

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

taking⁺ faith home

Beautiful are those who bring good news!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 14:22-33	Jesus walks on water
Monday	1 Kings 19:9-18	The Lord appears to Elijah
Tuesday	Romans 10:5-15	Anyone can be saved
Wednesday	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28	Joseph is sold by his brothers
Thursday	Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b	God's faithfulness to Israel
Friday	1 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Timothy brings good news
Saturday	Psalm 85:8-13	Restoration of God's favor
Sunday	Matthew 15:21-28	A woman's faith

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Romans 10:15 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, just as you saved Peter from the stormy waves, we praise you for saving us from the things that overwhelm us. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

You who walked upon the sea, come and join our meal, we plea. Thank you for your care this day; lead us, Jesus, in your way. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord give you what is good and make a path for your steps. (Psalm 85:12-13)



HYMN OF THE WEEK

We Are Marching in the Light



WEEKLY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Would you use the word beautiful to describe feet? Why or why not?
- Describe something you think is beautiful. What makes it beautiful?
- The Apostle Paul quotes an Old Testament passage about someone who is beautiful because he or she brings good news. What is beautiful to you about the message of Christ?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Romans 10:5-15.

Paul continues an intricate dance of balancing the covenant given to Abraham, Moses, and the larger Jewish community with the new covenant given in Jesus. Finally, it is the same God and the same promise: salvation is meant for all (v. 10). Therefore, our job is not to judge (vv. 6-7) but to proclaim the good news that Christ is the fulfillment of the law. That message only helps if it is heard (vv. 8 and 14). What is so beautiful is not really people's feet—perhaps the least attractive part of a person's body—but the person him/herself. People cannot receive this message of salvation without hearing. We are those sent to share good news with others. We are the beautiful souls not because of feet or noses or eyes, but because of the good news of Christ told to others. Who in your life is beautiful because of his or her sharing Christ with you?

Pray: Living God, may we see the beauty of the gospel and the beauty of those who share your saving message with others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE



Serving others reminds us of the breadth of the Kingdom of God and that our faith is personal but not private. Faith motivates us to serve the world in love. In what ways do you serve in your home, your congregation, and in the community?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Jesus died for us. That is how much God loves us. This is good news! "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13). Trace your foot on a piece of paper. Write a list of ways you can use your feet to tell others about the good news of Jesus. On another piece of paper draw lips. Write a list of ways you can use your lips to tell others about the good news of Jesus. Keep your drawings as a visual reminder of the good news.