

Father, we thank You for this work of love and we believe You are granting all of these things to us right now, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. **Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(liturgy on screen)

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

Minister: The Peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you always.

**People: And also with you** (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!**

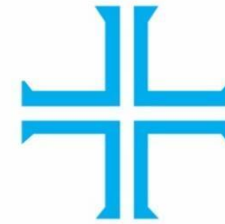
### Announcements

**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.

**Agape Love Feast:** We'll share our meal together next Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> immediately after our worship service. Please be sure to sign up for the item(s) your family will be bringing. Visitors are welcome to attend.

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

8<sup>th</sup> Circuit US Court of Appeals- Hon. Jane Kelly  
Director of MO Dept. of Conservation- Sara Pauley  
11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Court Circuit Judge Div. 2- Deborah Alessi



## 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 3, 2023

## Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

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

### OPENING DECLARATION & PRAYER

O give thanks to the Lord, call on God's deeds among the peoples. Sing to God, sing praises to God. Tell of all God's wonderful works. Glory in God's name: let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and God's strength, seek God's presence continually. Remember the wonderful works God has done. Praise ye the Lord!!

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

[Again I Say Rejoice](#)

[House of the Lord](#)

[When I Think About the Lord](#)

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, give us the wisdom of Your Spirit to understand and receive the depth and breadth of the love that Christ showers upon us. Bless this reading of Your Word that we might be transformed by its grace. In Jesus name we pray, **Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 15:15-20 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**Congregation: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word**

(Quiet Reflection)

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 26 (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 12:9-21 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

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

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 16:21-28 (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

Let us humbly confess our sins with one another to Almighty God. (Quiet confession)

**Heavenly Father, we come to tell you what you already know. We have sinned. We have not loved You with all our heart or our neighbor as ourselves.**

**We have not been faithful in what You have called us to do. And we have allowed our sin, our fears, our failures, and our pride to keep us from coming to You in prayer.**

**God, please forgive us of our sins, which have been paid for with the precious blood of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Holy Spirit, sanctify us and work righteousness in us through Your mighty power. Strengthen our faith so we will believe and persist in our actions. And bring us into everlasting life.**

**We do not deserve it, so we thank You for your rich mercy toward us.** (cont'd on next page)

## Fruitful and Growing Faith

2 Peter 1:1-2,5-11 (NASB95)

3 September 2023

Dr. Yakubu Jakada

## A Life of Pure and Holy Sacrifice

By Oswald Chambers

He who believes in Me..out of his heart will flow... —John 7:38

Jesus did not say, “He who believes in Me will realize all the blessings of the fullness of God,” but, in essence, “He who believes in Me will have everything he receives escape out of him.” Our Lord’s teaching was always *anti*-self-realization. His purpose is not the development of a person— His purpose is to make a person exactly like Himself, and the Son of God is characterized by self-expenditure. If we believe in Jesus, it is not what we gain but what He pours through us that really counts. God’s purpose is not simply to make us beautiful, plump grapes, but to make us grapes so that He may squeeze the sweetness out of us. Our spiritual life cannot be measured by success as the world measures it, but only by what God pours through us— and we cannot measure that at all.

When Mary of Bethany “broke the flask...of very costly oil...and poured it on [Jesus’] head,” it was an act for which no one else saw any special occasion; in fact, “...there were some who...said, ‘Why was this fragrant oil wasted?’ ” (Mark 14:3-4). But Jesus commended Mary for her extravagant act of devotion, and said, “...wherever this gospel is preached...what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her” (Mark 14:9). Our Lord is filled with overflowing joy whenever He sees any of us doing what Mary did— not being bound by a particular set of rules, but being totally surrendered to Him. God poured out the life of His Son “that the world through Him might be saved” (John 3:17). Are we prepared to pour out our lives for Him?

“He who believes in Me...out of his heart will flow rivers of living water”— and hundreds of other lives will be continually refreshed. Now is the time for us to break “the flask” of our lives, to stop seeking our own satisfaction, and to pour out our lives before Him. Our Lord is asking who of us will do it for Him?