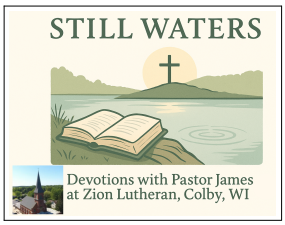
Date: November 15, 2026
Suggested Reading: Matthew 25:14-30; 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11
Text: Matthew 25:21b
Enter into the joy of your master.



The Small Things Entrusted to Us

We can finish a busy day and still wonder whether anything we did mattered. We washed the same dishes, answered another question, or listened while someone repeated a familiar worry. Beside someone else's accomplishments, our small responsibilities can seem hardly worth mentioning.

Jesus' parable turns our attention toward the One who entrusts His gifts to us. The servants receive different amounts, but the two faithful servants hear the same welcome. We don't need someone else's opportunities before we can love the people already beside us.

Yet we also recognize ourselves in the excuses. We protect our time, hide behind our fears, and leave kindness for another day. Our failures need more than a promise to try harder. We need forgiveness.

The Lord who will return is the Savior who has already come for us. Jesus carried our selfishness and neglected responsibilities to the cross. He rose from the dead, and

His promise of forgiveness reaches us through His Word. In Holy Baptism He has made us His own. Our hope rests in His saving work, not in the size of our accomplishments.

Freed from earning His welcome, we can notice the next person who needs us. A meal, a patient answer, or a quiet visit becomes an opportunity for love. We wait for Jesus with hope because our future rests in His faithful hands.

Thought for the Day:
We do not serve to earn Christ's welcome. Secure in His forgiveness, we are free to love the person beside us.

Prayer:
Lord Jesus, forgive our excuses and our neglected opportunities to love. Keep us trusting Your mercy, and help us serve the people You place beside us as we wait for Your return. Amen.

Hymn: LSB 566 — By Grace I'm Saved

