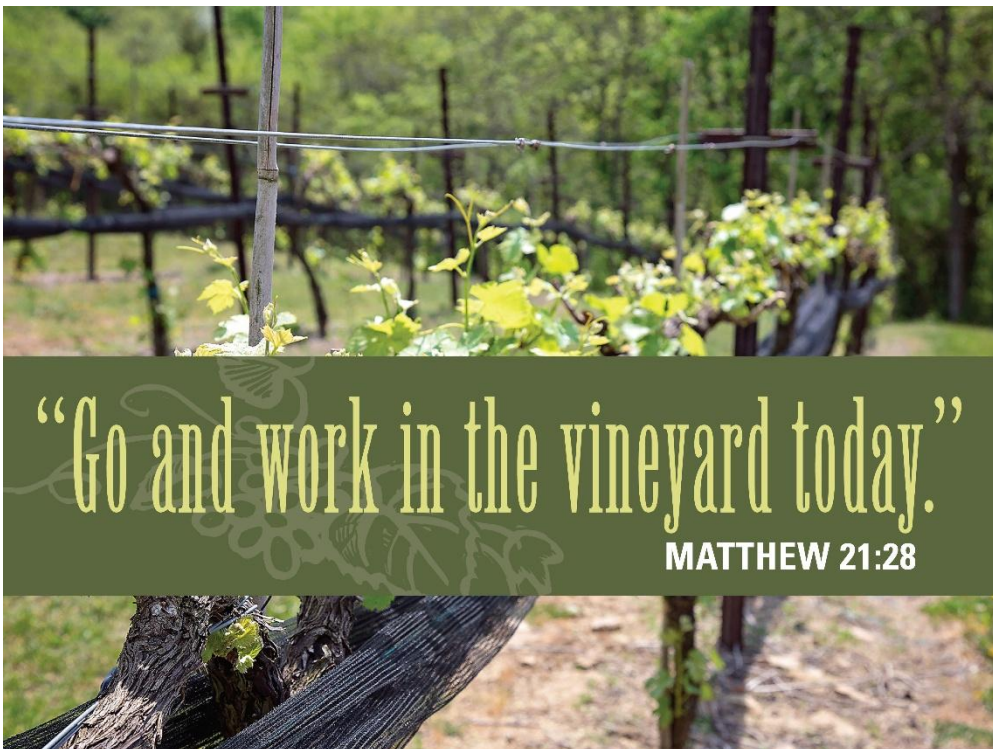


The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 27, 2026
9:30 a.m. Worship



"Be and Make Disciples of Jesus Christ"

Grace Lutheran Church

111 Lutheran Drive, P.O. Box 86, Eaton, Ohio 45320

937.456.6258

Email: GraceEaton111@gmail.com

Website: www.gracelutheranofeaton.com

Pastor Dwight Hanson

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Please take a moment to fill out the “Attendance & Communion” Registration Cards (located in the pew racks). Pass your card to the end of your pew.

P - Presiding Minister; A - Assisting minister; **C - Congregation;**

* - Please Stand

LBW - Green Hymnal

WOV - Blue Hymnal

Please silence electronic devices.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Let us pray: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Please kneel or sit as you are able.

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C Amen

***PEACE:**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

***GATHERING SONG: “Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult” (LBW 494)**

***GREETING:**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

***KYRIE:**



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:
Lord, have mer - cy:

Ⓒ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son:
Christ, have mer - cy:

Ⓒ Christ, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:
Lord, have mer - cy:

Ⓒ Lord, have mer - cy.

***HYMN OF PRAISE:**





☐ Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



I
II For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



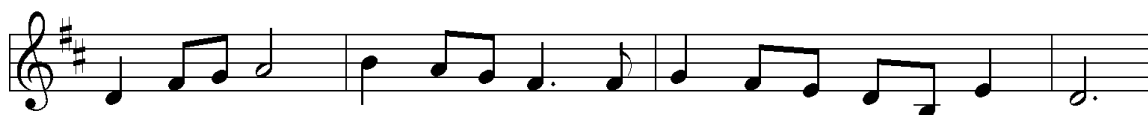
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☐ Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P Let us pray: Heavenly Father, called to do your will we often respond with enthusiasm, yet in our human weakness we fail to follow through. Strengthen us with your grace poured out through your Son, so that we may overcome our weakness and follow you in the way of life;

C **through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

A A reading from Ezekiel:

¹The word of the Lord came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live.”

