WELCOME TO

BELL CREEK
Community Church

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

UNDER THE WINGS OF THE LORD
RUTH CHAPTER 2

SERMON BY: PASTOR FRED WRIGHT

CURRENT SERMON SERIES:
THE BOOK OF RUTH

UNDER THE WINGS OF THE LORD
RUTH CHAPTER 2

Seeking the Favor of the LORD

Finding Refuge Under the Wings of the LORD

Receiving Overflowing Blessings from the LORD

FOR NEXT WEEK

Read Ruth chapter 3.

DAILY CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE READING

SEPTEMBER 20: HAGGAI
SEPTEMBER 21: ZECHARIAH 1-7
SEPTEMBER 22: ZECHARIAH 8-14
SEPTEMBER 23: ESTHER 1-5
SEPTEMBER 24: ESTHER 6-10
SEPTEMBER 25: EZRA 7-10
SEPTEMBER 26: NEHEMIAH 1-5

UPCOMING AT THE CREEK

MEMBERSHIP CLASS 9/20, 9/27 & 10/4

If you are interested in becoming a member of Bell Creek, you are invited to attend our three week class begining today at 9:15 and 11:00. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Dylan (dylan@bellcreek.org).

TESTIMONY NIGHT

All women are invited to hear the testimonies of Hannah Bagnell and Renee Boyle, two of our Bell Creek sisters, on today from 4:30-6:00 PM in the Prayer Room. If you have any questions, please contact Mari McRobb (marimc31@yahoo.com). Light refreshments will be served.

DADCO

DadCo is an opportunity for dads of all ages to get together for fellowship and encouragement. DadCo helps men to thrive as fathers, husbands, and men--together in community! Our next meeting will be on Monday, September 21 at Pastor Fred's house for a bonfire at 6:30 PM. The ministry meets the first Monday of each month. If you have any questions, please email info@bellcreek.org.

GAMES, GRUB & GATHERING

Join us on Saturday, September 26, for a fun night playing games, eating good food, and gathering together in fellowship.We will begin at 6:00 PM in the gym, and our featured card game will be Hearts. If you would like to attend, please sign up in the gym after service.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Join us for a weekend away in nature for a time of spiritual refreshment and connection with other women at Camp Living Waters from October 2-4. Please visit www.camplivingwaters.org/womens-retreat for more details and to self regsiter. If you are interested in carpooling or if you have any questions, please reach out to Mari McRobb (marimc31@yahoo.com).

MOMCO RUMMAGE SALE

Save the date! Our Fall Rummage Sale hosted by our MomCo Ministry will be Saturday, October 17 from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM. Information regarding donation drop off times, and volunteer opportunies are to follow. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda or Rachel (mops@bellcreek.org).

TRUNK OR TREAT

Our annual Trunk or Treat outreach will be on Sunday, October 25. More details to come!

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYER MEETINGS

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:30 PM
FRIDAYS 12 NOON

PRE—TEEN & MIDDLE SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:45 PM
SUNDAYS AFTER WORSHIP
2ND SERVICE

AWANA

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:45 PM
SEPTEMBER-MAY

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

SUNDAYS 11:00 AM

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AND EVENTS AT BELLCREEK.ORG

OUR MISSION

MATTHEW 22:37–40

He said to him, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the law and prophets depend on these two commandments.”

