



Living in the Spirit
◆ **33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time**
We Will Walk by Faith

Call to Prayer and Sharing

❖ *Invitation to Prayer - Leader*

Let us begin, Now, here in this place
With a moment of silence, to reflect, to focus,
to be attentive to ourselves, to one another, and to the presence of Christ.
May the Lord come and increase our faith. (*reflective pause*)

❖ *If time allows, sing a familiar hymn or refrain from Sunday's Responsorial Psalm.*

❖ *Then: "In the name of the Father and of the Son . . ."*

The Word of God

❖ *Leader: Let us welcome God's Word into our hearts.*

○ *Sing: May the Word be a lamp for our feet and a light to guide our path!*

From Mathew 25:14-30 (Parable of the talents)

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

"A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one-- to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them, and made another five. Likewise, the one who received two made another two. But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money.

After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them.

The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five.

He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.'

His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant.

Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities.

Come, share your master's joy.'

Then the one who had received two talents also came forward and said,

'Master, you gave me two talents. See, I have made two more.'

His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant.

Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities.

Come, share your master's joy.'

Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said,

'Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where you did not plant

and gathering where you did not scatter; so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back.'

His master said to him in reply, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter? Should you not then have put my money in the bank so that I could have got it back with interest on my return? Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten.

For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.'"

The Word of the Lord...

❖ *At the conclusion of the reading, briefly pause for quiet reflection.*

Faith Sharing/Question of the Week (consider sharing on **either** question)

❖ **Adult:** In what ways have you used the gifts God has given you for the building of the kingdom?

❖ **Mixed Ages:** How do you use the gifts God gives you?

Time is provided for sharing responses to the question. Silence between responses is to be expected. Allow a few minutes for faith sharing. For larger groups, leader invites members to divide into groups of 3 or 4 for faith sharing.

❖ *When the sharing comes to an end, the leader invites everyone to take a moment to silently and reverently hold what has been shared together.*

Litany of Faith

Leader: Christ Jesus, you call us to use our gifts to grow as your family.
Thanks you for gifting us.

All: We will walk by faith till we come to the promised land!

Leader: Christ Jesus, you call us to use our gifts for the needs of others.
Thanks you for gifting us.

All: We will walk by faith till we come to the promised land!

Leader: Christ Jesus, you call us to use our gifts proclaim your glory.
Thanks you for gifting us.

All: We will walk by faith till we come to the promised land!

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together:

All: Gracious God,
we know that you are with us here,
and we have taken your Word into our hearts.
You call us all to conversion,
we who are here in this place,
and we who are now ready to welcome you into our lives.
We are ready,
we are willing,
and we are yours.
So we surrender to you
our aches and longings into one as we pray:
Our Father...

Continue with the Meeting

Final Blessing

Leader: Now let us bless one another:

All: May God bless and keep us, may God smile upon us.
May God show us kindness, fill us with peace.
And may God bless us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
may we always love and serve,
filled with God's Peace. Amen.

Leader: *Conclude the meeting or sing a closing song.*