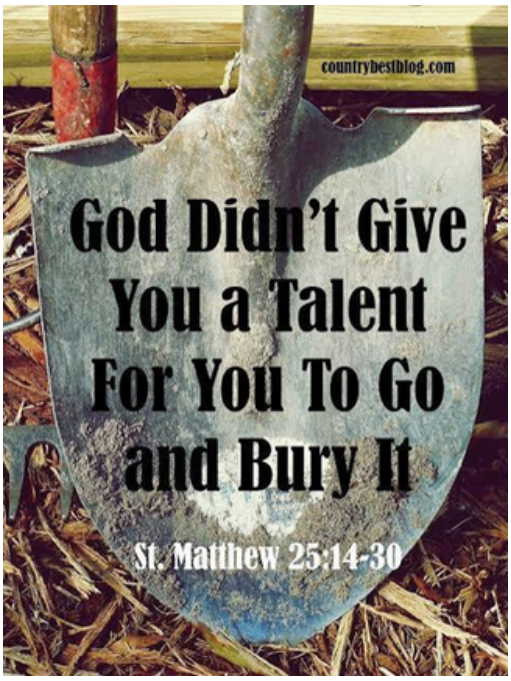
Love of Christ Lutheran Church
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Welcome to LOC's Weekly E-News

ENews for the 25th Sunday after Pentecost, November 15, 2026



The Fear of Scarcity

It is so easy to trust our fear that draws us inward and toward ourselves. In our Gospel reading Jesus tells of a master who entrusts his possessions to three servants while he is away.

Two servants faithfully use what they have been given, while the third, afraid of his master, buries his talent in the ground.

The parable invites us to consider how we respond to all that God has entrusted to us. Rather than living in fear, Jesus calls us to lives of faithful stewardship—using our gifts, resources, and opportunities in service to God and our neighbor.

Pastoral Care Team

Looking for Lay Visitors and Lay Communion Ministers
(Contact Pastor Steve or Pastor Nanette if you might be interested in considering)

We currently have about a dozen homebound members. One who lives in Apache Wells has chronic health issues which make coming to church very difficult and isolating, but she would welcome regular phone calls, personal visits, or communion, beyond what the pastors can provide.

As we prepare for Pastor Steve's retirement there is a need to train some lay volunteers who feel comfortable and called to consider helping this congregation provide pastoral care.

You don't have to have any specialized training like Stephen Ministry or Agape Calling, just a desire to be willing to be an extension of this congregations mission of sharing the love of Christ with those who may be feeling alone, disconnected, and are looking for ways to remain engaged in this congregation. Individuals and couples are welcome to let the pastors know of your interest.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship, Wednesday, November 25, 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary followed by Coffee and Pie in the Fellowship Hall...bring a pie to share!



Thanksgiving Offerings will be split 50/50 between ELCA World Hunger Appeal and LSS-SW Food Pantries at Victory Lutheran and 1st Evangelical Lutheran in Mesa.



No Adult Study on Nov. 11th
Adult Study, Wednesday evenings, starting at 6:00PM in the Fellowship Hall
It's no accident that America is home to a wide range of religious expressions. Immigrants brought their faith with them from around the globe and established churches and denominations. But the most unique quality of American religious life is the innovation and experimentation that takes place here. This makes this country a free marketplace for faith.

This series documents the eternal argument about the relationship between the church and civil authority. The country's founders, seeing the intolerance of the early immigrants, wisely sought to create a republic where faith could be practiced freely but where a theocracy would be avoided.



Faith stretch yoga meets on Thursdays at 9:00am in Outreach room. Begins on Thursday, Nov. 19th.
For questions and more information, text Georgia at 406-925-0013 or email: nonnagg51@gmail.com .



Order Your Poinsettia by Dec. 14th

We will be decorating both chancel areas with poinsettias this Christmas Season
Cost: $18

We invite you to give a poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one.
Please place order form and payment in offering plate.



