

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prelude

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Gathering

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Presider Holy God, Holy and Might, Holy Immortal One, *(three times)*

People ***Have mercy upon us.***

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Word of God

First Reading: Genesis 51:15-21

A Reading from Genesis.

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 103:8-13

The Antiphon is "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy Name."

8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy Name.

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy Name.

12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.

13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy Name.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

A Reading from Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If 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. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader Hear what the spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

from Psalm 34

I will bless the Lord at all times,
God's praise will always be on my lips;
In the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy Name.

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise God's name.
I sought the Lord and was heard;
From all my terrors set free.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy Name.

Look towards God and be radiant;
Let your faces not be abashed.
When the poor cry out the Lord hears them
And rescues them from all their distress.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
They are happy who seek refuge in God.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy Name.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.

People ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

Sermon The Rev. Eric Biddy

Nicene Creed *Said by all.*

***We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.***

***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.***

*For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

Prayers of the People

Presider

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord,
saying "Lord have mercy."

Leader

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity
of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our Bishop, for St. Martin's and St. Michael's, for Kendall and Mary Kay,, and for all
the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the
Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, including those we now name . . . let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, including **Jeremy, Nick and Sherry, Barbara, Kevin, David, Liam, Tom, Richard** (Martin), **Eunice** (Lewis), and others we now name . . .

Let us thank the Lord for all the blessings of this life, including the birthdays this week of **Sam** Clark-Mchale (9/13), **Diane** Johnson (9/14), **Julie** Strand (9/14), **Susana** Cardenas (9/15), **Jill** Gimesky (9/17), **David** Moyar (9/17), **Charles** Swift (9/17), **Marilyn** Huebel (9/18), **Peter** Curtin (9/18); and other blessings we now name

In the communion of Christopher and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

To thee, O Lord our God.

Presider Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of the heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Confession and Absolution

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

*Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,*

*and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

All greet one another in the name of Christ.

Welcome and Announcements

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All ***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Presider continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

We remember his death

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Presider continues:

Remembering his death and resurrection, we long for the day when we can again all share the bread and wine together. Until that day, remind us that every meal is holy and that your Son awaits an invitation to our table. Though we cannot all share the body of Christ, send your Holy Spirit upon us that we might be the Body of Christ in our homes and in the world.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

Lord's Prayer

The Presider says,

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say,

All

*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,
for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread and a period of silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Music During Distribution of Communion

{Prayer for Spiritual Communion, for those at home

*God of infinite mercy,
We thank you for Jesus our Savior, our true Mother
Who feeds us and gives us eternal life.
Though we cannot consume the gifts of bread and wine,
We thank you that we have received the sacrament of Christ's presence,
The forgiveness of sins, and all other benefits of Christ's passion.
Grant that we may continue for ever in the Risen Life of our Savior,
Who with you and the Holy Spirit,
Lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.}*

After all have received, the Presider says

Let us pray.

All ***Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members***

*of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Blessing

Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233

National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Hotline: 1-800-662-HELP

[National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Link](#)

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