

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Proper 11C)

The Word of Christ Is the One Thing Needed



Background: How powerful and correct is the Word of God. Abraham was visited by the Lord when he was 100 years old and told he and his barren wife will have a son! It happened. God made it so! Similarly the great mystery of the church seen by the world is the actions of its members driven by Christ living in them. Giving preference to the Word of God, we are able to testify to the fact that we are at ‘Peace with God’ and are heirs of His salvation. All made possible by a loving God that placed His Son on earth starting as a tiny embryo in Mary and ending up paying the sacrifice for all our sins on the cross. This week we give special attention to Mary, who rather than being bothered to serve many people (an important task), chose to listen to Jesus' teachings. So we too

Christ in the house of Mary and Martha Johannes Vermeer 1665 should be constantly involved in Bible study, devotions and faithful worship and service to the Lord.

The Lessons: Genesis 18:1–10a (10b–14), Colossians 1:21–29, & Luke 10:38–42 *“The LORD appeared to [Abraham] by the oaks of Mamre”* (Gen. 18:1) and received his hospitality. But Abraham received the gracious promise of a son. Though Abraham and Sarah were very old, nothing is *“too hard for the LORD”* (Gen. 18:14). His Word appointed the time and fulfilled the promise. In the same way, the Lord Jesus *“entered a village”* and received Martha’s hospitality (Luke 10:38). *“Martha was distracted with much serving”* because she was *“anxious and troubled about many things”* (Luke 10:40–41), but her sister, Mary, *“sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to his teaching”* (Luke 10:39). The service of love is no sin, but *“one thing is necessary”* for both faith and love — the Word of Christ (Luke 10:42). Thus, the ministers of Christ are sent *“to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints”* (Col. 1:25–26).