The next meeting of the LOC Book Club will be held on Sunday, November 15, 2026 at 10:15 am in the Leadership Room (located next to the Church Offices). We will be discussing Whistler by Ann Patchett. Here is a brief synopsis:

Whistler is a story about two adults, Daphne Fuller and Eddie Triplett, who knew each other for just over a year, 40 plus years ago, as stepdaughter and stepfather. They hadn't seen each other since the fateful event that changed the direction of both of their lives. This chance meeting at the Metropolitan Museum of Art deeply impacts both of them, neither wanting to lose touch again.

This is a story about the choices they made and the choices that were made for them. A story about bravery, memory and the small, yet consequential, moments that define our lives, and the endless stream of loss that in time comes for us all. It's ultimately about how love endures and the feeling of being known by another, even for a short period of time.

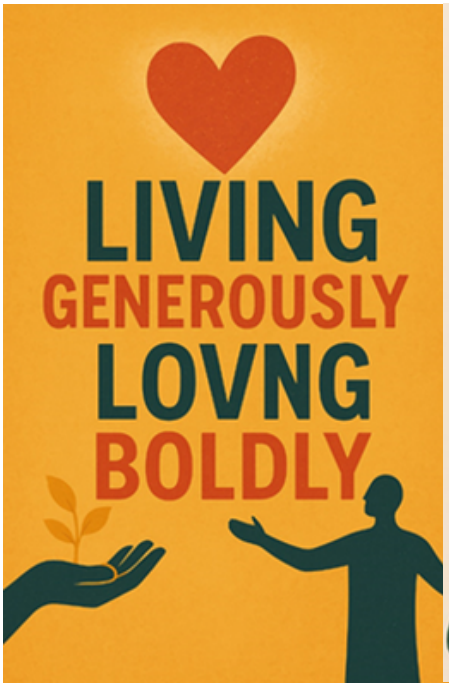
Please join us for this discussion on November 15th. On your way to the Leadership Room, stop by the Hospitality Room for coffee and goodies so you'll be fortified for an engaging conversation of Whistler.

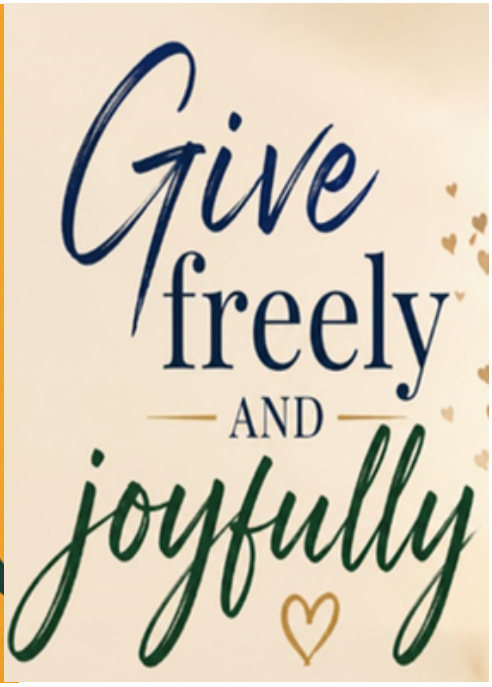
For those of you who want to read ahead, our next book in January, 2027 will be Kin by Tayari Jones. Here is a brief synopsis:

Vernice and Annie, two motherless daughters raised in Honeysuckle, LA have been best friends and neighbors since childhood but are fated to live starkly different lives. Vernice leaves Honeysuckle at eighteen having been raised by a fierce aunt after her mother's death. She goes to Spellman College where she joins a sisterhood of powerfully connected Black women and discovers a world of affluence, manners, aspiration and inequality. Annie, abandoned by her mother as a child and fixated on the idea of finding her, sets off on a journey that will take her into a world of peril and adversity, as well as love and adventure, culminating in a battle for her life.