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: 25:1-9

- A ¹To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- C **²Let none who look to you be put to shame; let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**
- A ³Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.
- C **⁴Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.**
- A ⁵Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.
- C **⁶Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**
- A ⁷Gracious and upright is the Lord; therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
- C **⁸He guides the humble in doing right and teaches his way to the lowly.**
- A ⁹All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18

A A reading from Philippians:

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the

sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

***VERSE:**



***HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²³When {Jesus} entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁸What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. ³⁰And he went to the other son and said the same.

And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON: Pastor Dwight Hanson – Editors

HYMN OF THE DAY: *"I Love to Tell the Story" (LBW 390)

***APOSTLES' CREED:**

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS:

A Let us pray: Heavenly Father, help us to turn away from ourselves and our own interests. Inspire us, instead, to recognize our need for Jesus and his grace, bowing before his ultimate authority. Shape us into fruitful laborers

in the vineyard, all of us side-by-side, in full accord and of one mind, the mind of Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We pray, O Lord, for your Church on earth to be traditionally-grounded. Guide us in the ways of life and salvation. Teach us to treasure the deep truths that have been passed down from generation to generation. And open our hearts to share the Good News today, so that Christ may heal the broken and set the prisoners free. Unite us in one faithful witness to the amazing opportunity at hand. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A Sovereign Lord, as we pray for the needs of the world, we lift up all who have faced storms, flooding, fires, and troubles of any kind. Lift up these folks in body and spirit. Grant them endurance and peace. We thank you for the beauty of autumn, and for the abundance of the harvest. In the civic realm, guide our elected leaders with true wisdom, that they would govern in ways that are pleasing to you. And be with all who serve the common good by their willingness to step into harm's way for the sake of others. Protect them and their families. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

A We pray on behalf of all who need healing: *Kelly Coffman, Jim Courtney, Tiffany Daugherty, Katie Morrison, Vert Hallahan, Becky Haws, Amy & Bryan Jackson, Linda Lambert, Richard Lehman, Allan Ludwick, Britt McKanna, Mary Nossaman, Barbara Perry, Iva-Laura Sherry, Jackie Steiner, Mike & Barb Studebaker, Wayne Williams*, as well as those whom we name in our hearts (pause for additional names). Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,

C Trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OFFERING

ANTHEM: *“O Master Let Me Walk With Thee”* (Choir)

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *“Doxology”*

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise him, all crea - tures here be - low; Praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost A - men.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711
Tune: Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

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*OFFERTORY PRAYER:

P Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things.
C **Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.
With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our
lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for
the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

***LORD'S PRAYER:**

C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

***THE BLESSING:**

P **Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.**
C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN:** ***“The Church’s One Foundation” (LBW 369)

DISMISSAL:

A **Go in peace. Serve the Lord.**
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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GRACE AT A GLANCE

Grace Lutheran Church

111 Lutheran Dr., P.O. Box 86 – Eaton, OH 45320
Phone: 937-456-6258 Email: GraceEaton111@gmail.com
www.gracelutheranofeaton.com ~~ Like us on Facebook

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday -Friday: 10—1, 2—5

TODAY September 27, 2026– 18th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Fellowship, Adult Education & Youth Sunday school

Monday September 28

Pastor's Day Off

9:45 a.m. Choose to Lose

Tuesday September 29

Wednesday September 30

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

6:30 p.m. Choir

Thursday October 1

7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

Friday October 2

12:30 p.m. Bulletin Production

Saturday October 3

7:30 a.m. Men of Grace @ Bob Evan's

UPCOMING WEEK SPECIAL EVENTS

Sun 10/4—Worship w/Holy Communion, Fellowship & Sun. School for all ages,
Sunday S'mores

Mon. 10/5—Pastor Off, Choose to Lose

Tues. 10/6—Worship Committee **Wed. 10/7** Bible Study, Confirmation, Choir

Thurs. 10/8—Council & Exec Committee, AA Meeting

Fri. 10/9 - Bulletin Production, Game Night

Sat. 10/10

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild for September: Elaine Fudge

Altar Guild for October: Debbie McKinney & Lisa Kiracofe

Offering Counter for September: Patty Barnes

Offering Counter for October: Wanda Winter

Sunday, September 27—Pentecost 18

9:30 a.m.

Greeter: John & Janice Barnes

Usher: John & Janice Barnes

Lector: Mary Shetter

Acolyte: Sophia Steiner

Sunday, October 4—Pentecost 19

9:30 a.m.

