

**17th Weekend after Pentecost**  
**September 19-20, 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**

**“Lead Me Lord”**

**Lead me Lord, / lead me in thy righteousness; /  
make thy way plain ( / ) before my face.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.**

**C Amen.**

**P Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin. Compassionate God,**

**C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**P Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.**

**C Amen.**

## **GATHERING HYMN      "As We Gather at Your Table"**

- 1    As we\_ gather at your\_ table,/  
as we\_ listen\_ to\_ your\_ word,/  
help us\_ know, O God, your\_ presence;/  
let our\_ hearts and\_ minds\_ be\_ stirred.  
\*Nourish\_ us with sacred story/  
till we\_ claim it as our\_ own\_;/  
teach us\_ through this holy\_ banquet/  
how to\_ make Love's\_ vic - t'ry\_ known.**
- 2    Turn our\_ worship into\_ witness/  
in the\_ sacra – ment\_ of\_ life;/  
send us\_ forth to love and\_ serve you,/  
bringing\_ peace where\_ there\_ is\_ strife.  
\*Give us\_, Christ, your great compassion/  
to for - give as you for – gave\_;/  
may we\_ still behold your\_ image/  
in the\_ world you\_ died\_ to\_ save.**

## **GREETING**

- ☞    The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**
- ☞    And also with you.**

## **CANTICLE OF PRAISE      "Come Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs"**

**Come, let us join our cheerful songs/  
with angels round the throne;/  
ten thousand thousand are their tongues,/  
but all their joys are one.  
\*Jesus is worthy to receive/honor and pow'r divine;/  
And blessings, more than we can give,/  
be, Lord, forever thine.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray together.

**G** Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual loving-kindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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## ANTHEM

### LESSON OF THE DAY

**Philippians 1:21-30**

**The lesson begins:**

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me. Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

**P** The Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

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### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Al – le - luia! / Lord to whom shall we go? / Al – le – luia.**

**\*You have\_ the words / of\_ eternal life. /**

**Al – le – lu – ia, al – le – luia.**

## GOSPEL

## Matthew 20:1-16

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

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

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?' 'Because no one has hired us,' they answered. He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.' The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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## SERMON

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## **SERMON RESPONSE            "O God, Who Gives Us Life"**

O\_ God, who gives / us\_ life and breath, /  
who shapes us in\_ the womb,  
\*who\_ guards our lives / from birth to death, /  
then\_ leads\_ us from the tomb:  
\*deliver us from fears that kill / the life we have from you. /  
Help us to know your\_ Spirit, /  
still is\_ mak – ing all things new.

## **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 the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

- P** O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.

- P** Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Holy One, embolden elected leaders around the world to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, those near death, or those grieving the loss of loved ones (*especially...*). May they find comfort and strength in your love. Prepare us to surround them with your healing care. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** God of love, motivate our congregation to enact economic justice through tangible action, prioritizing the needs of our community and sharing resources generously through our outreach and justice ministries. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
- C** Amen.

## OFFERING

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## OFFERTORY

**"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"**

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,/  
and\_ fill to the brim our cup of blessing./  
Gather a harvest(/)from the seeds that were sown,/  
that we may be fed(/)with the bread of life.  
\*Gather the hopes(/)and the dreams\_ of all;/  
unite them with the prayers we offer./  
Grace our table with your presence,/  
and give us a foretaste(/)of the feast to come.

## 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 Ho - ly Holy, Lord\_ / God of power and might\_ /  
Heav'n and earth\_ (/) are full of Your glory, /  
Hosannah in\_ the highest.

\*Blessed\_ is He who comes\_ / in the name of the Lord, /  
Hosannah in\_ the highest\_ / 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.

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

**P** 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.

**C** Amen.

## 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** Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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**COMMUNION** is given and received.

**(During Distribution)**

**"Lamb of God"**

- 1 O Lamb of God\_/you bear the sin\_/of all the world\_ away;/   
 \*You suffered death\_/our lives to save\_:/   
 have mercy now\_, we pray.
- 2 O Lamb of God\_/you bear the sin\_/of all the world\_ away;/   
 \*You set us free\_/from guilt and grave\_:/   
 have mercy now\_, we pray.
- 3 O Lamb of God\_/you bear the sin\_/of all the world\_ away;/   
 \*Eternal peace\_/with God you made\_:/   
 Give us your peace\_, we pray.

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## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P** Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

## BENEDICTION

### SENDING HYMN

**"O Jesus, I Have Promised"**

- 1** O\_ Jesus, I have promised / to serve you\_ to the end; /  
Re - main forever near me, / my master\_ and my friend.  
\*I shall not fear the battle / if you are by my side, /  
nor wander from the pathway / if you will be my guide.
- 2** Oh\_, let me feel you near me; / the world is\_ ever near. /  
I\_ see the sights that dazzle, / the tempt - ing sounds I hear.  
\*My foes are ever near me, / around me and within; /  
but, Jesus, then draw nearer / to shield my soul from sin.
- 4** O\_ Jesus, you have promised / to all who\_ follow you /  
That\_ where you are in glory / your servant\_ shall be too.  
\*And Jesus, I have promised / to serve you to the end; /  
oh, give me grace to follow, / my master and my friend.

## DISMISSAL

- A** Let us go forth, to know Christ and to make Christ known,  
**C** Caring for our members and supporting our community.  
Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

# O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come



- 1 O Christ, the heal-er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
- 2 From ev - 'ry ail-ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;
- 3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
- 4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find



How can we fail to be re-stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?  
yet in our hearts we would con-fess that whole-ness is our deep - est need.  
our com - mon life de-clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?  
the whole-ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man-kind.

