if you are able to help out.



***Portals of Prayer for  
October-December 2020 are out!***

*Pick up your copy from the table in the narthex by the front door. We have digest size copies if you need larger print. These are a great resource to use in your daily devotions!*





**Petitions and Prayers:** Prayer is placing trust in God, pouring our hearts out to Him, knowing that He is able “to deliver us” in times of distress and trouble.



**Health concerns:**

*Dear Jesus, Great Physician of body and soul, hear our prayer for those who are sick. Be for them the grace sufficient for them in this time of suffering. Remind them that in their weakness Your power is being brought to perfection. If it be Your will, bring healing to these people, even as we anticipate the ultimate healing in the joys of heaven. Amen.*

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Theresa Kingham – cancer
- Kevin Koessel (Karlee Shavlik’s brother) – cancer
- Julie Ann Zamora – multiple health issues

**Prayer of intercession:**

*Heavenly Father, on this day You said, “Let there be light,” and You scattered the darkness. On this day You brought Your Son forth from the tomb, dispelling the powers of darkness with the light of His eternal glory. On this day You sent forth Your Holy Spirit to shine the light of the Gospel on Your Church. This day gather Your saints on earth and in heaven to sing the glory of Your name. Gather Your children together around Word and Sacrament to receive the salvation You have prepared for us through Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*



Christian 'apologetics' doesn't apologize for anything. Rather, it is the art of defending our Christian beliefs and faith before an increasingly hostile society. 'Always be Ready' is a new book by John Montgomery that was written to help us do just that. Our **Men’s Study Group at Holy Cross** will read and discuss this text beginning shortly after Labor Day. We **meet every other Saturday morning from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. beginning on September 12.** It's a great opportunity to get to know each other in the context of topics that proclaim God's grace and often challenge us as Christians today. For more information, please contact Terry Mitchell at 303-875-2942 or Dave Weiss at 303-798-6248 or else just show up for our next class that's presently scheduled for **9/26/20.**



***"Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;***

***Isaiah 55:6***

## **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

**(Missouri Synod)**

**9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd.**

**Highlands Ranch, CO 80129**

Sunday Worship Services.....8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes and Sunday School.....9:25 a.m.

Rev. Bruce Skelton, Pastor, Office.....303-683-1300

Kristen Foss, Director, Early Learning Center.....303-683-1311

Fax..... 303-470-0165

***Reaching lost souls with the Gospel:  
Nourishing and equipping the saints for life and ministry!***



**Check out  
The Lutheran Hour  
Sunday mornings at  
6 a.m. on 850 KOA Radio  
or  
go to [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org) and click on  
"Listen Now" anytime.**

## **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**



Holy Cross Lutheran is on Facebook.  
Check us out and Like us at  
[facebook.com/HolyCrossHighlandsRanch](https://facebook.com/HolyCrossHighlandsRanch).

Assisting Elders: 8 a.m. - Bob Stabo  
10:30 a.m. - Curt Oliver



**Christians, keep the faith...  
but not from others!**