MATTHEW 28:19–20

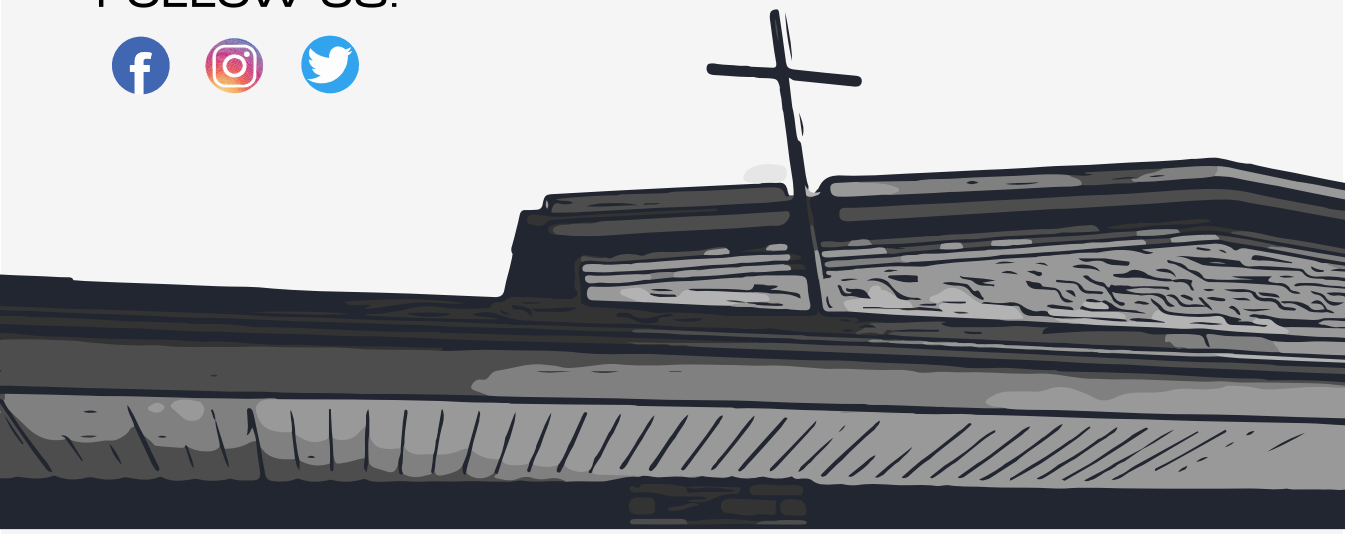
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember that I am with you always to the end of the age.

STAY CONNECTED

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU HERE!

WWW.BELLCREEK.ORG/CONTACT–US

FOLLOW US!



BELL CREEK
Community Church

30000 FIVE MILE RD.
LIVONIA, MI 48154

Sermon Series | Ruth: The God Who Redeems

Sunday, September 20, 2026 | Under the Wings of the LORD

Ruth Chapter 2

Seeking the Favor of the LORD

"Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter."" (Ruth 2:1–2, ESV)

[Picture of the painting "The Gleaners" by Jean Francois Millet]

> ""And when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, nor shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God."" (Leviticus 23:22, ESV)
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> ""When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands." (Deuteronomy 24:19, ESV)
>
> This was a social safety net that God ordained for the poor, the widows, the orphans, and the sojourners.

"So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech. And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, "The LORD be with you!" And they answered, "The LORD bless you."" (Ruth 2:3–4, ESV)

> The name "Boaz" means "strength."

"Then Boaz said to his young man who was in charge of the reapers, "Whose young woman is this?" And the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, "She is the young Moabite woman, who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab." (Ruth 2:5–6, ESV)

> Remember this? Deuteronomy 23:3 (ESV) 3 "No Ammonite or Moabite may enter the assembly of the LORD. Even to the tenth generation, none of them may enter the assembly of the LORD forever,

"She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.' So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest."" (Ruth 2:7, ESV)

Finding Refuge Under the Wings of the LORD

"Then Boaz said to Ruth, "Now, listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. Let your eyes be on the field that they are reaping, and go after them.

Have I not charged the young men not to touch you? And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink what the young men have drawn.”” (Ruth 2:8–9, ESV)

“Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground, and said to him, “Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?”” (Ruth 2:10, ESV)

[Picture of the painting “The Gleaners” by Jean Francois Millet]

> What kind of treatment do you think Ruth expected? She’s poor, a widow, from Moab, and gleaning barley to survive. She probably expected to be treated as a poor, widowed foreigner who was begging among a people that were not fans of the Moabites. How do most cultures treat people like that? How does our culture often treat people like that?
>
> Ah, but remember what God said in Leviticus and Deuteronomy about widows, sojourners, and gleaning? Boaz sure did!

