

#### THE LORD'S DAY

September 10, 2023
WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE Piano/Chancel Organ

CALL TO WORSHIP &

STRIKING THE HOUR "Amazing Grace" The Carillon Bells

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† INTROIT "Blessed Be the Name of the Lord" Page 64

† Please stand as you are able.

† HYMN "At Calvary" Page 492

(Verse 1)

( Verses 1,3,4 )

† Prayer of the Day and The Lord's Prayer

† ANTHEM "Gloria Patri" Page 813

HYMN "Amazing Grace" Page 343

(Verses 1,2,4,5)

WE PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER AND RECITE GOD'S COVENANT PROMISES

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSORIAL "Psalm 34" Psalter 34<sup>c</sup>

Sung To The Tune of: "Sweet Hour Of Prayer"

(Verses 6,7)

RESPONSIVE READING: "The Heidelberg Catechism"

WE RETURN OUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE UNTO THE LORD

RECEIVING THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS
† DOXOLOGY AND OFFERTORY PRAYER



# WE LIFT OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

HYMN "The Longer I Serve Him"

( All Verses)

Page 520

SPECIAL MUSIC

# EXPOSITION OF THE WORD AND CONFESSION OF FAITH

THE SERMON
"A Quick Look at Fasting"
Matthew 6:16-18

† THE APOSTLES' CREED

† CLOSING HYMN "I'd Rather Have Jesus" Page 506

(Verses 1,3)

† BENEDICTION

† ANTHEM "The Family of God" Page 419

# DEPART IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

If you are visiting with us today, we're glad you're here. We are ordinary people on an extraordinary journey, learning to love and serve like Jesus. Come with Us!



In this constantly changing world, our goal is to reflect and recapture the historic and classical worship of Almighty God. Central to our service is the proclamation of the Word and a biblical understanding of the Sacraments in the tradition of the Evangelical and Reformed faith.

## **OUR MISSION**

TO PRESENT CHRIST TO EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, AT EVERY AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY.

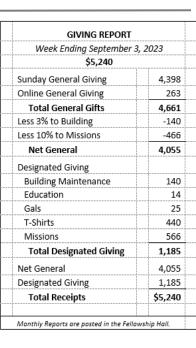


# THE LESSONS FOR USE ON THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~ YEAR A Ezekiel 33:7-11 • Psalm 119:33-40 Romans 13:8-14 • Gospel Focus: Matthew

WE AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING:

- The Holy Trinity of God Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- God has revealed Himself fully and decisively in Holy Scripture. We believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God and our guide for faith and life.
- There is only one way to Salvation through Jesus Christ.
- The sanctity of human life based on our creation in the image of God and our election by God for service in His Kingdom. This leads us to respectfully affirm the sanctity of life at every stage, from conception to ordinary death.
- The Biblical principles of immutable gender and sexuality: The exclusive union of one man and one woman in marriage; and fidelity to its vows. And, chastity outside of marriage for the sake of the Kingdom.
- God made all people from one man and although people can be distinguished by different ethnicities and nationalities, we are all one human race and absolute equals before God in creation, the need for repentance, and the offer of redemption.
- That the mission of the Church is to spread the Good News of the Gospel in every word and deed. Proclaiming to the world the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and seeking to bring every person into a life of faith, discipleship, and submission to Him.



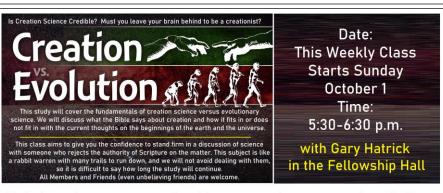




#asting is voluntarily going without food — or any other regularly enjoyed, good gift from God — for the sake of some spiritual purpose. It is markedly countercultural in our consumerist society. Chances are you are among the majority of Christians who rarely or never fast. It's not because we haven't read our Bibles, sat under faithful preaching, heard about the power of fasting, or even that we don't genuinely want to do it. We just never actually get around to putting down the fork. Part of it may be that we live in a society in which food is so ubiquitous that we eat not only when we don't need to but sometimes even when we don't want to. We eat to share a meal with others, to build or grow relationships (good reasons), or just as a distraction from responsibility. And, of course, our own cravings to be satiated keep us from the discomfort of fasting.

