

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2026

The Collect of the Day

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading

Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Psalm

Psalm 145:1-8

1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.

2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.

3 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.

4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.

5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.

6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.

7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.

8 The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

The Second Reading

Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. 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 for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 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 the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by Barbara McClellan in honor of Fr. Kevin Wittmayer and his family, with deep gratitude for all he has done for us and for her personally

Announcements

Birthdays this month

1st: Margot Lindsey
 2nd: Michael Buckner
 3rd: Tasha Root
 4th: Gloria Richards
 5th: Jane Hale
 11th: David Brown
 11th: Terisa Kirschke
 19th: Ethan Bohnsack
 19th: Robyn Murphy
 19th: Roxanne Brink
 23rd: Kyle Glave
 24th: Caroline Tucker
 26th: Lillian Tucker
 27th: Helen Daniel Glave
 27th: Ava Rook

This Week at SMAA

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

6:00 pm Dinner & fellowship

Sunday, September 27, 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 located in the entryway. Your donations provide **ongoing support for One Love and its ministry**. Additionally, all loose-cash offerings received on the **second Sunday of each month** will be designated for **One Love**.

One Love Cooling Station SMAA will provide Colling Station 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.

New member's Class

The New Member Class will begin on **October 4th** after church.

Pumpkins Needed Help us fill our church with the beauty of fall. Beginning Sunday, September 27, we'll be decorating the church entryway and lining the sidewalk with large pumpkins to create a warm and welcoming autumn atmosphere for our church family and guests. Please consider bringing a large pumpkin to help us brighten our space for the season.

Lifted – Youth Program Lifted will meet immediately after the Sunday service on the following dates: **September 20 and 27 October 4 and 25**.

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:

- Libby & Fred Menger
- Bill & Inge Dunning
- 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
08/23/26	\$2,989	\$3,611	-\$622
08/30/26	\$1,187	\$3,611	-\$2,424
09/06/26	\$1,538	\$3,611	-\$2,073
09/13/26	\$2325	\$3,611	-\$1,286
YTD TOTALS	\$99,655	\$133,607	-\$33,952

This Sunday's Servers

Acolytes: Wayne Workman

Cameras & Streaming: Devin McLaughlin

Eucharistic Ministers: Dana Parker

Greeter: Becky Supercinski

Lector: Roxanne Brink

Nursery Helper: Stephen Smith

Ushers: Bryan White, Jerry Ritchie

Vestry People: Stan Williams, Dana Parker

Worship Tech: Valerie Buckner

NEXT Sunday's Servers (09/27)

Acolytes: Dana Parker

Cameras & Streaming: Michael Buckner

Eucharistic Ministers: Laura Buckner

Greeter: Susan Kuhlman

Lector: Susan Brown

Nursery Helper: Becky Supercinski

Ushers: Tommy Read, Louis Zak

Vestry People: Patti Maxwell, Teresa Read

Worship Tech: Gianna Glave