

September 12th, 2025

God Pause Devotional

Brought to you by alumni of Luther Seminary By Kurt Keljo '81 M.Div.



Luke 15:1-10

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.

And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a

This Week at OSLC

<u>Friday, September 12th</u> 8:00-9:00am / Men's Bible Study (Zoom)

Saturday, September 13th 10:00-3:00pm / Choir Camp 2:00-5:00pm / Pierogi Making Event

Sunday, September 14th Choir Begins

8:45am / Adult Sunday School 10:00am / Worship with Eucharist 11:15am / G.I.G. Potluck and Presentation -"Aging Well"

<u>Tuesday, September 16th</u> 9:00-12:00pm / Parents' Morning Out

<u>Wednesday, September 17th</u> 10:30-12:00pm / Weekly Bible Study 1:30pm / Book Club

Thursday, September 18th
9:00-12:00pm / Parents' Morning Out
6:30-8:00pm / League of Women Voters &
NAACP Local Candidate Forum (Supervisors)
@ Montgomery County Government Center

<u>Friday, September 19th</u> 8:00-9:00am / Men's Bible Study (Zoom)

Sunday, September 21st
Parents' Morning Out Sunday
8:45am / Adult Sunday School
10:00am / Worship with Eucharist
11:15am / Fellowship after Worship

lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Devotion:

If you were to hear about someone who searches high and low for a single coin—even a silver coin—you might think the person to be obsessive or miserly. Perhaps you would be right. Given that interpretation, we are told that God is obsessive, even miserly about people—even about you and me. God does not want even one to be lost—not even one. It can be easy to write people off, to let people go who are lost physically, morally or spiritually. When we ourselves are lost, we might not want to be found. We might want to be left alone, to revel or to despair in our distancing. God does not leave the lost and distanced alone but searches for them—searches us out, wherever we might be.

Prayer:

Dear God, when we are lost, whether we revel, sulk, or despair in our lostness, open us up to your presence. Help us see that we are indeed lost and by your grace empower us to receive your love and return to your embrace. Give us seeking hearts, that we might reach out to the lost in our midst with love and not judgment that the lost might be found. Amen.

OSLC Ministry Corner



OSLC Fall Festival October 11th / 10:00-2:00pm

Leaves are beginning to change and there's a gentle crisp in the air! That means it is time for our Fall Festival to return this October. There are many ways to volunteer through items given or time given to the efforts that day. We will have a hayride, face painting, a bounce house, live music, free bowls of chili and cider for the community, baked goods for sale, and s'mores! If you are interested in donating items to the cause or volunteering to the needs that day please sign up using the Sign-Up Genius Link and or talk with Angela, Kay, or Pastor Joel and they will get you signed up to help.



For Life's Ups and Downs

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. - Psalm 51:7-10

Death and resurrection are central to our faith.
Though they are not something we want to think about. When we sing "create in me a clean heart" on Sundays, we are praising God for the new life found in the "purging" and "blotting out" that grace does

in each of us, for each of us. This process is transformative but also can be painful. As we hope in the resurrection and in the life it brings may we comfort one another and accompany one another with the transformative love and hope found in the example of Christ. - Pastor Joel

Want to talk or in need of Pastoral Care?



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