Fasting sounds so simple, yet the world, our flesh, and the devil conspire to introduce all sorts of complications that keep it from happening. Abstaining from food is not necessarily for everyone. Some health conditions keep even the most devout from the traditional course. However, fasting is not limited to abstaining from food. As Martyn Lloyd-Jones said, "Fasting should be made to include abstinence from anything legitimate in and of itself for the sake of some special spiritual purpose." If the better part of wisdom for you, in your health condition, is not to go without food, consider fasting from television, computer, social media, or some other regular enjoyment that would bend your heart toward a greater enjoyment of Jesus. Paul even talks about married couples fasting from sex "for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer" (1 Corinthians 7:5).

Fasting isn't merely an act of self-deprivation but a spiritual discipline for seeking more of God's fullness, which means we should have a plan for what positive pursuit to undertake in the time it usually takes to eat. We spend much of our day with food in front of us. One significant part of fasting is the time it creates for prayer and meditation on God's word or some act of love for others. Before diving headlong into a fast, craft a simple plan. Connect it to your purpose for the fast. Each fast should have a specific spiritual purpose. Identify what that is and design a focus to replace the time you would have spent eating. Without a purpose and plan, it's not Christian fasting; it's just going hungry.



To help us better prepare for this course, please preregister below with your name and the number of people attending with you.

Name:	Number	Attending	1
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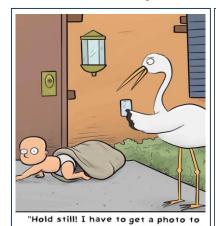
## The Chancel Flowers Are Placed by:

**Bob Mitchell** and Linda Walchak to the Glory of God.



# MARK YOUR **V** CALENDAR

-----SEPTEMBER 2023--GAL's Meeting......Monday, September 11th at 12:30 Board Meeting.....Tuesday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m. -----OCTOBER 2023-----GAL's Meeting......Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:30 Guy's Lunch.....Thursday, October 5th at 11:00 a.m. ~~~ Guy's Prayer Group......Thursday, October 5th at 10:30 a.m. Board Meeting.....Tuesday, October 10th at 6:00 p.m. Reformation Sunday / 49th Annual Homecoming Celebration...October 29th



Loose Change for LOCAL MISSIONS in the JOASH CHEST supports the

THOMAS PROMISE FOUNDATION.

Their Mission is to provide Pasco County's most valuable resource - our school children



with the simplest things that most of our kids take for granted. Each week they pack more than 1,100 backpacks with safe, non-perishable, and nutritious food to see needy children through the weekend when school meals are not available.

## THE ELDERS

Rev. H. Joseph Kler

Rev. John O. Strauss

THE DIACONATE Jim Leitzke, Gary Hatrick

**OUR MUSICIANS** Ann Dantuma

Donna Zenisek-Huber

SOUND BOOTH Joe Negron, Jonathan Kler

### THE BOARD

Board PresidentJohn Vosteen
Vice-PresidentCheryl Howard
TreasurerPam Lain
EducationLinda Walchak
Women's FellowshipVickie Kler
Multi-MediaRic Romyn
MissionsBarbara O'Brien
Music Rev. John Strauss
HospitalityClara Vosteen

To contact Board President John Vosteen, please call: 813-731-2803 To contact the Pastor, please call: 813-323-0802, or Vickie's cell: 863-409-8850

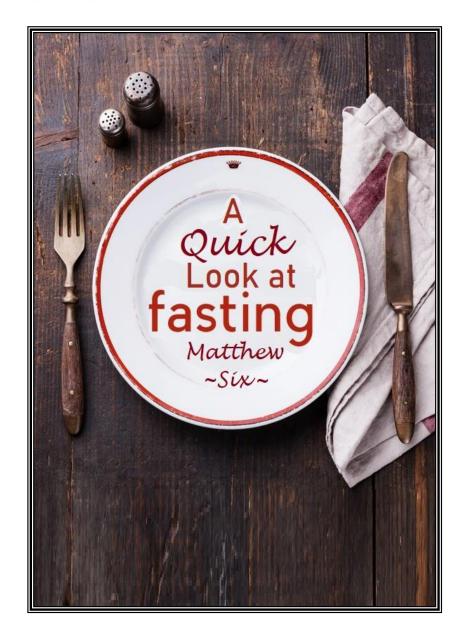
> OUR VOLUNTEER STAFFED CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Phone: 813-780-6027 • Website: www.fcczhills.org • Email: fcczh@aol.com



Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing, but Encourage one another as the Day of the Gord, draws near. -Hebrews 10:25



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