

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church



**19th Sunday After Pentecost
October 8, 2023
Worship Service**

Announcements for October 8, 2023

PRAYERS FOR OUR NJLC COMMUNITY

***new names added this week (NJLC connection)*

Prayer Requests: Wayne Dunkley (NJLC member); Mack and **Helen Keister (NJLC members); Jane Wichmann (Toni Chancellor-Adams); Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock (Judy Fox);

“GOD’S WORK.OUR HANDS”: Thanks for all who participated in the Sunday service, enjoyed the meal, and helped out with the service activities after lunch. We had a good response for the collection of food. The first Sunday of each month now has been designated for food collection.

THE APOSTLES’ CREED: AN ADULT BIBLE STUDY – begins TODAY at 11:15 am

Will meet on October 8 and 22 and November 12 and 26.

- ⇒ Focus on the continued relevance of the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds today.
- ⇒ Look beyond the ancient wording to uncover underlying fundamental concepts of our faith.
- ⇒ These two Creeds connect us with Christian believers across time (past, present, future) and around the world.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, NJLC HAYRIDE: Meet in the church parking lot at 3:00 pm and the hay ride will begin at 3:30. After a ride on back roads near the church, everyone is invited to join for children’s activities, hot dogs, s’mores at the fire pit behind the education building.

THANK YOU

Tyler and Harriet Wegmeyer and Wegmeyer Farms have provided the pumpkins for decorating the sanctuary to create the festive fall look. Thank you, Wegmeyer Farms!

LIFTERS FOR OCTOBER:

	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Altar Flowers</u>
October 8	Curtis Adams	TBD
October 15	Linda Heffern	TBD
October 22	Kate Freeman	Garrett
October 29	Mike Zapf	Edmondson



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

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OUR MISSION: *Responding to God's grace, we are a welcoming congregation growing in Christian faith through worship, learning, serving, and fellowship.*

OUR VISION: *NJLC is a compassionate community of disciples that values everyone & expresses faith by connecting with God, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, & all creation.*

WELCOME TO NEW JERUSALEM

A few items of note to help you in your time here today:

MASKS — Masks are optional for worship and events at New Jerusalem, though we encourage mask wearing for anyone who chooses to do so.

NEWCOMERS — Visitors are always welcome and we invite you to sign our guestbook located in the entryway or fill out a pew card from the pew rack in front of you.

COMMUNION — Welcome to the table of Christ where we believe Christ is fully present to us in, with, and under these elements of bread and wine. You are invited to participate whether a member here or come to us from any other denominational tradition. Those not ready to receive Christ in body and blood, may still come forward to receive Christ in blessing. Follow the directions of the ushers who will dismiss each pew. As you come to the top of the center aisle, the pastor will place a wafer in your hands and invite you to step to the side to take an individual cup of wine (first tray) or grape juice (second). Please receive and then discard cups in the receptacle along the altar rail. If you cannot come forward, communion can be brought to you after all have communed at the front.

CHILDREN — We seek to be a family-friendly congregation who enjoys having children among us, including the littler ones. We have a Cherub's Corner in the fellowship hall downstairs with age appropriate toys, books, etc. and the worship service can be heard over the speakers. Should you have the need/desire to utilize our staffed Sunday Morning Nursery, it is located in the end room of the education building.

HANDICAP ACCESSABILITY — Handicap accessible restrooms are located downstairs at the back of our Fellowship Hall or across in our Education Building. Someone is available to run the lift should you need to get up and down between levels.

We hope that in your time among us, you will encounter the love of God in Spirit!



The pumpkins and gourds on the altar and in the windows are provided by Wegmeyer Farms - Tyler and Harriet Wegmeyer.

To provide altar flowers for an upcoming Sunday, sign-up on the 2023 Flower Chart located in the church hallway or contact the church office.

Introduction

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

GATHERING

READER FOR TODAY

Curtis Adams

PRELUDE

"Praise the Lord of Lords"
By Mark L. Williams

Mark A. Fletcher

We prepare our hearts and minds for worship during the prelude.

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"
(see music on next page)

ELW 553

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each corresponding to a system of music. The first system has three verses. The second system has three lines of lyrics. The third system has two lines of lyrics. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes, providing harmonic support for the vocal line.