Receiving Overflowing Blessings from the LORD

“But Boaz answered her, “All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before.” (Ruth 2:11, ESV)

“The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!”” (Ruth 2:12, ESV)

> **This is the center of Chapter 2 and the center of the story of Ruth**
>
> Reminds us of when Jesus said: “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!” (Matthew 23:37, ESV)

“Then she said, “I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, though I am not one of your servants.”” (Ruth 2:13, ESV)

“And at mealtime Boaz said to her, “Come here and eat some bread and dip your morsel in the wine.” So she sat beside the reapers, and he passed to her roasted grain. And she ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over.” (Ruth 2:14, ESV)

> “When she rose to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, saying, “Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not reproach her. And also pull out some from the bundles for her and leave it for her to glean, and do not rebuke her.” So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. [this is about 30 pounds of grain!] And she took it up and went into the city. Her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. She also brought out and gave her what food she had left over after being satisfied. [Ruth had enough to be satisfied and then brought abundAnd her mother-in-law said to her, “Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you.” So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, “The man’s name with whom I worked today is Boaz.”” (Ruth 2:15–19, ESV)

"And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he be blessed by the LORD, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!" Naomi also said to her, "The man is a close relative of ours, one of our redeemers."" (Ruth 2:20, ESV)

> "In Old Testament law, the kinsman-redeemer was a close relative empowered to marry a widowed woman, free a debt-enslaved relative, or reclaim land lost through debt—provided he possessed the means and willingness to do so. These redemptive acts restored the highly valued unity of family and property. The institution guaranteed the preservation of family lines when husbands died without children, rescuing Israelite families from [loss of inheritance or, more seriously,] *extinction*—a fate that brought profound grief." (Logos Bible Software, Factbook entry on "Kinsman-Redeemer").
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> "And Ruth the Moabite said, "Besides, he said to me, 'You shall keep close by my young men until they have finished all my harvest.' " And Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, "It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, lest in another field you be assaulted." So she kept close to the young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests. And she lived with her mother-in-law." (Ruth 2:21–23, ESV)
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> In many ways, Boaz foreshadows Our Lord and Savior Jesus, who is a descendant of Ruth and Boaz, 30 generations later.
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> Boaz protects Ruth. He recognizes that she has sought shelter under the wings of the LORD, and he gives her refuge. Christ welcomes sinners who come to him for refuge.
>
> Boaz welcomes a foreigner: Ruth the Moabitess. In Christ, we who were "far off" are brought near to God no matter what our background.
>
> Boaz provides more than enough. Ruth eats until she is satisfied. But she still has an overflowing abundance of grain to bring home to Naomi! Christ gives us forgiveness, salvation, the indwelling Holy Spirit, abundant life, inexhaustible grace, and eternal life. But all of that overflows, like a fountain of life to others!
>
> Boaz brings Ruth to his table. He gives her bread, wine, fellowship, welcome, and provision. These things can't help but remind us of the greater table fellowship believers have with Christ every time we take Communion at the Lord's table.

For those of us who know Jesus as our Savior and Lord, our Redeemer: Are we living as someone who has found favor with the Lord? Are we resting under His wings and trusting in Him, or are we trusting in our own strength? Let's return to Him and trust Him and ask for help in every little thing. "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Then, we allow His grace to overflow through us to others!

For those who don't know Jesus as their Savior yet: We all look for security. Where are you looking for refuge? What keeps you from coming under the wings of Christ, who welcomes sinners and outsiders and brings the far-off into God's family? He says, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Come to Him! He will not reject you! He loves you. He will forgive you, provide for you, protect you, and give you eternal life.

For those of us who are suffering: The LORD honored Ruth and Naomi when they took shelter under His wings. He says to you, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Believe that the Lord has not forgotten you. His provision often comes quietly, in His own time and in His own way, but it's coming, and it will overflow in blessings to you.

Sermon Worksheet 09/20/26
Ruth – The God Who Redeems
Ruth 2:1-23

Under the Wings of the LORD

1. What did you think about "Under the Wings of the Lord?"

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2. Ruth tells Naomi she will go to the fields and find favor with Boaz. This is a bold statement given her societal status. What allowed her and Naomi to believe this would happen?

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3. Ruth is astonished by how she is received. Boaz provides refuge, protection, food, and welcomes her to sit at his table. This is what Christ does for us. How do you know if you have found favor in Christ? What does it look like?

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4. In verses 12-20 Ruth is blessed with an abundance of grace because she sought refuge under the wings of the Lord. Do you believe that Jesus welcomes us sinners who come to Him for refuge? What is an area in your life where you are not seeking refuge in him? Why?

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5. The LORD says, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Do you fully trust in this promise? Why do we sometimes reject God here, and rely on our own strength and understanding? What would it look like to fully surrender and seek refuge in Christ?