

A Seed of Faith

"Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." – John 12:24

Dear Trinitarians,

Some stewardship verses announce themselves clearly, directly addressing some aspect of financial management. John 12:24 is different. It is a stewardship verse hiding in plain sight: a grain of wheat must be released into the ground – given away and lost from view – before it can become more than itself.

The seed cannot remain safely in the hand and also become a harvest. It must be entrusted to soil we cannot see into, to a process we cannot control, and to a future we may not witness in full. That is the holy risk of generosity. When we give our time, abilities, prayers, and financial resources, we release something valuable. For a while, it may seem to disappear. Yet in God's care, what is given in faith is never wasted. What is given in faith enables our renewal.

Every gift becomes part of a larger planting. It helps make worship possible, nurtures children and youth, supports neighbors in need, sustains pastoral care, welcomes those searching for community, and carries the good news beyond what any one giver can accomplish alone. We may not always see where each seed takes root, but together we see the signs of a growing harvest.

As we consider our commitments for the coming year, I invite you to pray about what God is asking you to release and entrust. Pledging is not simply meeting a budget. It is an act of discipleship: loosening our grip, trusting God with what we value, and participating in the new life God brings forth.

On Sunday, October 25, we will observe Commitment Sunday. We ask you to bring your pledge to the service, using the enclosed card, and we will say a prayer of blessing over what we receive. If you are unable to come to the service, please mail your pledge card by October 31. Whether your gift feels like a handful of grain or a single seed, offer it with prayer and hope. God is able to bring fruit from what we faithfully place into fertile soil.

Thank you for the many ways you have already planted seeds of faith at Trinity. May we continue to give freely, serve joyfully, and trust the harvest to God.

With gratitude in Christ,

Rev. Charissa Bradstreet+