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa - nied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;

Sun of righ-teous-ness, a - rise, tri-umph o'er the shades of night;
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer-cy's beams I see,
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

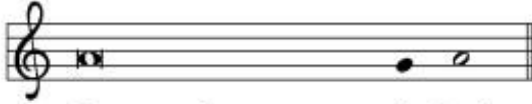
Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788
Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



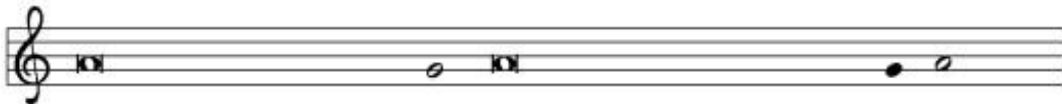
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Canticle of Praise

Pastor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray...

People: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 5:1-7

Reader: The first reading for today is recorded in the book of Isaiah...

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

Reader: Word of God. Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Psalms 80:7-15

Reader: The second reading for today is recorded in the book of Psalms...

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. ⁸You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it. ⁹You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land. ¹⁰The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs. ¹¹You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river. ¹²Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes? ¹³The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it. ¹⁴Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven; ¹⁵behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

Reader: Word of God. Word of Life.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to Whom Shall We Go?

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John 6:68, adapt. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21: 33-46

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.” ⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’? ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.” ⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Pastor Phil Carl

Sermon

Pastor Phil Carl

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Can You Feel The Seasons Turning"
(see music on next page)

ACS 1065

Can You Feel the Seasons Turning?



1 Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing, winds and waves grown
 2 Can you hear the crea - tures cry - ing— lynx and ot - ter,
 3 Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing? Storm clouds gath - er



wild and strange? Can you feel cre - a - tion groan - ing,
 wolf and whale? Can you hear the Spir - it sigh - ing
 in the skies. All a - round us signs of warn - ing



fear - ful of the com - ing change: ice - caps melt - ing,
 as her chil - dren grieve and fail? Na - ture's poor, the
 bid us o - pen fright - ened eyes. Called by God to



o - ceans ris - ing, homes and hab - i - ta - tions lost?
 first to suf - fer, pay the price of hu - man greed.
 serve as stew - ards till earth's gar - den greens and thrives,



Can you feel the sea - sons turn - ing? Can you count the bit - ter cost?
 Can you hear the crea - tures cry - ing, beg - ging us to stop and heed?
 can we learn in time to lis - ten? Can we turn and change our lives?

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: LLANSANNAN, Welsh melody

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APOSTLES' CREED

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reader: Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. God of all grace, you are the source of life and joy. Strengthen the resolve of your church throughout the world, that together we press on toward the goal of your heavenly call in Jesus Christ.
God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: God of all creation, you plant and nourish the earth as your own precious vineyard. Bless fields and orchards and the hands of those who labor in them, that your people are fed with an abundant harvest of good fruit. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: God of all the earth, you desire peace and justice between nations and peoples. Guide leaders of nations, states, provinces, and cities, that they faithfully govern your people with wisdom, integrity, and compassion. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader; God of all compassion, in Christ, you lovingly poured yourself out like wine for your people. Have mercy on all who mourn, who struggle with their mental health, who cry out for justice, who hunger, and all in any need, especially Wayne Dunkley, Mack and Helen Keister, Dean Fox and Peggy Glascock, Jane Wichmann. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: God of all steadfastness, you set Christ as the cornerstone and foundation of the church. Build up this congregation as living stones, that it stands in the community as a witness to your enduring faithfulness and love. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: God of unity, as we strive to call a new pastor for this congregation, send your Spirit to guide our decisions and those of all others in that process, so the outcome reflects your will for our future. Merciful God,

People: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Reader: God of all hope, the saints who came before us lived and died with their hearts fixed on you. We give you thanks for their faithful witness, and we wait with hope for the great day when we join their voices in praise. God of grace,

People: hear our prayer.

Reader: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

People: Amen.

GREETING & PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

We invite you to turn and share a sign of peace with your neighbors.

Please be seated.

