

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2020

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession & Absolution

P Let us confess our sin to God:

O Lord, merciful Father, you keep covenant and steadfast love with those who love you and keep your commandments.

C **We confess that we have not listened to your servants the prophets. We have not heeded your law nor have we rejoiced in your gospel. We confess that things have fallen apart.**

But Lord, you keep covenant even when we do not. Your love is steadfast when ours is frail and fallible. You are faithful even when we are faithless. We want you to be our God and we want to be your covenant people. Grant us the gift of faith.

By your Holy Spirit work in us steadfastness and singleness of heart, that we might manifest your love in the keeping of your commandments and the living of your gospel.

P O Lord, merciful Father, hear our prayers in the name of your well-beloved Son, Jesus Christ, the mediator of the new and eternal covenant, to whom be glory forever and ever.

C Amen.

P Because of Jesus, God has forgiven all our sin. Hear the gospel of Christ from Psalm 103:

"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits - who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagles."

Psalm

Psalm 143:1–2

P Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!
In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!
Enter not into judgment with your servant,
for no one living is righteous before you.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21–35

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

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

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’

³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Speak O Lord



Speak O Lord, as we come to You, to re-ceive the food of Your
Teach us Lord, full o - be - di-ence, Ho-ly rev - er-ence, true hu-
Speak O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us grasp the heights of Your



Ho - ly Word. Take Your Truth, plant it deep in us; shape and
mil - i - ty. Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes in the
plans for us. Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, that will



fash - ion us in Your like - ness; That the light of Christ might be
ra - di-ance of Your pur - i - ty. Cause our faith to rise, cause our
ech - o down through c - ter - ni - ty. And by grace we'll stand on Your



seen to-day in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic love and au - thor - i - ty.
prom - is - es; And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.



Speak O Lord and ful - fil in us all Your pur - pos - es for Your glo - ry.
Words of pow'r that can nev - er fail; Let their truth pre - vail o - ver un-be-lief.
Speak O Lord, 'til Your church is built, and the earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

Epistle

Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Prayer

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the
dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Holy Communion

Distribution Hymn

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!

- 1 O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free,
Rolling as a mighty ocean
in its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me,
is the current of thy love;
Leading onward, leading homeward,
to thy glorious rest above.
- 2 O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Spread his praise from shore to shore;
How he loveth, ever loveth,
changeth never, nevermore;
How he watches o'er his loved ones,
died to call them all his own;
How for them he intercedeth,
watcheth o'er them from the throne.
- 3 O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
Love of ev'ry love the best:
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,
'tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus!
'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
And it lifts me up to glory,
for it lifts me up to thee.

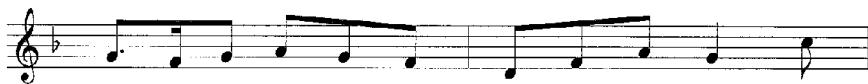
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Distribution Hymn

His Mercy is More



What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done? Om -
 What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam? What
 What rich - es of kind - ness He lav - ished on us. His



ni - sient, all know - ing, He counts not their sum. Thrown
 Fa - ther, so ten - der, is call - ing us home? He
 blood was the pay - ment; His life was the cost. We



in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore, our
 wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor. Our
 stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford. Our



sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more.
 sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more. Praise the Lord,
 sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more.



His mer - cy is more. Strong - er than dark - ness,



new ev - 'ry morn. Our sins, they are man - y; His mer - cy is more.

Announcements

Youth Group - Youth group meetings will be held on Tuesday evenings 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Please contact Stacey Staake if you have any questions.

Bible Study *

Sunday, September 6th @ 11:30 a.m. (Zoom)

Wednesday, September 9th @ 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)

* Please text Pastor Mueller if you have not yet attended and would like a Zoom invitation link sent to your email.



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