This book is about mothers and daughters, friendship and sisterhood, and the complexities of being a woman in the American South.

See you on November 15th for Whistler!





2027 Financial Stewardship Commitment Cards have been mailed.
Please return by 12/14/26

Generosity and careful stewardship/management of the free and joyful gifts of this community continue to amaze as this congregation has been exceeding our budget goals while underspending in the expense category.

As we prepare for pastoral transition in 2027 there will be some added expenses, but your trust in God to provide positions Love of Christ to not be anxious.

We know the financial situation of every household is unique, and costs are not going down any time soon.

The leadership is grateful for your willingness to share as we close out 2026 and move into 2027.

Your completion of a commitment card is both a spiritual practice of putting our trust in God's provision as well as assisting the leadership in assessing the support we can count on as we move into a season of change. Thank you!

ENDOWMENT FUND

Continuing the Love of Christ

Endowment News

Part of the responsibility of the Endowment Committee is to help educate our members in the coming weeks the ENews will contain some of the Estate Pitfalls people can fall into.

Do you remember when you last reviewed your estate plan? If the answer is when you first signed the stack of documents at your attorney's office, then you're not alone. Many of us complete an estate plan and then fail to revisit it for years (and never get back to it at all).

It is important, however, to review a plan every so often due to ever-changing tax laws and major life events, such as a birth, marriage, divorce, or death. **At a minimum, you should consider dusting off and revisiting your estate plan every 3 to 5 years, to help ensure alignment with current laws.**

Pitfall #1

Fiduciary follies: When the wrong executor or trustee is named Do you know who your fiduciaries are? A fiduciary is someone who is appointed to take legal control over assets for the benefit of another person (the beneficiary). It is a fiduciary's legal responsibility to act in the beneficiary's best interest. Two types of fiduciaries often seen in estate plans are executors and trustees.

Executors are typically appointed in a will and are given control of assets during the probate process, until the assets are ultimately distributed to the named beneficiaries. Executors are responsible for collecting all the probate assets of the deceased, paying final debts, paying expenses, and filing any necessary estate tax returns.

Trustees control assets held within trusts, which may have been funded during a person's life or at death under the terms of a will. While an executor's role is typically for a period of just a few years, a trustee's role may continue for a much longer time until the trust is terminated. A key role of the trustee is to make distributions to a beneficiary while following the terms of the trust agreement.

Executors and trustees both generally bear responsibility for investments, accountings, and tax filings during their tenure.

Although fiduciaries are bound by certain standards of law, **it is most important to name individuals you trust.** Other important considerations are the age, maturity, and level of financial knowledge of the fiduciary. It is quite possible that the individuals who had fit most of these qualifications may have changed over the years and now no longer do.

LoC Endowment Fund Balance as of 9/30/26 $156,662.07

To learn more about this Fund: https://loveofchristchurch.net/endowment

Please join us in upcoming Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed deliveries….

Kids without beds….This is a need in many communities that I was not even aware existed—it is something most of us have not experienced and were not even aware of the need.
But Sleep in Heavenly Peace here in Phoenix has been hard at work to make sure that “No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town!” and has delivered over 11,000 beds in the valley in the last 7 years.
There is nothing quite like seeing the joy of a child who is receiving a bed, complete with mattress, pillow, bedding, stuffed toy and book. Come and experience this for yourself and help give a child a safe place to sleep and call their own.
We help deliver beds on the 3rd Saturday of the month from the East Valley hub located at St Luke Lutheran Church in Mesa. It’s a half day of your time, with a fun group of folks committed to making children in our community a priority. It’s easy to bring the beds and assemble them and make them up with handmade quilts, fleece blankets, sheets and stuffies - all tools are provided and there is easy hands-on instruction for beginners. We are also so grateful for the many donors of blankets, sheets, stuffies and books.

If you would like to get involved, text or call JoAnn Grant at 571-334-5028





Subject: Come Enjoy Coffee Fellowship with Us!

