

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: July 26, 2026

The First Reading

1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Psalm

Psalm 119:129-136

129 Your decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
130 When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.
131 I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.
132 Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your Name.
133 Steady my footsteps in your word; *
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.
135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.
136 My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.

The Second Reading

Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Announcements

Birthdays this month

4th: David Buckner
9th: Angelina Bynum
10th: Claire Cammack
11th: Harrison Brown
19th: Sandra McLaughlin
22nd: Christopher Clodfelter
22nd: Natasha Bynum
31st: Lauren Hale

This Week at SMAA

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

6:00 pm Dinner & fellowship

Sunday, August 2, 2026

10:00 am Morning Prayer

One Dollar for One Love

Please drop a one dollar bill in the "One Dollar for One Love" box in the entryway. This will go towards the next Pancake Breakfast fundraiser which St. Michael's will prepare. All extra proceeds will be put towards a new 12 passenger van. All loose-cash offerings received on the second Sunday of each month will be allocated to the One Love donation box.

Announcement for One Love Cooling Station

St. Michael and All Angels along with St. Andrews Presbyterian and Winterfield United Methodist have the opportunity to provide a cooling shelter for our One Love friends when the temperature is at a "feels like" 100 degrees. *One love is still working on transportation.* SMAA will provide this service in our Fellowship Hall Wednesday-Friday from 11:00 AM until 6:00 PM. One Love provides snacks and staffing. Anyone interested in helping should contact Roxanne Brink @ 480-208-2966 or Patti Maxwell @ 817-937-5637.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to donate the flowers for the service, the Flower Dedication forms for 2026 are in the narthex.

Lifted – Youth Program

Lifted will meet immediately after the Sunday service:
Sunday, July 29, Session 5: Covered not Cancelled
Sunday, August 2, Session 6: Growing in Grace with Al

Blessing of the Backpack

Sunday, August 9th, we invite all students, teachers, and educators to bring their backpacks and workbags as we ask God's blessing on the new school year ahead.

For a Birthday Blessing

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as *he* begins another year. Grant that *he* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus, Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For a Wedding Anniversary Blessing

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- Ryan & Kristie Pierce
- Katy Bryant
- Charlyne White
- Carolyn Deakins
- Catherine White
- Francie Bailey
- The family of Kathleen Bullock
- Susan Brown
- JoLee Ferguson
- Andrew McWhorter
- The Akinson & Brown Families
- Lorraine and Margie Litterski

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering.

Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
06/28/26	\$2,577	\$3,611	-\$1,034
07/05/26	\$3,997	\$3,611	\$386
07/12/26	\$2,070	\$3,611	-\$1,541
07/19/26	\$2,030	\$3,611	-\$1,581
YTD TOTALS	\$81,661	\$104,719	-\$23,058

This Sunday's Servers

Acolytes: Wayne Workman

Cameras & Streaming: Devin McLaughlin

Eucharistic Ministers: David Brown

Greeter: Teresa Read

Lector: Chip Doran

Nursery Helper: Valerie Buckner

Ushers: Chip Doran, Louis Zak

Vestry People: Teresa Read, Janice Bynum

Worship Tech: Bryan White

Next Sunday's Servers (08/02)

Acolytes: Dana Parker

Cameras & Streaming: Michael Greathouse

Eucharistic Ministers: Wayne Workman

Greeter: Louis Zak

Lector: Chris James

Nursery Helper: Helen Daniel Glave

Ushers: David Brown, Joe Frank Brown

Vestry People: Michael Greathouse, Wayne Workman

Worship Tech: Gianna Glave