

Sermon
“Desire a Better Country”
Pastor Kayla Mangrich

Responsive Hymn: “We’ve Come This Far By Faith”

Joys and Concerns—Pastoral Prayer—Lord’s Prayer

Offertory

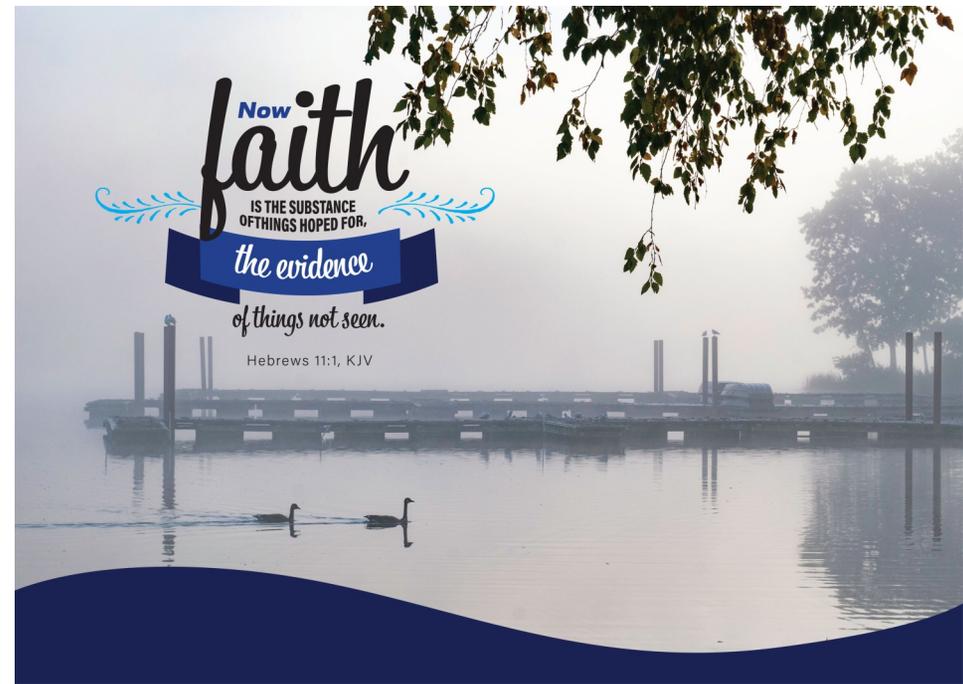
Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Communion

Closing Hymn “One Bread, One Body”

***Benediction**



August 3-9, 2025

Sunday

Happy Birthday Pat Mullin

Monday

Happy Birthday Mikaela Froid & Justiss Hinkle

Tuesday

Happy Birthday Orlan Grams,
Melissa Klabunde and Jerzee Smidt

Wednesday

Happy Birthday Marcia Fries,
Brooke Greving, and Nathan Martin
Happy Anniversary Dan & Ginger Frizane—59 years
and Colton & Brooke Greving—3 years

Thursday

Happy Birthday Jan Marlatt
9:30am Prayer Time

Friday

Happy Birthday Kevin Smith

Saturday

Happy Birthday Keven Schutz

United Methodist Church
340 N Newell Ave, Minden, Nebraska
Order of Worship
August 3, 2025
8th Sunday after Pentecost

www.facebook.com/MindenUMC—www.mindenumc.org

Prelude

Welcome

Announcements

1. If you'd like to volunteer as a scripture reader, greeter, communion server, or refreshment host, please sign up on the sheet located at the back of the sanctuary.
2. Keep bringing items for the Rummage Sale. Sales dates are August 12-14.
3. Last week we received offerings of \$2,160. Thank you for the offerings and prayers.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: We believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

People: We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell. On the third day he arose from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father, from whence he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

Leader: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Invocation

Silent Prayer of Confession

Opening Hymn: "How Great Is Our God"

Passing the Peace of Christ

Young Disciple's Lesson

Scripture Proclamation **Marilyn Rasmussen**

Hebrews 11:1-16

Faith is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we don't see. The elders in the past were approved because they showed faith. By faith we understand that the universe has been created by a word from God so that the visible came into existence from the invisible. By faith Abel offered a better sacrifice to God than Cain, which showed that he was righteous, since God gave approval to him for his gift.

Though he died, he's still speaking through faith. By faith Enoch was taken up so that he didn't see death, and *he wasn't found because God took him up*. He was given approval for having pleased God before he was taken up. It's impossible to please God without faith because the one who draws near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards people who try to find him. By faith Noah responded with godly fear when he was warned about events he hadn't seen yet. He built an ark to deliver his household. With his faith, he criticized the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes from faith. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was going to receive as an inheritance. He went out without knowing where he was going. By faith he lived in the land he had been promised as a stranger. He lived in tents along with Isaac and Jacob, who were coheirs of the same promise. He was looking forward to a city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith even Sarah received the ability to have a child, though she herself was barren and past the age for having children, because she believed that the one who promised was faithful. So descendants were born from one man (and he was as good as dead). They were as many as the number of the stars in the sky and as countless as the grains of sand on the seashore. All these people died in faith without receiving the promises, but they saw the promises from a distance and welcomed them. They confessed that they were strangers and immigrants on earth. People who say this kind of thing make it clear that they are looking for a homeland. If they had been thinking about the country that they had left, they would have had the opportunity to return to it. But at this point in time, they are longing for a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God isn't ashamed to be called their God—he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of God, for the people of God

Thanks be to God