Dear Members of Love of Christ, Enjoy a friendly time of coffee, conversation, and fellowship with fellow Love of Christ members on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

We meet at 10:00 AM in the Superstition Springs Mall food court near the carousel. Coffee is available at Cinnabon, and cold beverage options are available nearby. It is a wonderful opportunity to visit, laugh, catch up, and strengthen friendships within our church family. We would be delighted to have you join us! If you have any questions, please contact Eunice Ketterling at 701-871-1445.

Best regards, Eunice Ketterling



Music Notes....

Please contact Jung Lee at: jungmusic@loclc.org for how you can be involved with the music program.

Choir practice on Thursdays, 6PM to 8PM in Sanctuary.

With gratitude and excitement,

Jung Lee



Calling All Bakers

Cookie Ministry is looking for people who like to bake. The Cookie Ministry is part of the Faith in Action program at Love of Christ. This ministry makes cookies for our various events that are held here on our campus and beyond our campus. If you are interested in baking cookies for this ministry, please contact: Eunice Ketterling at ketts14az@gmail.com



Community Garden News

Think about trying out a garden in the fall. We are all learning new things and getting to know new people in the fresh air.

Contact Nancy. Dntoll74@gmail.com



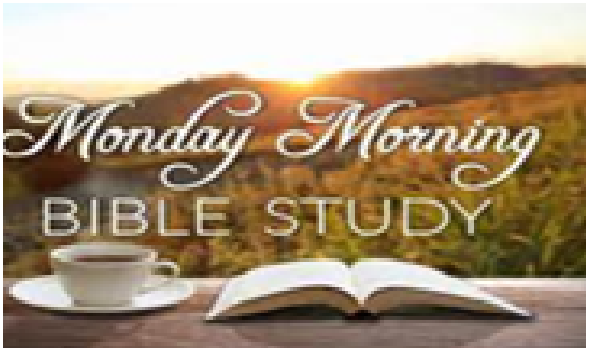
Naomi Circle will meet on: December14th, at 1PM in the Fellowship Hall. All women are welcome—invite your friends!



Monday Men's Bible Study on 2nd Corinthians at 6:30-7:30AM in the Leadership Room. Men of all ages are welcome to participate.



Online Video introductions provided by our pastors of Sunday Lectionary readings are offered each week. They may be found on Facebook, YouTube or loveofchristchurch.net



Monday Morning Bible Study in the Leadership Room
Coffee Fellowship at 10:30AM, Bible Study at 11AM



Prayer Share Care Women's Bible Study

All women are invited to a weekly Bible study group called Prayer Share Care.
This group meets on Thursday afternoons at 1:00 PM in the Leadership Room.
Please contact Ruth Leonard or Margrit Aeschbach at the following emails for more information:
Margrit: mswiss43@gmail.com and Ruth: rutholeonard@icloud.com

YOUTH AT LOVE OF CHRIST

CALLED. GATHERED. SENT.

Youth will be meeting on Sundays for Sunday Morning Hangout from 10:00am to 12:00pm

Contact Mason Weatherly at: masonw@loclc.org



Confirmation

Confirmation will meet on Wed. November 18th, from 6:00-7:00 pm



Food Faith and Fun!

Grades 4,5, and 6 will meet on Sunday, November 15th, 3:30-5:00 pm.

Please contact:

Laura Ontiveros (laurakuegemann@gmail.com) for more information.

Save the Dates

NO WOW, Confirmation or Light dinner on November 11th!

Children and Youth Ministry Fall Overview for 2026

Children's Musical Rehearsal every Wednesday at 6:00 pm

Light dinner at 5:30 for anyone.

