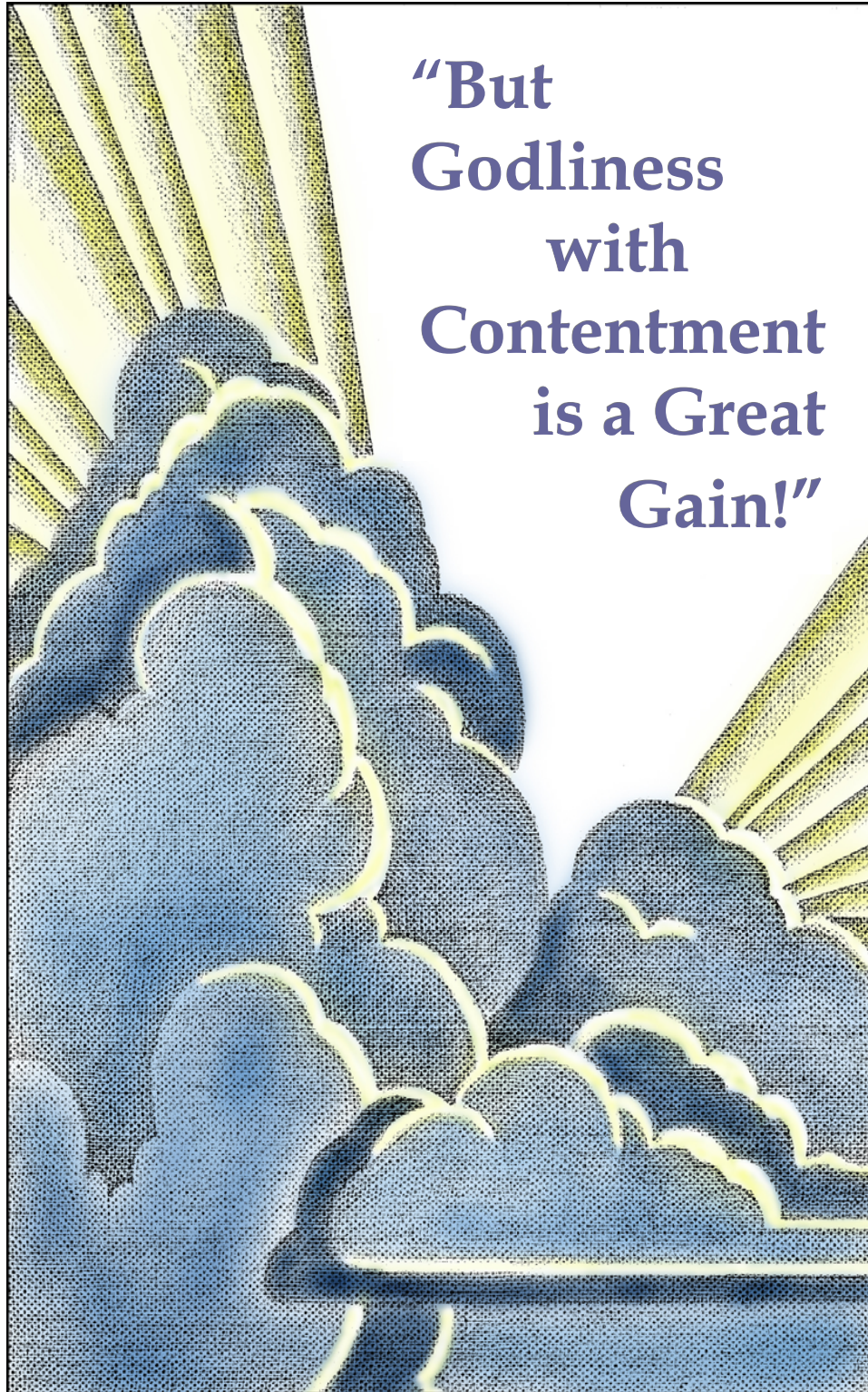


**“But  
Godliness  
with  
Contentment  
is a Great  
Gain!”**



## The Order of Worship

### Pre-Service Music

#### Opening Hymn

“This Day at Your Creating Word”  
*Christian Worship 229*

#### God Places His Name on Us

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you!

**C: And also with you!**

#### The Confession of Sins

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen!**

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

#### Song of Praise

“Glory Be to God the Father”  
*Christian Worship 239*

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son.

Glory be to God the Spirit, great Jehovah, Three in One!  
Glory, glory, while eternal ages run!

Glory be to him who loved us,  
washed us from each spot and stain  
Glory be to him who bought us,  
made us kings with him to reign!  
Glory, glory to the Lamb that once was slain!