Greeter: Daren & Karen Marshall

Usher: John Kiracofe

Lector: Debbie McKinney

Communion: Mike Schamel, Carol Perry

Acolyte: Jessa Barnes

Sunday, October 11—Pentecost 20

9:30 a.m.

Greeter: Nancy Childs

Usher: Darryl Leyes

Lector: Jane Coggin

Acolyte: Sophia Steiner

Attendance & Stewardship — (\$4,187 needed wkly)

09/20/20226

79

\$4,396.00

Great Commission Outreach Partners:

World Mission Prayer League—Chris & Emily and family, Lutheran Military Veterans and Families, Abundant Grace, West Chester

Grace Lutheran Mission Endowment Fund: The purpose of this fund is to extend the ministry of Grace Lutheran Church, apart from the general operation of the congregation. To learn more about our Mission Endowment Fund, please contact the church office and we'll give your question to the appropriate person.

IN OUR PRAYERS

After 4 weeks we will remove names from this list. If you would like to keep someone on the list, please note their name on the back of the “Attendance & Communion Registration” form.

URGENT PRAYER LIST:

HEALING: (In Alphabetical Order)

Kelly Coffman: (Undergoing more heart tests with an adjustment to heart medications)

Jim Courtney: (A young father battling Stage 4 melanoma)

Tiffany Daugherty: (As she undergoes testing)

Katie Morrison: (Niece of Mary & Dean Shetter – prayers for God’s healing as she deals with very difficult health issues)

Vert Hallahan: (Father of friend of Shetter’s – in need of healing prayer)

Becky Haws: (Friend of Janet Burkett—Prayers for healing)

Amy & Bryan Jackson: (for comfort and healing)

Linda Lambert: (She fell and hurt her back)

Richard Lehman: (Rehabbing)

Allan Ludwick: (From Darryl & Teresa Leyes)

Britt McKanna: (Karen & Dan Schultz’s brother-in-law – he has been moved from hospital to home and is under hospice care - asking for God’s perfect peace)

Mary Nossaman: (Barb Myers’ sister – in the hospital with intestinal issues)

Barbara Perry: (Carol Perry’s step-daughter – as she prepares for a stem cell transplant to help treat multiple myeloma)

Iva-Laura Sherry: (She has a vitreous detachment – referring to the eye - Doctor’s are watching closely)

Mike & Barb Studebaker: (Mike: dealing with health issues; Barb: recovering from surgery for leg fracture).

Wayne Williams: (Nephew of Karen Schaeff & cousin of Adam – he is beginning radiation therapy for cancer)

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST: Charlie, Tracy, Jim Carlisle, Dave O’Shea, George & Barb Suggs, Mark & Jary Tannehill, Jackie Steiner, Connie Martin, Maggie Risko, Rhonda Paige Atkinson, Amy & Bryan Jackson, Andy Proeschel, Judy Newkirk, Mike & Judy Schamel, Suzan Pauley, Carmen Hasdorff, Tom Schamel, Amanda & Shayla Dell, Fran Kester, Teddi & Mike Watkins, Jenifer Combs, Doug Davis, Pastor Dean & Sandy Haferman, Dave Brumbaugh, Scot Emig, Barbara Worley, Carolyn MacFadyen, Judy Jay, Will Suggs, Earl House, Barbara Lakes, Becky Hoskins, Kayli Johnson, Joe McHenry, Tom Barnes: and those serving in the military: Maj. Love Hartman; Brad Newkirk; Lt. Col. Kyle Hundley, Travis Deck & family

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY:

Fellowship & Education

Following Worship—Refreshments for all are served in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship on Sundays.

- **Youth Sunday School classes** meet @ **10:30 a.m.** —in the music room (Education wing) and starts with songs and prayer, then they move to the adjacent classroom for the lesson. Bring a friend! Parents are always welcome.
- **Adult Education**— Following 9:30 a.m. worship, the adults meet to discuss the lessons of the day unless there is a theme. Coffee and snacks provided.
- **Every other Sunday— Sunday S'mores @ 6:00 p.m.** —A Middle School & High School-aged Youth Sunday Evening Ministry. Friends are welcome. Tina Ebright is the moderator, and she can be reached at 937-472-5663.

