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**Worship**  
***Eighteenth Sunday of Pentecost***  
***September 26, 2021***

## **GATHERING**

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

**Call to Worship**

P Let the words our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord.

**C You, O God, are our rock and redeemer.**

P The ways that God desires for us to speak with one another and to live together is good for our spirit.

**C You, O God, are our rock and redeemer.**

P Direct us and guide us, O Lord, to live according to your word.

**C You, O God, are our rock and redeemer.**

P To live in the ways and walk in the paths of your desire, O Lord, rejoices the heart.

**C You, O God, are our rock and our redeemer.**

*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable*

**Gathering Hymn – “All Are Welcome”**

**Refrain**

*All are welcome in this place.*

*Behold Love’s amazing grace.*

*All are Welcome! All are welcome!*

*Bring your hopes, bring your dreams.*

*Mercy flows and love redeems!*

*All are welcome! All belong!*

**Welcome, all the brokenhearted,  
All who sorrow and despair  
You are not alone, for you are God’s own  
Together, we sing and we proclaim!**

**Refrain**

**Welcome, all who are forgotten,  
Excluded and dignity denied!  
You are not alone, for you are God’s own!  
Together, we sing and we proclaim!**

**Refrain**

**Welcome, all who work for justice,  
Bringing hope, charity and peace!  
You are not alone, for you are God's own!  
Together, we sing and we proclaim!  
*Refrain***

### **Greeting**

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P As a community of faith we seek the presence of God in this hour of worship.

**C Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed by the Holy Trinity, + one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure and whose love is endless.

**C Amen**

P Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God our comforter:

**C like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God, listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen**

P All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad heart the forgiveness of all your sins.

**C Amen**

**Hymn of Praise - "Lift Up Your Hearts"**

***Refrain***

***Lift up your hearts, praise gracious mercy! Praises sing! Sing out your joy,  
Whose love's enduring.***

**Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth!  
Praise the name above all names! Say to God, "How  
Wondrous your works, how glorious your name!  
*(Refrain)***

**Let the earth worship singing your praise.  
Praise the glory of your name! Come and see what  
God has revealed, bless God's holy name!  
*(Refrain)***

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us Pray

**C Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

## THE WORD

*You may be seated*

### **First Reading – Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29**

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.” Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So, Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,’ to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

So, the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.

So, Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!”

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

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm – “19:7-14”- “Your Words Lord Are Spirit and Life”**

***Your Words, Lord, Are Spirit, Spirit and Life***

***Your Words, Lord, Are Spirit, Spirit and Life***

## **Second Reading – James 5:13-20**

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

*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, Hallelujah**

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

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

## **Gospel reading – Mark 9:38-50**

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.*

P The holy Gospel according to Mark.

**C Glory to you, O Lord**

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

*You may be seated*

## **Sermon**

*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** – *“Lord Whose Love in Humble Service”*

**Lord, whose love in humble service  
bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken,  
worked your mercy's perfect deed:  
we, your servants, bring the worship  
not of voice alone, but heart;  
consecrating to your purpose  
ev'ry gift which you impart.**

**Still your children wander homeless;  
still the hungry cry for bread;  
still the captives long for freedom;  
still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As you, Lord, in deep compassion  
healed the sick and freed the soul,  
by your Spirit send your power  
to our world to make it whole.**

**As we worship, grant us vision,  
till your love's revealing light  
in its height and depth and greatness  
dawns upon our quickened sight,  
making known the needs and burdens  
your compassion bids us bear,  
stirring us to ardent service,  
your abundant life to share.**

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

### **AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH**

**We believe in God who loves us and wants us to love each other ... This is our God.**

**We believe in Jesus who loved all people, friends and enemies alike. He wanted a world where everyone could live together in peace ... This is Jesus Christ.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit who keeps working with us until everything is good and true ... This is the Holy Spirit.**

**We are the Church sent to be God's love in the world ... This is our calling. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

*You may be seated*

**Offering** – “*No Words Can Say*”

Choir

**Offertory** – “*Make Me a Servant*”

**Make me a servant, humble and meek.  
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.  
And may the prayer of my heart always be;  
Make me a servant, make me a servant,  
Make me a servant today.**

*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable*

## OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray:

C **God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

## THE MEAL

### 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 God our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

P You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

P Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

P To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**C Amen, amen, amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

## Communion Invitation

P All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

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

*You may be seated*

Communion Music – “The Ways of God”  
“Lord I Need You”

Choir  
Erin/Kristan

*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable*

## Prayer after Communion

P Let us pray:

C Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

## SENDING

### Benediction

P People of God, you are Christ’s body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, + one God, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

Closing Hymn - “How Can I Keep From Singing”

**My life flows on in endless song above earth’s lamentation.  
I hear the real though far off hymn that hails a new creation.**

*Refrain*

*No storm can shake my in-most calm, while to that rock I’m clinging.  
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing.*

**Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing;  
I sounds and echoes in my soul; How can I keep from singing.**

*Refrain*

**The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing.  
All things are mine since I am His; how can I keep from singing.**

*Refrain*

### Dismissal

P Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

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