

Pastor's Bible Study

August 6, 2025

Proper 14 – The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

LSB 735 – Have No Fear, Little Flock

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, with the first line having four numbered parts (1-4) and the subsequent lines having corresponding parts. The lyrics are: 1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Praise the Lord high a - bove; Thank - ful hearts raise to God; flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In bove, For He stoops down to heal you, Up - God, For He stays close be - side you, In give you the King - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock! His love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock! lift and re - store you; Praise the Lord high a - bove! all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have no fear, lit - tle flock;
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock;
3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; Praise the Lord high a - bove;
4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Thank - ful hearts raise to God;

flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To
flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In
bove, For He stoops down to heal you, Up -
God, For He stays close be - side you, In

give you the King - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock!
His love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
lift and re - store you; Praise the Lord high a - bove!
all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

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Read Genesis 15:1-6

1. What had happened in Abram's (Abraham's) life up to this point?
2. The Lord calls Himself Abram's shield, why would that be a helpful metaphor for Abram? How might it be helpful to you?
3. What was bothering Abram? Why would this be a concern?
4. How does the Lord move Abram from fear and doubt to trust? How does He do this for us today?
5. Why is verse 6 so important (see Romans 4)?

Read Luke 12:22-40

1. What led up to Jesus' words in our text?
2. Verse 25 is a poignant reminder of our limitations, does this verse bring you comfort? More anxiety? Something else?
3. Are the connections to the ravens or lilies helpful to you? Why or why not?
4. Verse 30 reminds us that God knows our needs; how does this truth sit with you?
5. What does verse 32 tell you about our God?
6. What treasures are there in this world that determine the direction of a person's heart?
7. How do verses 35-40 inform our following of Jesus?

Read Hebrew 11:1-16

1. When is verse 1's definition of faith useful to you?
2. Which individuals in verses 4-16 stand out to you? Why?
3. Do you think verse 13 aids in our Christian walk? How so?

Devotional Thought (The Lutheran Study Bible)

"Jesus encourages His disciples to trust in God, their heavenly Father, since He will provide for all their needs. We need to take this exhortation to heart, because our fallen nature makes it difficult to look past ourselves and depend on another. But God's faithfulness far exceeds our needs. He provides as He sees fit, giving us an abundance that we may share with others" (TLSB, 1741).

Prayer

"Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Gladly, freely of Your own. With the sunshine of Your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by You, at length believe That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.' Amen (LSB 851:2)."