

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAISE

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord, I lift Your name on high.
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life,
I'm so glad You came to save us.

chorus

You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
from the earth to the cross my debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky.
Lord, I lift Your name on high.

CALLING ON GOD

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to a master of a house who went out to hire workers. Some worked all day. Others worked just a few hours. At the end of the day, the master paid all the workers the same. Jesus' story brings to mind God's generosity toward us. We receive God's generosity when we confess our sins and trust in God's generous forgiveness. Let us take some time to reflect on the ways we have fallen short.

Silence for reflection

P: Let us confess together,

C: We confess, O Lord, that we have fallen short. We are guilty of pride. As we work in Your kingdom we often take the credit for what we have done, rather than giving You the glory. We are guilty too of thinking that You are not generous with grace. As we work in Your kingdom we sometimes think that we are more deserving than others. We thank you for Your promise of forgiveness. We also ask that we see You in a new way today. You are generous with grace. You have compassion for all.

P: Isaiah 55 says, "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." God's amazing and generous grace is hard for us to imagine. The good news is that He gives it to You freely today in the forgiveness of sins. I announce God's grace. In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven!

C: Amen

SONG OF PRAISE "Red Book" 225 (Twice)

I Love You, Lord

I love You, Lord
and I lift my voice
to worship You
o my soul, rejoice!
Take joy, My King, in what You hear,
may it be a sweet, sweet sound
in Your ear.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOCUS OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray.....Lord God, you call us to work in your vineyard and leave no one standing idle. Set us to our tasks in the work of your kingdom, and help us to order our lives by your wisdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 55:6-9 *By returning to the Lord, we receive His pardon*

"Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30 *Paul's exhortation to live and die with courage*

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16 *God calls us too to work in His kingdom*

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’

SERMON HYMN “Green Book” 343 *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
Hold me with your pow’rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
Feed me now and ever more,
Feed me now and ever more.

Open now the crystal fountain
Where the healing waters flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv’rer, strong deliv’rer,
Shield me with your mighty arm,
Shield me with your mighty arm,

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell’s destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan’s side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forever more,
I will raise forever more,

APOSTLE'S 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**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (After each portion of the prayers, these words are spoken: P: Lord, in your mercy, C: **hear our prayer**)

OFFERING

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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 Him thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Red Book" 246

What a Friend

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations, is there trouble any where?
We should never be discouraged, take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful who with all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness, take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In his arms he'll take and shield thee, thou wilt find a solace there.

"Green Book" 448

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace has bought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

PRAYER

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL