



Pastor Sean's First of the Month Letter-September 2025

Happy September, everyone!

I join you in rejoicing about the relatively mild summer that we have experienced so far. I know that summer can last quite a while here in the Central Valley, but fall is almost upon us.

This fall I invite each of you to pick up a copy of *Searching for Sunday, Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church* by Rachel Held Evans. Our sermons beginning Sunday September 14 will follow along with the book. Our series will conclude October 26, which is also Reformation Sunday.

The book has seven chapters, each named for one of the seven sacraments recognized by the Roman Catholic Church. While we as Lutherans only consider two of these to be sacraments, we engage in all seven practices.

Each of the seven Sundays in our series will be tied to one chapter. The scriptures that you will hear on Sunday are the appointed readings for the day. There was a wonderful synergy between the two that I found as I prepared for the upcoming series.

Feel free to read the book on your own, read ahead or behind the Sunday sermons as you wish, or also consider reading it with a small group of friends and share in discussion.

It is my hope and prayer that this book provokes thought and a more robust walk on your path of discipleship.

Peace, Hope, Love, and Joy,

Pastor Sean