

Thanks be to God that God's love for each of us is not based on our faithfulness but rather on God's steadfast love. My friends, know that your sins are forgiven, go therefore and walk in the light of the Lord, and give praise singing: **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(liturgy on screen)

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

CORPORATE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Nicene Creed

### THE BLESSING & SENDING

Go in peace, to love and serve God and to witness to others, knowing that you have been empowered to do all these things.

**In his name we will obey and now go. Amen!**

### Announcements

**Prayer for vision and refreshing:** Please keep Pastor Michael in prayer as he is away during the month of September. Also pray for the guest speakers that will be sharing with us in his absence.

**Leadership Meeting:** Our monthly leadership meeting will be next Sunday, September 24th after our worship service. Please remember to bring ideas for outreach events we can conduct/host during the Second & Third Quarters of 2024. The goal is to host events that are unique to FCM and convey our purpose statement.

### **Authorities we want to remember specifically in prayer**

MO US Senator- Eric Schmitt

MO State Senator District 23- Bill Eigel

11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Court Circuit Judge Div. 4- Michael Fagras

MO (State) Speaker of the House- Dean Plocher



## FAITH COVENANT MINISTRIES

LOVE | LIFE | LORDSHIP | LEADERSHIP

[faithcovenantstl.com](http://faithcovenantstl.com)

### Purpose Statement:

We exist to glorify God by serving as a conduit for the grace of God whereby faith the Love, Life, Lordship and Leadership of the Kingdom of Heaven is revealed and expanded to all nations.

### Mission Statement:

We desire to be a multi-cultural, multi-generational conduit of the grace of God to be used to fulfil our purpose, for the glory of God.

### Mailing address:

P.O. Box 430

St. Charles, MO 63302

636-373-9001

### Weekly Corporate Gatherings:

Sunday Worship Service- 10:00 AM

Discipleship Groups (times vary)

### Staff:

Rev. Michael Hammond, Sr. - President & Senior Pastor

Rose Hammond- Receptionist

Order of Worship

Sunday, September 17, 2023

**Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

(**Congregation** responses spoken together appear in **bold** print.)

OPENING DECLARATION & PRAYER

Good morning!!

Welcome to worship and celebration of God's love.

Lord, You know us so well. We thank you for Your presence in our lives even when we don't recognize it. This day we have gathered, coming from a week of unexpected happening and events which have surprised us. Make us ready to become stronger witnesses for Your love as we receive Your word and find our spirits and lives healed. In the name of Jesus we pray, **Amen.**

WORSHIP IN SONG (click the song title for a YouTube track)

[Worship the Lord](#)   [Here I Am to Worship](#)   [My Worship](#)  
[When I Look Into Your Holiness](#)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, come to us in the reading of Your Word. Open us to the Spirit's presence in our hearts so that our lives may be a vessel for Your truth bringing hope to the world. In Jesus name we pray, and we all agree by saying, **Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 50:15-21 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**Congregation: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word**  
(Quiet Reflection)

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 103:1-12 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**Congregation: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word**  
(Quiet Reflection)

WORSHIP IN SONG: Hymn of the Month

[Victory in Jesus](#) | View the lyrics [here](#)

SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 14:1-12 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word** (reflection)

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18:21-35 (NASB95)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

**People: Praise to You Lord Christ**

SERMON (10:45 a.m.) <https://www.facebook.com/fcmstl>

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

*Psalm 103:8-13*

Unto that compassionate God, let us humbly confess our sins:  
(Quiet confession)

**We, in our human frailty, have a hard time understanding Your steadfast love, O God. We confess that too often our love comes with strings attached and is based on what can be gained rather than sharing it. We, in our human frailty, have a hard time understanding how You can be so slow to anger when ours comes so easily. Gracious God, forgive our lack of steadfastness, forgive our shortsightedness, and forgive our unfaithfulness. Guide us to walk in your ways, to sing your praise, and to share your love freely. (cont'd on the next page)**

**Out of Position**

17 September 2023

Ephesians 4:26 NASB95

Min. Terence Golden

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**Do It Yourself (2)**

By Oswald Chambers

...bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ... —2 Corinthians 10:5

Determinedly Discipline Other Things. This is another difficult aspect of the strenuous nature of sainthood. Paul said, according to the Moffatt translation of this verse, "...I take every project prisoner to make it obey Christ..." So much Christian work today has never been disciplined, but has simply come into being by impulse! In our Lord's life every project was disciplined to the will of His Father. There was never the slightest tendency to follow the impulse of His own will as distinct from His Father's will—"the Son can do nothing of Himself..." (John 5:19). Then compare this with what we do—we take "every thought" or project that comes to us by impulse and jump into action immediately, instead of imprisoning and disciplining ourselves to obey Christ.

Practical work for Christians is greatly overemphasized today, and the saints who are "bringing every thought [and project] into captivity" are criticized and told that they are not determined, and that they lack zeal for God or zeal for the souls of others. But true determination and zeal are found in obeying God, not in the inclination to serve Him that arises from our own undisciplined human nature. It is inconceivable, but true nevertheless, that saints are not "bringing every thought [and project] into captivity," but are simply doing work for God that has been instigated by their own human nature, and has not been made spiritual through determined discipline.

We have a tendency to forget that a person is not only committed to Jesus Christ for salvation, but is also committed, responsible, and accountable to Jesus Christ's view of God, the world, and of sin and the devil. This means that each person must recognize the responsibility to "be transformed by the renewing of [his] mind..." (Romans 12:2).