

9<sup>th</sup> Weekend after Pentecost  
July 25-26, 2026  
*Holy Communion*

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

**PRELUDE (w/ *ANTHEM INCLUDED at CENTRAL ALL*)**

**WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND  
(u)  
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

## "We Gather Together"

- 1 We gather together /to ask the Lord's blessing; /  
He chastens and hastens /His will to make known;  
\*The wicked oppressing /now cease\_ from distressing, /  
Sing praises to His name\_:/ He forgets not His own.
- 2 Beside us to guide us, /our God with us joining, /  
Ordaining, /maintaining His kingdom divine;  
\*So from the beginning /the fight\_ we were winning: /  
Thou, Lord, wast at our side\_, /all glory be Thine!
- 3 We all do extol Thee, /Thou Leader triumphant, /  
And pray that Thou still /our Defender wilt be.  
\*Let Thy congregation /escape\_ tribulation: /  
Thy name be ever praised\_ /O Lord, make us free!

## 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** Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from 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.**

*(d)*

### **LESSON OF THE DAY**

**Romans 8:26-39**

#### **The lesson begins:**

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are

more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**P The Word of the Lord.**

**C Thanks be to God.**

*(u)*

## **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 13:31-33, 44-52**

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

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches." He told them still another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it. "Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the blazing

furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked. "Yes," they replied. He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."

**P The Gospel of the Lord.**

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(d)*

## **SERMON**

*(u)*

### **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.**

(d)

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P** Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

- P** Oh God, we know there is nothing in all creation that will separate us from your love because of your Son, Jesus Christ. You, who search our hearts, knows the mind of the Spirit because the Spirit intercedes for us in accordance with your will. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** God our wisdom and our song, we pray for bishops, candidacy committees, those preparing for seminary, those awaiting call as deacons or pastors, and all who seek to lead your disciples in any way. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** God our intercessor and our lawgiver, dismantle the barriers to care and recognition of all who live with chronic illness, mobility struggles, pain, uncertainty, or grief... (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** God our redeemer, may we trust your love above and beyond all else that distracts, annoys, frightens, exhausts, or divides us. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** God who seeks, finds, and saves, for our community's part in the ongoing gift of creation, and for the riches of faith and hope which came before, we give you thanks. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.
- C** Amen.

## THE OFFERING

(u)

### 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

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

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

*(d)*

**THE COMMUNION** is given and received.

*(w/ ANTHEM at LW & SOUTH or OPTIONAL HYMN INCLUDED)*

*(u)*

## 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

## "God Is So Good

- 1 God is so good, God is so good./  
God is so good,/he's so good to me.
- 2 He cares for me, he cares for me,/   
he cares for me,/he's so good to me.
- 3 He saved my soul, he saved my soul,/   
he saved my soul,/he's so good to me.
- 4 I praise his name, I praise his name,/   
I praise his name,/he's so good to me.

## DISMISSAL

-  Let us go forth in the name of the Lord,
-  To know Christ, and to make Christ known.  
Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

# What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim - son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?  
What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?  
What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.  
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.  
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!  
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!  
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!