Adult Bible Studies (during the week)

- **The 2nd Monday of each Month — 6:30 p.m.—The Phoebe Women's Bible Study.** They have resumed the study — **Discerning the Voice of God** by Priscilla Shirer. Contact Kelly Mt. Castle (937-336-1223 or kelly.mtcastle@gmail.com).
- **The 2nd Tues. of each month — 5:30 p.m. FOR MOMS . . .** They are doing a study called **Boundaries** .
- **The Wednesday Morning Prayer & Bible Study — 9:00 a.m.** — meets in the Meeting Room adjacent to the Fellowship Hall. They are studying the **New Testament Gospel of Matthew**.
- **The 3rd Thursday of each month — 2:00-4:00 p.m. — “Graceful Fiber Guild”** — **meets** in the Fellowship Hall or the adjacent meeting room. Bring a craft you've been working on or just come to learn a new craft. Everyone is welcome to join us! Our next meeting is ***Thurs., October 15th*** .

These studies are open to any member and our friends. No prior Bible study background is needed. Please bring your Bible.

NOTES

Grace Lutheran Sunday School Fall Schedule

Mark your calendars now! Friends or drop ins welcome!

Fall Sunday School Special Events for kids:

October 18: Pumpkin Patch Festival

November 8: Thankful Breakfast/Pageant Practice

November 29: No Sunday School (Thanksgiving weekend)

Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.

Youth Sunday School every Sunday (10:30-11:15 a.m.)

Questions? Call the church office (937) 456-6258

Classes are after worship, starting around 10:30 a.m., and are held in the Education wing. We begin with live music and go to an adjacent classroom for our lesson after that. Parents or grandparents are always welcome to sit in on classes. Friends or drop-ins are welcome too!



Sunday S'mores for Middle & High-Schoolers

at 6:00 p.m.

We'll meet at the fire ring. Bring a friend!



INQUIRY CLASSES:

Led by: Pastor Hanson

When: **After worship on October 11th and 18th.**

Time: Classes will begin at approximately 10:30,

Where: Meeting in the church library across from the secretarial office.

Class sign up: Please call Mary in the office at (937) 456-6258 or email her at graceeaton111@gmail.com

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 21) – September 27, 2026

“Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.”

- Philippians 2:3 –

I was preparing for the Maundy Thursday liturgy. As part of the liturgy, we were going to have foot washing, remembering how Jesus knelt before his disciples and washed their feet (John 13:1-20). The hardest part of preparing for that service was to get volunteers to agree to have their feet washed. Such an act of humble service is not one the congregation was used to receiving.

This is also true as we age. The older we get the less we can do on our own. The mind is indeed willing, but the body doesn't cooperate nearly as well. Dimming eyesight, difficulty hearing, slower moving, and difficulty remembering all can be quite humbling to us. While we tend to look at such things as a loss, I believe God is teaching us something that we forget as we grow up.

Before God, we are all dependent. Jesus himself is humble before the Father. “And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.” Take note of the emphasis Paul places on Jesus' death. Quoting Deuteronomy 21:23 Paul writes, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.” Jesus became a curse in looking out for our own interest, that of salvation.

That isn't the end. “Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name.” We humble ourselves in confessing that Jesus is our Lord. Likewise, as followers of Jesus we humble ourselves not looking out for our own interest but the interest of others.

Chief among those interests is sharing this good news. Remember, there are those in our lives who humbled themselves enough to look out for our interest that we may know Christ and confess him as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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One Question

Find the 29 **bold** words from Matthew 21:23-27 (ESV)

D P A P T U C A O N J E T S R
D I Z O A O N X F E E B E J I
N E S R F S N B W V S H A R D
R S R C W Z K Q P A U M C K A
Q T D E U L J H E E S Q H E B
R S R N T S A U T H O R I T Y
D E N E L N S N A M A Y N C T
D I H I W L E E V F U C G E D
N R O T U S E P D Q R S M L M
E P J H V W N T R O C P O S Y
X O K E U J F A W O L H I O A
X A F R A I D D F E P T I N K
W V N O I T S E U Q P H D E J
B E L I E V E E V A G M E E F
S R E D L E S Y B K N O W T P

And when he **entered** the **temple**, the **chief priests** and the **elders** of the people came up to him as he was **teaching**, and said, “By what **authority** are you doing these things, and who **gave** you this authority?” **Jesus answered** them, “I also will **ask** you **one question**, and if you **tell** me the **answer**, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The **baptism** of **John**, from where did it come? From **heaven** or from **man**?” And they **discussed** it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not **believe** him?’ But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are **afraid** of the **crowd**, for they all **hold** that John was a **prophet**.” So they answered Jesus, “We do **not know**.” And he said to them, “**Neither** will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

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