

A Congregation of the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

We are a <u>Reconciling in Christ</u> congregation, affirming the diversity of God's children



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Fifteenth Sunday after PENTECOST



Creator: Bonnyachoat; Credit: Getty Images

September 13, 2020

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...

an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude Welcome Hymn Great is Thy Faithfulness, arr. John Carter

Just As I Am, without One Plea



Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871 Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

First Reading

Genesis 50:15-21 (The Message)

A reading from the book of Genesis

After burying his father, Joseph went back to Egypt. All his brothers who had come with him to bury his father returned with him. After the funeral, Joseph's brothers talked among themselves: "What if Joseph is carrying a grudge and decides to pay us back for all the wrong we did him?"

So they sent Joseph a message, "Before his death, your father gave this command: Tell Joseph, 'Forgive your brothers' sin—all that wrongdoing. They did treat you very badly.' Will you do it? Will you forgive the sins of the servants of your father's God?"

When Joseph received their message, he wept.

Then the brothers went in person to him, threw themselves on the ground before him and said, "We'll be your slaves."

Joseph replied, "Don't be afraid. Do I act for God? Don't you see, you planned evil against me but God used those same plans for my good, as you see all around you right now—life for many people. Easy now, you have nothing to fear; I'll take care of you and your children." He reassured them, speaking with them heart-to-heart.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.



Psalm tone reproduced from Psalter for Worship Year C \otimes 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;

you will not al- | ways accuse us,

nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.

You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,

nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,

so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.

As far as the east is | from the west,

so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.

As a father has compassion | for his children,

so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord.

Message

Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35 (The New Living Translation, alt.)

Then Peter came to him and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times?"

"No, not seven times," Jesus replied, "but seventy times seven!

"Therefore, the Kingdom of Heaven can be compared to a king who decided to bring his accounts up to date with servants who had borrowed money from him. In the process, one of his debtors was brought in who owed him millions of dollars. He couldn't pay, so his master ordered that he be sold—along with his wife, his children, and everything he owned to pay the debt.

"But the man fell down before his master and begged him, 'Please, be patient with me, and I will pay it all.' Then his master was filled with pity for him, and he released him and forgave his debt.

- "But when the man left the king, he went to a fellow servant who owed him a few thousand dollars. He grabbed him by the throat and demanded instant payment.
- "His fellow servant fell down before him and begged for a little more time. "Be patient with me, and I will pay it," he pleaded. But his creditor wouldn't wait. He had the man arrested and put in prison until the debt could be paid in full.
- "When some of the other servants saw this, they were very upset. They went to the king and told him everything that had happened. Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' Then the angry king sent the man to prison to be tortured until he had paid his entire debt.
- "That's what my Abba will do to you if you refuse to forgive your brothers and sisters from your heart."

Ministry of Music

Just As I Am, I Come

arr. Mary McDonald Senior Choir

Just as I am, without one plea, But that Thy blood was shed for me, And that Thou bidst me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, and waiting not, To rid my soul of one dark blot, To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, I come! O Lamb of God, I come. Now to be Thine and Thine alone, Just as I am, I come.

Just as I am, Thou will receive, Will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve, Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, I come! O Lamb of God, I come. Now to be Thine and Thine alone, Just as I am, I come!

Just as I am, Thy love unknown, Has broken ev'ry barrier down, Now to be Thine and Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come.

Just as I am, I come! O Lamb of God, I come. Now to be Thine and Thine alone, Just as I am, I come! Just as I am, I come. I come.

Apostles Creed

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Lea Spang, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Cora Marquez, Mary Kennedy, Kelly Scott, Diane Louangrath, Sue Baker, Julie Denniss' uncle Ed Stewart, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich, Stan Heacock, Jeremy Davis, Amy DeLorenzo, Linda and Don Williams, Pamela Andrews, Val Farnham, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt, Brittany Parsons, Lynn Belhorn's mother Maryland Belhorn and friend MaryAnn, Laura Warren's brother Walter Hudson and his wife Jan, Bill Boys, Doretha Holland, Dolores Brannigan's husband Dave, Shirley and Jack Miller, Deidre (DJ) Zimmer, Jon Denniss, Mary Bowling's sister Val, Carolyn and Ed Klopfer, Nancy Stinson's brother Tom Starkey, Ranel and Neil Hoddinott, Kathleen Zwanziger's brother Mark Zwanziger, Larry Trover, Donna Schmidt's sister Cathy Schmidt, Earl Bradley's brother Fay Bradley.

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

We take time to greet one another with words like Peace be with you.

Children's Time

Michele Disbro

And also with you.

