

September 13, 2020  
15th Sunday after Pentecost

## GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Doug Gebhard

Centering Music for Quiet Meditation

Amy Kapp

### \*Confession

P: In the name of the Triune God + who creates, redeems and sustains: Let us pray.

**C: Merciful God, we are quick to ask for grace  
when we have fallen short,  
for patience when we have stubbornly  
turned away from you.**

**Why are we slow  
to show the same mercy to others?  
We keep track of wrongs  
and cling to old hurts,  
rather than offering the forgiveness  
that could free others and ourselves.  
We strive to be more faithful, Lord;  
we want to be more loving.  
So, we kneel before you once again  
to ask for patience and grace.  
Transform us, we pray.  
Pour out your mercy upon us,  
until it flows forth from us  
through acts of love.**

*(Silent confession)*

P: Lord, in your mercy.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

### \*Forgiveness

*Ends with:*

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**\*Gathering Song** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” (vs. 1-2 )

#834

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

**\*Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**WORD**

**First Reading** Genesis 50:15–21

Krista Tozier

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.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel** Matthew 18:21–35

Then Peter came and said to him, “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.'"

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

### **Time with the Children**

*Children please remain in pews.*

**Sermon**

“Debts, Trespasses & Sins”

Pastor Doug Gebhard

### **Musical Meditation**

*A time to reflect and meditate on the Word.*

**\*Apostles' Creed (Unison)**

Susie Neuhart

AM: Let us confess our faith, the faith in which we were baptized.

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

*Each section ends with:*

AM: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

AM: Enable us, O God, by the power of your Spirit, to live our lives in a way that is worthy of the gospel, to the glory of the name that is above all names, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*Extend signs of peace without physical contact.*

## **MEAL**

### **Offering**

#### **Musical Meditation**

#### **Offering Song** “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence, Lord,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

#### **Offering Prayer**

AM: God of unending gifts, we praise you for your abundant goodness. As you are generous, we want to be generous too. May the gifts we bring extend your generosity into the world, so that all people may be made whole by your goodness and grace.

**C: Amen.**

#### **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 our thanks and praise.**

#### **Holy, Holy, Holy** (*Spoken in unison*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord

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.

### **Thanksgiving at the Table**

#### **Words of Institution and Acclamation**

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.

For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,  
you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

P: Great is the mystery of faith:

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

#### **Lord's Prayer** (*Unison*)

**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.**

#### **Lamb of God** (*Spoken in Unison*)

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy upon us. And grant us your peace**

#### **Communion of the People of God**

*Worshippers remain seated. Each pre-packaged communion set contains a wafer and grape juice. Please partake of each element when invited to do so by the Pastor.*

P: Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry..."

The body of Christ given for you.

**C: Amen.**

*All partake of the bread.*

P: Jesus said, "I am the vine and you are the branches. Cut off from me, you can do nothing."  
The blood of Christ shed for you.

**C: Amen.**

*All partake of the cup.*

### **Prayer after Communion**

## **SENDING**

### **Blessing**

The blessing of the one God—

+ Spirit, Son, and Father—

be with you now and always.

**Alleluia!**

### **\*Sending Song**

"I Come with Joy" (vs. 1 & 5)

#482

1 I come with joy, a child of God,  
forgiven, loved, and free,  
the life of Jesus to recall  
in love laid down for me,  
in love laid down for me.

5 Together met, together bound  
by all that God has done,  
we'll go with joy, to give the world  
the love that makes us one,  
the love that makes us one

### **\*Dismissal**

AM: Lead a life worthy of your calling, giving glory to God in all things.

**C: Amen.**