Glory to the King of angels, glory to the Church's King,  
Glory to the King of nations;  
heav'n and earth, your praises bring!  
Glory, glory to the King of glory sing!

Glory, blessing, praise eternal! Thus the choir of angels sings;  
Honor, riches, pow'r dominion! Thus its praise creation brings.  
Glory, glory, glory to the King of kings!

### **Prayer for the Day**

P: O gracious Lord, you provide everything we need for body and soul. Because of your goodness and undeserved love, we can live our lives in godliness, contentment, and joy. Sadly, we recognize the influence of the world. We are not content, because we always want more complaining that you don't give us enough. We also see how we lose sight of true godliness. We rely on our efforts. We take pride in our accomplishments. We put ourselves and our desires ahead of yours. Forgive us. Purify our hearts. Lead us by your Word to realize all you give is good. Help us also understand that you need to come first in everything. You deserve this honor because of your gracious mercy, and because you live for us as Father, Son and Spirit—our only true, triune, and eternal God.



C: A ——— men.

## The Lessons from God's Word

*"My Joy, My Contentment, My All comes from the Lord!"*

### Old Testament

*Ecclesiastes 5:10–20*

<sup>10</sup>Anyone who loves money is never satisfied with money, and anyone who loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is vanishing vapor.

<sup>11</sup>When goods increase, so do those who eat them. What profit, then, does the owner get, except to see these things with his eyes?

<sup>12</sup>The worker's sleep is sweet, whether he eats little or much, but a rich person's abundant possessions allow him no sleep.

<sup>13</sup>I have seen a sickening evil under the sun—wealth hoarded by its owner to his own harm, <sup>14</sup>or wealth that is lost in a bad investment. Or a man fathers a son, but he has nothing left in his hand to give him. <sup>15</sup>As he came out from his mother's womb, so he will go again, naked as he came. From his hard work he can pick up nothing that he can carry away in his hand. <sup>16</sup>This too is a sickening evil: Just as he came, so he will go. So what does he gain, he who works for the wind? <sup>17</sup>Besides this, during all his days he eats in darkness, with great frustration, sickness, and anger.

<sup>18</sup>So then, here is what I have seen to be good: It is beautiful to eat, to drink, and to look for good in all a person's hard work which he has done under the sun, during the few days of his life that God has given him, for that is his reward. <sup>19</sup>Likewise, for everyone to whom God has given wealth and riches, if God has also given him ability to eat from it, to enjoy his reward, and to rejoice in the results of his hard work—this is a gift of God, <sup>20</sup>for the man seldom reflects on the days of his life, since God keeps him busy with the joy in his heart.

### Psalm for the Day

*Psalm 128*

*(we will read responsively)*

P: How blessed is everyone who fears the LORD,

C: **Everyone who is walking in his ways.**

P: Yes, you will eat the food you worked for.

**C: How blessed you are! It will go well for you!**

P: Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the inner rooms of your house. Your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

**C: Look! This is how blessed the man is who fears the LORD!**

P: May the LORD bless you from Zion, so that you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life

**C: And you see your children's children. Peace be on Israel.**

### **Epistle**

*1 Timothy 6:6–10, 17–19*

<sup>6</sup>But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup>For we brought nothing into the world, and we certainly cannot take anything out.

<sup>8</sup>But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be satisfied.

<sup>9</sup>Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and many foolish and harmful desires, which plunge them into complete destruction and utter ruin. <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evils. By striving for money, some have wandered away from the faith and have pierced themselves with many pains.

<sup>17</sup>Instruct those who are rich in this present age not to be arrogant or to put their hope in the uncertainty of riches, but rather in God, who richly supplies us with all things for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup>Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup>In this way they are storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

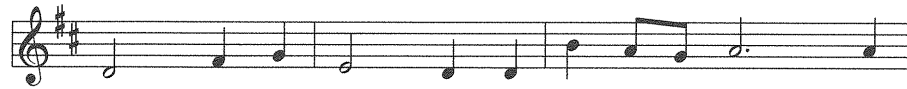
### **Verse of the Day**

P: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his mercy endures forever. Who can tell about the mighty deeds of the LORD? Who can cause all his praise to be heard? Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your people. Visit me with your salvation, so that I may experience the good that belongs to your chosen ones.

## Alleluia



C: Al—le— lu— ia! Al—le— lu— ia! Al—le— lu— ia!



These words are writ— ten that we may be—lieve that



Je—sus is the Christ, the Son — of God.



Al—le— lu— ia! Al—le— lu— ia! Al—le— lu— ia!

## Gospel

*Luke 16:1–13*

<sup>1</sup>Jesus also said to his disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager who was accused of wasting his possessions. <sup>2</sup>The rich man called him in and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you can no longer be manager.’