Amen.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

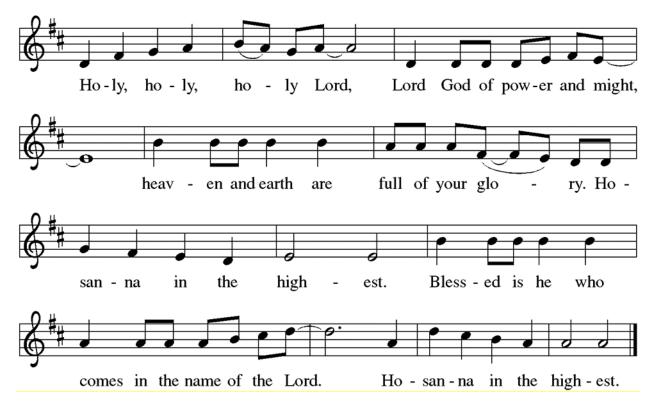
Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. Lift up your hearts. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you. We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

- In the beginning, the Spirit brooded time into being, so that God could give form to the world. At the Incarnation, the Spirit breathed God's time into being, so that the world could receive the Word. Through Pentecost, the Spirit brought transformed time into being, so that the Word could meet us everywhere.
- Holy God, your Christ sends the Spirit to be a companion to all who follow your Way. As inheritors of both the challenge and the comfort of your Way, we join with all who have made this journey in other places and at other times, raising our voices in this timeless song of praise:



Entering these gifts of bread and wine, the Spirit blesses this time, and makes Christ alive in this meal to comfort, challenge and transform us. God has prepared a room for us: fire to warm our hearts, water to wash our weary feet, the table set and waiting. And now, from beyond time, the breath of the Spirit comes whispering through the fabric of time to call us in. So come ... whether your time is just beginning or many years in the marking; whether your hours are filled and fruitful or wanting and withered; whether you have invested wisely or buried your coins in the ground; for here at this table, through the power of the Spirit, God's time and our time come together in bread and wine – a place of timeless and timely grace.

- We recall how Jesus, drawing near to the end of his time on earth, ate a last meal with his friends. We remember how his words and actions disturbed and dismayed them; but also how he offered them comfort and encouragement for the time to come. We remember that he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his friends saying, "Take this and eat. This is my body broken for you. Do this to remember me" And after supper he took a cup, and gave it to them, saying, "This cup is the new covenant, sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."
- Hear us now as, at this time, we commit ourselves to your Way, and pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

As we share these gifts of grace, may the Holy Spirit take and transform them that we may know both their comfort and their challenge, and so transform ourselves and our time. Here is bread and wine – touched and transformed by the Spirit. Come, eat and drink, and be healed and strengthened for this time and for time to come.

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Spirit, You who mothered creation and enabled Incarnation, continue to form and nurture us as we stumble towards maturity. Spirit, You who led Jesus into the wilderness, stir us out of ease and safety as we follow the way of Christ. Spirit, You who transformed the disciples, grace and gift us for the task of building the beloved community Christ lived, died, and rose for. Spirit, You whom Jesus sends as Friend, continue to comfort and discomfort us until justice prevails, peace reigns and love directs all.

WE ARE SENT



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Amen.

Postlude

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, arr. John Carter

Our first act of love is to greet those standing near us and around us.

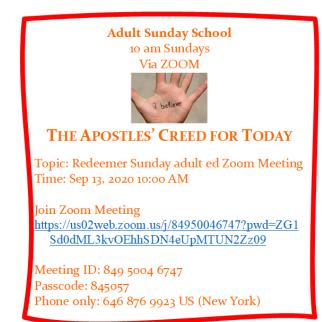
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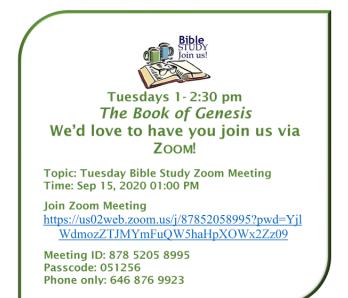
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OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister Assisting Minister ASL Interpreter Reader Cantor Children's Time Organist & Senior Choir Director Pianist & Chimes Choir Director Producer David Shull, Pastor Julianne Johnson Tori Reed Kathryn Ott Wendy Stoica Michele Disbro Kathy Rapp Karen Kent Michele Disbro

Flowers are dedicated by **Judith Bird** in honor of **Ashley Bird** on his birthday. Noisy Offering will go to Kaleidoscope Youth Center.

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER SEPTEMBER 13 - 20

Today	YouTube 10:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion ZOOM Adult Education
Tuesday	1:00 pm 5:30 pm	Zooм Bible Study Zooм Outreach Team
Wednesday	11:00 am	ZOOM Coffee and Conversation
Saturday	9:00 am 10:00 am	Pick Garden Garden Giveaway
Next Sunday	YouTube 10:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion ZOOM Adult Education