Grades 4,5,6 meet Sunday, November 15, 3:30-5:00 pm in the CoC

Sunday School Every Sunday in Godly Play Room

Youth Sunday Hangout at 10:00am in the Youth Room

Confirmation Every Wednesday (6:00pm-7:00pm)



Sunday School is offered for ages pre-K-6th grade. Sunday School takes place in the Godly Playroom. Children come to church with their parents and are dismissed for Sunday School after the Children's Message. They return to worship during Communion. For families that attend 10:30 church, Sunday School is offered at 10:00 -10:25 in the Godly Playroom. For any questions, please contact Pastor Nanette at: nanette@loclc.org

Service Opportunities Save the Date!

November: Gift cards for food banks to purchase Turkeys and canned food donations. Due Nov. 22 and Target Gift Cards for kids Christmas due Nov. 29.

December: Reverse Advent Boxes, and Family Promise

Ongoing Donations:
Shelf stable food for Victory Food Bank and First Evangelical Food Bank
Sleep In Heavenly Peace: Twin Bed Sheets

Opportunities to Share the Love of Christ
"Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." — Matthew 25:40

As we enter November and December, we are reminded that generosity is one of the beautiful ways we live out our faith. In Matthew 25, Jesus reminds us that when we feed the hungry, clothe those in need, and care for our neighbors, we are serving Christ himself. Generosity is more than what we give; it is about sharing God's love with others.

This holiday season, Love of Christ's Faith in Action Team is offering several opportunities to make a difference in the lives of others, both locally and around the world.

You may donate online as well by going to our website!

Grocery Gift Cards (November 1st–22nd) Please place in offering plate.
Our local food banks need $25 grocery store gift cards to distribute alongside their food boxes. These gifts allow families to purchase additional food and necessities.

Christmas Gifts for Neighborhood Families (Collecting Target Gift Cards Nov. 8-29) Please place in the offering plates.

Once again, we are partnering with two local elementary schools to provide clothing, shoes, and Christmas toys for families in need. Our youth will do the shopping using donated Target gift cards. The schools have expressed their gratitude for Love of Christ's generosity in past years. What a wonderful way to share Christmas joy!



ELCA Good Gifts (November 20–December 13)
Looking for a meaningful gift for someone who is difficult to buy for? Through ELCA Good Gifts, you can purchase a goat, chickens, or other animals in someone's honor, helping families around the world build a better future. Visit our ELCA Good Gifts table to learn more! Or go to their website by clicking this link: https://goodgifts.elca.org/

Reverse Advent Boxes (Please return by December 20, 27, and January 3)

This Advent, instead of opening something each day, consider giving something! Pick up a Reverse Advent Box with an attached list of needed items and fill it for our partner food banks, Victory and First Evangelical Mesa. Filled boxes will be collected to help replenish food bank shelves following the holidays.

Generosity Is Faith in Action!

A pair of shoes, a Christmas toy, a grocery gift card, or a box of food may seem like a small gesture, but to someone in need, it can make an enormous difference.
Thank you, Love of Christ, for your generous hearts! In a season when so many are experiencing hardship, your compassion reminds us that **we are Called, Gathered, and Sent to share the Love of Christ.**



Women's Monthly Bible Study will meet today on Wednesday, Dec. 2nd from 4:30-5:30 pm in Fellowship hall. The study will be on Ephesians.

No homework. One hour. Enjoy great discussions. All are welcome.
Barb Talmage and Pastor Nanette

Next Dates: Jan 6, Feb 3, No March (lent) and April 7th.





The next Young Adults meeting will be on Sunday, December 6. We will start in the C0C at 11:45 with a light lunch then we will be shopping for gifts for families and wrapping gifts. If you have questions please contact Pastor Nanette at nanette@loclc.org .

