

14th Weekend after Pentecost
August 29-30, 2026
Holy Communion

The Prelude is a signal to *end our conversation* and prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND

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PASSING OF PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP "SURELY THE PRESENCE"

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

I can feel His mighty power and His grace_.

I can hear the brush of angels' wings.

I see glory on each face.

Surely the pre - sence of the Lord is in this place.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin to God. Compassionate God,

C we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

P Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"For The Beauty Of The Earth"

1 For the_ beauty of the earth,/for the beauty of the skies,/for the_ love which from our birth/over and around us lies:

Ref. Christ, our God, to thee we raise/this our sacrifice of praise.

4 For the_ joy of human love,/brother, sister, parent, child,/friends on_ earth and friends above;/for all gentle thoughts and mild: *(Refrain)*

5 For each_ perfect gift of thine,/peace on earth and joy in heav'n;/for thy - self, best gift divine,/to our world so freely giv'n: *(Refrain)*

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

ANTHEM *(SOUTH CAMPUS ONLY)*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray together.

C O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

KYRIE/ CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.
Have mercy on us, Lord; make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

**Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
We exalt you, we adore you,
we lift_ high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you;
here on earth our songs we raise.**

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LESSON OF THE DAY

Romans 12: 9-21

The lesson begins:

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open_ now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us;
speak un - til our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done. "Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

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SERMON

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SERMON RESPONSE

We will build our lives upon God's love.

It is a firm foundation and we will put our trust in Him

Alone and we will not be shaken_.

APOSTLES' CREED

- P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P** With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

- P** We pray for the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another and to honor one another above ourselves. Bless the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace to a world of grief by violence. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** We pray for the church in every land, that its mission and ministry are anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer

- P** Lord, we ask your guidance for the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our ministry teams, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** Oh God, we pray for all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit (*and those who grieve especially...*) Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

THE OFFERING

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THE OFFERTORY "PRAISE TO YOU, O GOD OF MERCY"

Praise to you, O God of mercy; thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly; thanks be to you forever!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- P** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You

delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through the prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

**Holy Holy Holy Holy, Lord, God of pow'r and might_,
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory,
Hosannah_ in the highest.
Bless'd is He who comes in Your name_,
Hosannah_ in the highest!**

P Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

☐ **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

☐ **Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.**

☐ **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

☐ **As a community, let us pray in the way our Lord Jesus has taught us: *(SPOKEN)***

☐ **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ **Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!**

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THE COMMUNION is given and received.

(w/ ANTHEM at ALL CAMPUSES, & OPTIONAL HYMN INCLUDED)

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POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P** Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN "In Christ There Is No East or West"

- 1 In_ Christ there is no east or west,/
in him no south_ or_ north,/
but_ one community of love/
through – out_ the whole_ wide earth.
- 2 In_ Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere/
their high commun – ion_ find;/
his_ service is the golden cord/
close_ bind - ing hu - mankind.
- 3 Join_ hands, disciples of the faith,/
whate'er your race_ may_ be./
All_ children of the living God/
Are_ sure - ly kin_ to me.

DISMISSAL

- A** Let us go forth, to know Christ and to make Christ known,
C Caring for one another and serving our community.

POSTLUDE

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains five numbered vocal lines. The second system contains two vocal lines. The third system contains two vocal lines. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures. The music features a variety of note values, including quarter, eighth, and half notes, as well as rests and ties. The overall mood is reverent and hopeful.

1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
4 When nights are long with wake - ful - ness, through
5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in

bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
reached toward those in pain, come, ris - en Christ, a -
nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our

Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
mong us still with pow'r to heal a - gain.
faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.