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where people encounter God's generosity
and healing presence.

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Pastor Jim Coyl
The Beach Church Podacat

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

August 10, 2025

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

Greta Coyl

(inspired by Hebrews 11)

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. We come convinced of many things but trusting very few. Holy God of limitless surprises, meet us here in this place as we touch that which we cannot see that which we have not dared to hope.

HYMN.

And Can It Be

Sarah Coyl

SCRIPTURE READING

Greta Coyl

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

11:1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 11:2 Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. 11:3 By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. 11:8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. 11:9 By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. 11:10 For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11:11 By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. 11:12 Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." 11:13 All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, 11:14 for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 11:15 If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. 11:16 But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

HYMN	<i>To God Be the Glory</i>	Angelo Monroy
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SERMON	"Blessed Assurance"	Pastor Jim Coyl
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PASTORAL PRAYER - The Lord's Prayer

HYMN	<i>Blessed Assurance</i>	Sarah Coyl
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BENEDICTION

Faith That Wanders and Wonders

Reflection on Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” — Hebrews 11:1

Hebrews 11 reminds us that faith often looks less like certainty and more like pilgrimage. Abraham set out “not knowing where he was going,” and yet he went—trusting not in a map but in a promise. This ancient story is not about destination but direction—moving toward a city “whose architect and builder is God.”

Lillian Daniel reminds us that faith is not always found in grand revelations, but in the ordinary places where we choose to show up—in worship, in community, in doubt. Barbara Brown Taylor writes that sometimes the holiest ground is the unfamiliar path, where we no longer recognize ourselves and so are free to meet God anew. And Rachel Held Evans dared to say what many feel: that questioning, wandering, and longing are not signs of weak faith, but signs of a living one.

This week, may we find courage in our uncertainty. May we see our wandering not as failure, but as participation in the same story of faith—where hope is our compass and God is already ahead of us, building something beautiful we cannot yet see.

Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday, August 11, 2025:

Semi-continuous: Psalm 11; Isaiah 2:1-4; Hebrews 11:1-7;

Tuesday, August 12, 2025:

Semi-continuous: Psalm 11; Isaiah 24:1-13; Hebrews 11:17-28;

Wednesday, August 13, 2025:

Semi-continuous: Psalm 11; Isaiah 24:14-23; Luke 12:41-48;

Thursday, August 14, 2025:

Semi-continuous: Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Isaiah 2:5-11; Hebrews 10:26-31;

Friday, August 15, 2025:

Semi-continuous: Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Isaiah 3:1-17; Hebrews 10:32-39;

Saturday, August 16, 2025:

Semi-continuous: Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Isaiah 3:18-4:6; Matthew 24:15-27;