<sup>3</sup>“The manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, since my master is taking away the management position from me? I am not strong enough to dig. I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup>I know what I will do, so that when I am removed from my position as manager, people will receive me into their houses.’

<sup>5</sup>“He called each one of his master’s debtors to him. He asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ <sup>6</sup>He said, ‘Six hundred gallons of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and write three hundred.’ <sup>7</sup>Then he said to another, ‘How much do you owe?’ And he said, ‘Six hundred bushels of

wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and write four hundred and eighty.’

<sup>8</sup>“The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the children of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the children of the light. <sup>9</sup>I tell you, make friends for yourselves with unrighteous so that when it runs out, they will welcome you into the eternal dwellings. <sup>10</sup>The person who is faithful with very little is also faithful with much. And the person who is unrighteous with very little is also unrighteous with much. <sup>11</sup>So if you have not been faithful with unrighteous *mammon* who will entrust you with what is really valuable? <sup>12</sup>If you have not been faithful with what belongs to someone else, who will give you something to be your own? <sup>13</sup>No servant can serve two masters. Indeed, either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and *mammon*.”

P: This is the Word of our God—our hope, our reason for joy, and our reason for godly contentment.



**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**Hymn of the Day**      “O Lord of Heaven and Earth and Sea”  
*Christian Worship 487*

**Sermon**      *1 Timothy 6:6-7*

**Lesson**      “**Godliness and Contentment—**”  
What makes both empty?  
What makes both valuable?

**The Confession of Faith**      (*sung by congregation*)

**“We All Believe in One True God”**

*Christian Worship 270*

We all believe in one true God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
Ever-present help in need, praised by all the heav’nly host,  
By whose mighty pow’r alone all is made and wrought and done.

We all believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary’s Son,  
Who descended from his throne and for us salvation won,  
By whose cross and death are we rescued from all misery!

We all confess the Holy Ghost, who from both fore’er proceeds,  
Who upholds and comforts us in all trials, fears, and needs.  
Blessed, holy Trinity, hear our praise eternally!

**Thanksgiving and Prayer**

**Prayers for the Lord’s Blessing**

*Special Prayers and Requests*

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**C: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

**Hymn**

“Brothers. Sisters, Let Us Gladly”

*Christian Worship 484*



### Closing Prayer

P: O gracious Lord, your will is that we live our lives in godliness and with contentment. To help us live this way, you not only give us your promise of daily blessing, you also keep your promise and give us everything we need. Continue to bless us with every needed gift. Fill our hearts with gratitude and thanksgiving. Free us from the pursuits and empty desires of this earthly life. As we live in your love, and by your love, help us look ever heavenward. There you will bless us with eternal life. There we will live with you—our loving Father, our gracious Savior, and our ever-faithful Counselor—throughout endless ages.



C: A ——— men.

### The Benediction

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace; live in harmony with one another; serve the Lord in gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;

The Lord look on you with his favor; and

give you peace.



C: A — men. A — men. A ——— men.

### Closing Hymn

“Though Thoughtless Thousands Choose”

*Christian Worship 466*

### Silent Prayer

### Announcements

**Today**—*Welcome in the name of our ever faithful and loving God.* Truly we are blessed through his gracious gifts and tender mercy. It is because of his care that we can trust him, rely on him, and thank him. If you are visiting this morning, please sign the guest book. Come back and worship with us again, soon!

- Everyone is invited to enjoy a cup of coffee and the gift of fellowship after the service.
- Bible Study will consider Solomon's lesson on contentment and true joy for this life.

**Monday**—Handbell practice begins at 7:00 pm.

**Tuesday**—Outreach Committee meeting at 7:00 pm

**Wednesday**—Bible Class at 7:00 pm. We will continue with the study we began last week—Confidently Sharing Jesus with Friends. There are a few points to consider from the first lesson—Reaching People Who Need Jesus. Then we will start lesson 2—Starting a Spiritual Conversation.

**Friday**—Office Hours from 10:30 am—2:30 pm.

**Saturday**—Clean—Scheffler

- Mowing beginning September 19th—Florez

**Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>—Sunday Worship and Live-streaming at 9:30 am.** As the apostle writes to the Hebrew Christians, he reminds them of the importance of love. This is more than the love of this world. It is the Lord first showed by our Savior which is selfless and always giving.

- Education will follow the service and will consider the words of Amos. He wrote to God's Old Testament people who forgot their Lord and became like the Canaanites with whom they lived. This is why the first word the Lord shares is "Woe!"

*More announcements follow on page 13*



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