

July 20th

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

“One Thing Is Necessary”

Main Text: Luke 10:38-42

(Genesis 18:1-10a; Colossians 1:15-28)

This story of Mary and Martha is always one that causes a rift in my house. You see, I am married to Martha. “This stuff won’t get done on its own.” “If I don’t do it, then who will?” Martha is right. These things are important and absolutely need tending to. The Moravians have a distinction between “essentials” and “non-essentials”. Luther called these “non-essentials” adiaphora. It is not that these things are not important. It just means that the when, how and what are flexible. Essentials are required for unity. What is essential in your life and family? Many non-essential things are often the source of great conflict and fighting. The interesting thing is that the essential thing calls us not to do that. The essential is Christ. Our reading from Genesis has Abram who immediately recognizes the presence of God and extends hospitality. Colossians describes the one thing that is necessary for our salvation. It describes who Christ is and what Christ has done. Then reminds us that this one thing now dwells in us. What are we distracted by so much that we miss the presence of Christ in our lives and our day-to-day journey. What happens when we leave out the one thing that is necessary to be led by the Spirit?