



4300 N. 82<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
480-947-5525  
Pastor Sandy Jones  
[www.bethanyscottsdale.com](http://www.bethanyscottsdale.com)

**Worship**  
**Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost**  
**September 12, 2021**

**GATHERING**

**Greeting and Announcements**  
**Preparation for Worship**

*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable*

**Opening Hymn** – “Take Up Your Cross”

**Call to Worship**

*P Our God is a God of abundance.*

**C God’s blessings pour forth and we are given what we need for life and living.**

*P Our God is a God of provision.*

**C As we are blessed so are we called to be a blessing.**

*P Our God is a God of grace.*

**C God’s compassion for the poor and those in need is our call to service. With our blessings we serve the Lord in serving others.**

**Greeting**

*P The peace of the Lord be with you.*

**C And also with you.**

*P May we be inspired to seek and serve the Lord*

**C May this time of worship inspire us to love and good works.**

**Hymn of Praise** - “Alle, Alle”

**HEARING THE WORD**

*You may be seated*

**Scripture Readings**

**First Reading** - Isaiah 50:4-9a

The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he wakens—  
wakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.  
The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backwards.  
I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.

The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?  
All of them will wear out like a garment;  
the moth will eat them up.

*Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.*

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm** – *“I Will Walk Before the Lord”* - Choir

### **Second Reading – James 3:1-12**

**3** Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. **2** For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. **3** If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. **4** Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. **5** So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup> And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature,<sup>[a]</sup> and is itself set on fire by hell.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>7</sup> For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup> but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup> From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup> Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup> Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

*Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.*

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable*

**Gospel Acclamation – Halle, Halle, Hallejuah**

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

### **Gospel reading – Mark 8:27-38**

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that I am?’ And they answered him, ‘John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.’ He asked them, ‘But who do you say that I am?’ Peter answered him, ‘You are the Messiah.’ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, ‘Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.’

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.’

*Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.*

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

*You may be seated*

**Sermon**

*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable*

Hymn of the Day – *“The Summons”*

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**Affirmation of Faith**

**Because God loves the world, we are made to praise God for the wonders of all creation.**

**Because God loves the world, we are given Jesus to teach us God’s desire for our lives and to bring us into a restored relationship with our Creator and each other.**

**Because God loves the world, we are gifted with the Holy Spirit and have power to live lives of service and giving for the purpose reflecting God in all that we say and do. AMEN**

**Prayers of the People**

*P Lord in your mercy,*  
**C hear our prayer.**

*You may be seated*  
**Offering – “Follow Me”**

**Offertory – “Make Me a Servant”**

*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable*  
**Prayer of Blessing**

*P Let us pray:*  
**C God of all blessing, Lord of all life, all that is good comes from you and we have been gifted by your generosity, In response to what we’ve received, we give back a portion as an offering of thanksgiving. We call upon your Spirit to guide us in using these offerings wisely and compassionately for the revealing of your Kingdom among us. AMEN.**

**MEAL**

**A Brief Confession**

*P May God’s grace be upon us and God’s mercy uplift us.*  
**C Lord, we seek your pardon for we have not always lived according to your desire**  
*P May God’s compassion heal us and God’s love sustain us.*  
**C Lord, mend our brokenness and give us strength to move forward as your servants.**  
*P In God’s grace and mercy, God’s compassion and love, we are the renewed People of God.*  
**C AMEN.**

## Communion Dialogue

P The People of God gather to be fed the bread of new life.

**C Let us eat, Lord, the bread that you give.**

P The People of God gather to drink the wine of compassion.

**C Let us drink, Lord, the wine that you give.**

P Nourish us and teach us to live lives that are holy.

**C Fashion our hearts, Lord, to live only for you!**

P On the night he was betrayed ...

## The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

## Communion Invitation

P Come and gather around this table of grace.

**C We gather as the body of Christ to be fed with spiritual food.**

*You may be seated*

**Communion Music** - "*Christ In Me Arise*"

*"I Will Choose Christ"*

Choir

Erin/Kristan

*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable*

## Communion Blessing

P Let us pray:

**C Hold us, Lord, in the blessing of this meal to be a renewed and healed people bringing the gifts of compassion and love to the world. AMEN**

## SENDING

**Benediction**

**Closing Song** - *"Lift High the Cross"*

**Dismissal**

*P* *Servants of God, go to be the love of God in the world*

**All: We go with Jesus by our side. Thanks be to God!**