Mark your calendars for November 28th for LOC Women's Hiking Group next hike. Will be meeting at 7:00 and then going to 2 different places. First hike will take us to The Vietnam Memorial Trail located on the Surprise / Peoria border. The trail will take us up a hill, with many plaques commemorating the Vietnam Veterans – plaques sharing Vietnam War history, quotes, statistics, and signs honoring fallen soldiers. Total RT is 1.25 miles. The 2nd place is not really a hike but a fascinating place of AZ history. We will continue our drive to Wickenburg. And explore a historical gold mining site (Gold Mine Experience). Will be able to take a 30 minute tour of Bloo Nelly Mine ($10). There are several old buildings and equipment dating back to 125 years or more. Contact ~ Pat Shaw @ 480 334-9123.

BLANKETS FOR KIDS!!!



Questions? Contact Jan Barnett at: barnett105@gmail.com
· 2 Methods of finishing the edges of the blankets
· Sewing around the edges
· Crocheting around the edges
· Both methods start the same

Lay Fabric on a table, trim off the Salvage edges of the fleece;
Sewing around the edges
Fold ¾ to 1 inch around the edge;
Pin the folded edges all around the edge;
Choose a decorative stitch on sewing machine and start sewing
If your machine only does Zig Zag, that is great also.

· Optional--Baste 3/8 to ½ inch of fold around the edge of the fleece with a needle and thread (Optional)

OR

· Just fold the fabric over about 3/8 to 1/2 an inch and cut very small slits in the fold;
· Slits should be no more than ¼ of an inch in length and around ½ to 5/8 inch from the each other

· If you basted around the edge
· Remove the basting from the fleece
· If you have a rotary cutter, you can purchase wheels that will cut the slits in the fleece material the same distance and the slit created is large enough to slip the crochet hook through. Then follow the remaining directions.
· If you just folded and cut the slits;
Start crocheting around the edge. (I start 6 or 7 inches from the corner of the fleece to make turning the first corner easier.)
1. Start by creating a slipknot.
2. Insert the crochet hook through a slit in the fleece and pull the loop of the slip knot through;
3. Chain 3 times (create a chain by yarning over the hook and pulling it back through the initial loop.); chain only 2 times if you have used the rotary cutter;
4. Push the crochet hook through the slit next to the one just used (back to front) and pull a loop back through the slit. (You will have 2 loops on the crochet hook.)
5. With the 2 loops still on the hook, yarn over the hook and pull through both loops. Now chain 2 more times.
6. Proceed around the fleece using steps 4 and 5.
7. To turn a corner, follow steps 4 and 5, but insert the hook again in the same slit and do 1 chain and then insert the hook again and perform steps 4 and 5, Then you should be on a new side of the blanket and proceed following steps 4 and 5
There is an additional set of slides which have instructions on how to start crocheting. If you do not need those instructions, ignore.

Scripture Lesson
A Brief Look at Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
with Pastor Nanette Christofferson
(14 min)



YouTube: https://youtu.be/AnVM8TiiC3o
Facebook: https://facebook.com/reel/2108780253096450/
Website: https://www.loveofchristchurch.net/media/series/7vjwfnk/bible-lessons

Scripture Lesson
A Brief Look at Matthew 25:14-30
with Pastor Nanette Christofferson
(13 min)



YouTube: https://youtu.be/FJCB_gX8mys
Facebook: https://facebook.com/reel/1704048487946372/
Website: https://www.loveofchristchurch.net/media/series/7vjwfnk/bible-lessons

Sunday, November 15th, 2026, 7:50, 9 and 10:30am

some on  

Pastor Nanette Christofferson "The Fear of Scarcity"

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Lord God,
for the day of the Lord is at hand!
The Lord has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated his guests.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

The Great Day of the Lord

14 The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;
the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.
17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust
and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

5 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. **2** For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. **3** When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! **4** But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; **5** for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. **6** So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, **7** for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. **8** But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. **9** For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, **10** who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. **11** Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Matthew 25:14-30

The Parable of the Talents

14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; **15** to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once **16** the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. **17** In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. **18** But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. **19** After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. **20** Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' **21** His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' **22** And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' **23** His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' **24** Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, **25** so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' **26** But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? **27** Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. **28** So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. **29** For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. **30** As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'