

SPIRIT OF GRACE
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 18, 2022

*The congregation's parts are in **bold**.*
Thank you for masking while singing to help us worship safely.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

It Is Well

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.
Amen.

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness,
we confess that sin still has a hold on us.
We have harmed your good creation.
We have failed to do justice, love kindness,
and walk humbly with you.
Turn us in a new direction.
Show us the path that leads to life.
Be our refuge and strength on the journey,
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

Beloved of God:
your sins are forgiven † and you are made whole.
God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road.
Journey now in God's abiding love
through the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

PSALM 100

1 Enter in through the gates
Enter in here with praise
Come before Him come bring your song
We are His people He is our God

*Chorus 1 For the Lord is good and His love endures
His love endures
For the Lord is good and His love endures
His love endures
Forevermore His faithfulness it has no end
For the Lord is good and His love endures
His love endures*

2 Enter in to His courts
Enter in with grateful hearts
Come before Him come bring your song
We are His people He is our God

Bridge

Raise Your voice
Shout for joy all the earth
We sing a new song now
We sing a new song now

Interlude

It's Your love
His love endures
His love endures

*Chorus 2 Forevermore His faithfulness it has no end
For the Lord is good and His love endures
His love endures*

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Amos 8:4-7

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,
and practice deceit with false balances,
⁶buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."
⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 113

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.

²**Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth forevermore.**

³From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.

**⁴The LORD is high above all nations;
God's glory above the heavens.**

⁵Who is like the LORD our God,
who sits enthroned on high,

**⁶but stoops to behold
the heavens and the earth?**

⁷The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

**⁸enthroning them with the rulers,
with the rulers of the people.**

⁹The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH

ELW 172

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13

Open your hearts and minds to the Good News as it is recorded in the 16th chapter of Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’

⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor Peggy Rose



Good -ness is stron - ger than e - vil; love is stron - ger than hate;



light is stron - ger than dark - ness; life is stron - ger than death; vic - t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic - t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931
 Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949
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 Music © 1996 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com

SPIRIT OF GRACE CREED

Together, let us confess our faith

We believe in God, the Father, who is...

Our Leader, Loving, Our Protector, Compassionate, Our Provider and Caring.

The Father ...Created Us, Gave Us Life and Gave Us Freedom of Choice.

We believe in God, the Son, who is...

Holy, A Teacher, A Helper, A Friend, Giving and Thankful.

The Son...Puts Others Before Himself, Sacrifices Himself for Us, Is Obedient and Shines.

We believe in God, the Holy Spirit, who is...

Invincible, Powerful, A Leader, Overwhelming, Amazing, Loving and Awesome.

The Holy Spirit...Picks You Up When You Are Down, Comforts You, Gives You a Shoulder to Cry On, Helps You Get Better, Provides Strength and Gives You Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather
Our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

God our Savior, you keep your church in faith and truth. We pray for Reverend Alex Aivars, who was installed this week as the pastor of Christ United Church, a federated Episcopal and Lutheran congregation in DeWitt, and for Charlie Martin who will be ordained today at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church in Rochester. Enlighten them and all bishops, preachers, teachers, seminarians, and others who share your good news with the world. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Divine teacher, you instruct your children to be responsible stewards of your creation. Show us how best to care for the earth and its resources, and guide those who work to develop sustainable practices. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Ruler of the nations, you direct those in authority. Give leaders wisdom and compassion so that all may live in peace. Be with all who are suffering from the crisis in the Ukraine. Inspire public servants to follow the example of courageous leaders especially Dag Hammarskjöld and safeguard the dignity of each person. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Helper of the needy, you lift up those who are oppressed. Breathe justice into economic and social systems that perpetuate poverty and hunger. Sustain food ministries, clothing banks, and emergency shelters especially Open Door Outreach Center in Union lake and the Haven a family shelter in Pontiac. Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, especially bugs B., Deborah, Eva, James M., Kayla, and Leila. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Sustainer and giver of life, you bless this congregation with abundance. Instruct us in the proper and faithful use of wealth and resources, that we share generously. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of glory, you gather your saints around your throne. Keep us thankful for the witness of those who have gone before us and bring us with them to the heavenly feast that has no end. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs.

Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing,

and make us ready to share with all in need;

through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see that the Lord is good.

All are welcome at the table. Hold your hand under the touch-less dispenser to receive the wafer. Return to your seat to consume it. If you would like to receive a blessing only, please place your arms across your chest. Please come forward at the direction of the usher.

COMMUNION SONG

BE THOU MY VISION

- 1 Be Thou my Vision O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

- 2 Be Thou my Wisdom and Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord
Thou my great Father I Thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

- 3 High King of heaven my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys bright heaven's Sun
Heart of my own heart whatever befall
Still be my Vision O Ruler of all

CCLI Song # 7056332

Eleanor Henrietta Hull | Mary Elizabeth Byrne | Russell Mauldin

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POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together.

God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, † one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
 stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
 and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

We Are An Offering

Presiding Minister: Pastor Peggy Rose

Worship Minister: Rick Orban

Prerecorded Music: Denise Hobbs, Carol Latimer

Altar Guild: Pat Merritt

Acolyte: Leonard Novak

Spirit of Grace Church

A Lutheran-Episcopal Community

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