Strathmore United Church
November 15, 2026
Twenty-fifth after Pentecost

Rev. Maria Szabone Berces

Greetings & Welcome:

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

and also, with you. Based on 2 Cor. 13:13

Announcements:

Lighting the Christ Candle:

Written by Christine LeBlanc; Gathering, Pentecost 2 2026; page 30; Used with permission

♫♪**Centering Song:** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* ***VU #288**

Call to Worship:

Like the peoples long ago, we are journeying in stages.

Our lives unfold, not all at once but piece by piece.

Sometimes the forward movement is small.

Sometimes we may feel we are being called to take enormous leaps in faith.

On all days of the journey, we can know that God is with us.

Thanks be to God, whom we gathered to worship today.

We give thanks to God on all days of our lives. Amen.

Written by Beth W Johnston; Gathering, Pentecost 2 2026; page 31; Modified; Used with permission

Opening Prayer:

Written by Susan Lukey; Gathering, Pentecost 2 2023; page 33; Used with permission

♫♪ **Special Music:** offered by Arlene, Shelby & Jason

Story Time for All Ages:

♫♪ **Hymn:** *Lord, Prepare Me to Be a sanctuary* ***(X2)*** ***MV #18**

Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God, we sometimes carry the burden of our mistakes and they weigh us down: the times when we failed to be empathetic listeners, when we hurt someone, when we've ignored your call to service in places that most needed it.

It is easier for us to hide away from our failings rather than to face them directly, even when we know that addressing them is what is needed. We come to You in our brokenness. We come to You heavy-laden. We come to You seeking forgiveness and healing waters in the dry places of our lives.

Free us, God! Liberate us! Save us from the pain of the things we've said or done that harm others and your Creation. Notice the love that resides in us and call it to grow so that we may live in your light and love. Amen.

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♫♪ Hymn: *How Deep the Peace* ***MV #95**

Words of Assurance:

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Prayer of Illumination:

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Reading of Scripture **Matthew 25:14–30**
Psalm 90:1–6, 12
1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

L: A Word of God that is still speaking,

P: Thanks be to God.

Message:

♫♪ Hymn: *Jesus Bids Us Shine* ***VU #585**

The Offering Invitation:

Feasting on the Word; Year A V 2 pg. 372; Used with permission

M&S Story:

How can I make a difference? How can I change the world? How can I fulfill God's vision? I can give: time, resources, money, ability.

♫♪ Dedication: *Grant Us, God, the Grace of Giving* ***VU #540**

Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.

Prayer of Dedication:

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Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer:

Prayers of the People written by Allan – Together We Worship; Used with permission

♫♪ Hymn: *Go to the World* ***VU #420**

Commissioning:

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♫♪ Hymn: *Amen* ***VU #967**

Passing the Peace of Christ

L: May the God of Peace go with you.

P: And also with you.

Please join us for Coffee and Fellowship after the service.

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