MEAL

OFFERTORY

“Crown Him Lord of All”
By James Ellor

Mark A. Fletcher

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Offering Song

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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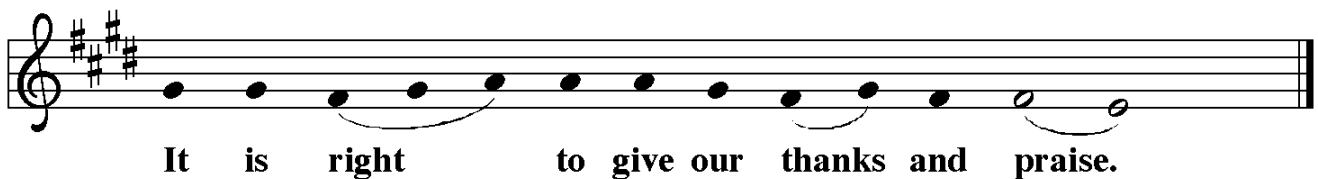
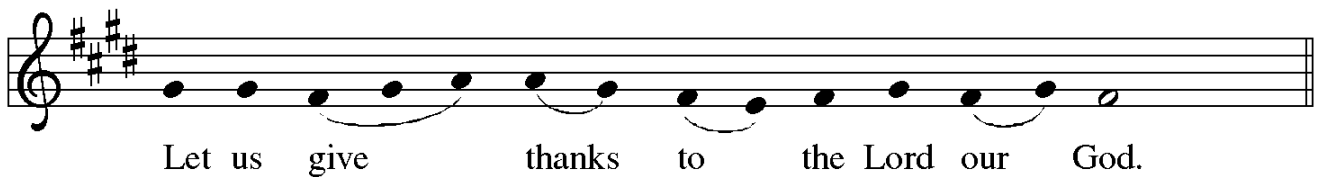
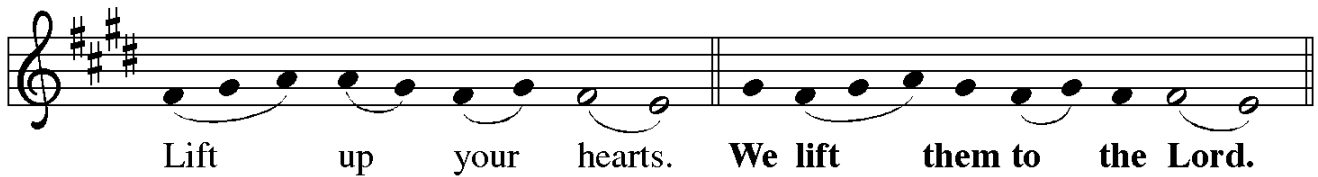
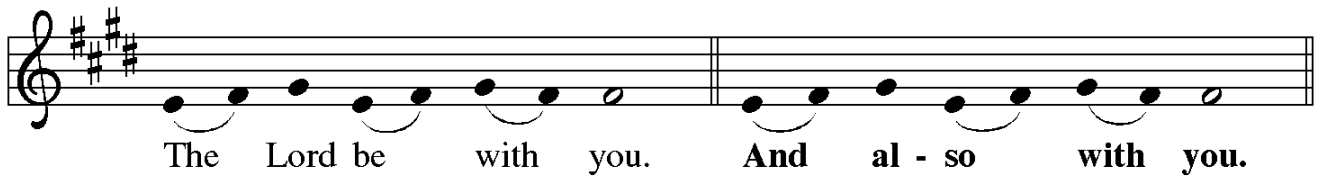
Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor: Generous God,

People: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on the earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray as the Lord has taught us:

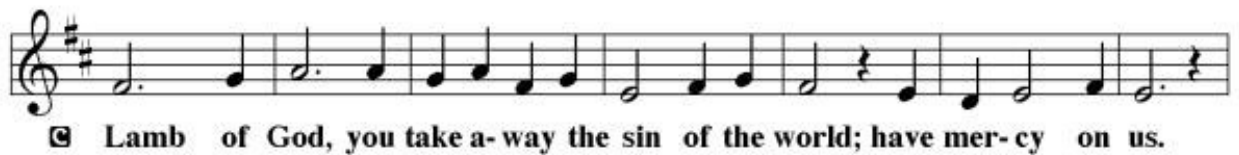
People: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Come to the banquet, for now all is ready.

Please be seated.

HOLY COMMUNION



Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen you unto life eternal.

People: Amen.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

People: **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

Pastor: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

“God of the Fertile Fields”
(see music on next page)

ACS 1063

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Allegro Appassionato”
By Norman Landi

Mark A. Fletcher

Renewed and strengthened by our worship together, go forth in peace to serve to the world.

Following today's Service, we invite you to find fellowship downstairs in the fellowship hall.

God of the Fertile Fields

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
 2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
 3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
 4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
 trust from you all that you give; help us in
 serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
 Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
 love to share, teach us like you to care
 toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
 lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
 for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
 no hum - ble task re - fused, your love be - stows.
 Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

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TODAY'S EPISTLE: Philippians 3:4b-14

(not read during today's service)

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.