

November 17, 2026

Have you ever gotten dressed for a special occasion and taken a little extra time choosing what to wear? Perhaps you wanted to look your best for a family gathering, a holiday celebration, or a special visit. What we wear can sometimes say something about how we feel or what is important to us.

In our scripture reading today, the Apostle Paul talks about something we are invited to wear every day. Only he isn't talking about clothing we find in our closets. He is talking about putting on faith, love, and hope.

These are pictures of the gifts God gives us to help us face each new day. Think about those three gifts for a moment.

Faith reminds us that we are never alone. Even when life is uncertain, when our bodies are weaker, or when we don't know what tomorrow will bring, we can trust that God is with us.

Love reminds us that we are precious to God. God's love doesn't depend on what we can accomplish, how much we remember, or how independent we are. God loves us simply because we are His beloved children. And that love is something we can share with others through a smile, a kind word, or a prayer.

Hope reminds us that our story is not finished. Paul tells us that our hope is found in Jesus Christ, who died for us so that we might live with him. That promise gives us comfort today and confidence for tomorrow.

As we grow older, life can bring challenges we never expected. We may miss our homes, our families, our independence, or familiar routines. There may be days when we feel discouraged or wonder what lies ahead.

So, as you begin this new week, remember to put on three special gifts: faith to trust God, love to share with others, and hope to carry you through each day.

No matter what the day brings, God's love surrounds you, Christ's promise holds you, and the Holy Spirit walks beside you.

Prayer:

Gracious God, thank you for the gifts of faith, love, and hope. Strengthen our faith when we are discouraged, remind us of your love when we feel lonely, and fill us with hope when we worry about tomorrow. Help us encourage one another and share your love each day. In Jesus' name, Amen.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Linda

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