

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021

Order of Worship: Holy Communion, Setting Four

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PRELUDE & BELLS *We observe a moment of silence for prayer and meditation.*

WELCOME *congregation responds* **and unto ages of ages. Amen.**

We stand OPENING HYMN

#716

“Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace”

✠BRIEF RITE FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS✠

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

Silence is kept for reflection and personal confession.

Most merciful God... **we confess that we are born captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you- who believe and repent- of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

✠HOLY COMMUNION✠

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.**

SONG OF PRAISE

“Glory to God in the Highest”

p 148 Luke 2:14



A Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa - ther:



We wor- ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je- sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a- way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat- ed at the right hand of the Fa- ther; re- ceive our prayer.



For you a- lone are the Ho - ly One, you a- lone are the Lord,



you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir- it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa- ther. A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.
Amen.

WORD

Next Steps Memory Verse: PHILIPPIANS 4:4
Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, Rejoice.

We sit FIRST READING: ISAIAH 35:4-7A

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE & MEDITATION: PSALM 146

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

²**Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth,
for there is no help in them.**

³When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.

⁴**Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;**

⁵who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise forever;

⁶**who gives justice to those who are oppressed,
and food to those who hunger.**

⁷The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind;
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

⁸**the LORD loves the righteous; the LORD cares for the stranger;
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.**

⁹The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: JAMES 2:1-17

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? ⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.] ¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

We stand. GOSPEL VERSE: John 6:68

p151

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING: MARK 7:24-37

Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁸But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” ²⁹Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. ³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to You, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY

#820

“O Savior, Precious Savior”

We sit. SERMON

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Authentic Generosity
Generous Crumbs

PROCLAMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

*means whole, entire Christian

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Trusting, through the power of the Holy Spirit, in the goodness of our heavenly Father, let us pray in Jesus' name for the Church, the world, and one another.

A brief silence

Father, thank you for the persistent faith of the Syrophoenician woman. Thank you for James' blunt words about partiality and judgment, and about faith and works. Thank you for stretching our hearts, minds, and souls as you challenge and enlarge our faith in Jesus.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heal and restore your church, purchased with the precious blood of your Son. Drive from it all partiality and false teaching. Fill it with such faith in Jesus that all its words and deeds cause many to hear the Good News, turn to you, and receive forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give a spirit of trustfulness to your Church when it is persecuted for confessing Christ as Savior. Grant repentance and faith to its foes, until all hearts turn to you in adoration and praise.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give the people of this congregation such confidence in the love of Christ that they trust his holy Word, treasure his life-giving Sacraments, and constantly tell others of his great mercy. We pray for our mission to develop fully devoted followers of Jesus and to support Solid Rock our mission in action.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Thank you for the dignity of work, the joy of relaxation, and the opportunity to create. Grant satisfaction and just reward for honest labor of hand and mind. Help us provide relief for those who cannot work, or whose businesses are struggling. Teach us to honor all work that is done with an upright heart.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You are Lord of all the nations. To you all the rulers of the earth shall bow down and give an account of their deeds. Teach them to act with wisdom and without partiality. Let them care for the widows, widowers, orphans, and destitute. Cause them to seek justice within and peace beyond their borders. Make them examples of integrity and compassion to their citizens.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Protect and guide our military and all who stand in harm's way. Bring healing to the wounded and give strength and patience to their families. Use their skills, whether here or abroad, to establish the blessings of liberty, justice, and peace.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant that all who cry to you for help and healing; for forgiveness and restoration; or for guidance and comfort, may find your grace sufficient for their need. Especially we lift before you: {list}.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, we entrust to you all who cling to your promises in this life, and whose death we now mourn. We pray for the families of {List}. Grant us hope in our Lord Jesus, so our sorrow turns to joy. Help us to encourage and assist each other. Bring us to your house, where we are fed not crumbs under the table, but the rich banquet fare of the Lamb's high feast. By your gracious Spirit, let us, with all the redeemed, bless and adore you for the majesty and love which shines in the face of your dear Son.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Incline your ear to our prayers, dear Lord; and answer them according to your most gracious and holy will, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also, with you.**

We briefly greet those in our row with the words "Peace be with you."

OFFERING, OFFERTORY SONG & PRAYER- *Giving back to God*



First- and second-time guests are not expected to give a monetary offering. Your Connection Card and your presence this morning are your gifts. Safe, secure & easy electronic giving is available by scanning this code & on our website stpeterhallettsville.org/giving

We stand #184

Isaiah 5:1, Psalm 23:5, others

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, Lord”



Let the vine- yards be fruit- ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless- ing. Gath- er a har- vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath- er the hopes and dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Blessed are you, O Lord, our God, king of the universe. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**


GREAT THANKSGIVING



♩ The Lord be with you. ♪ And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary . . . 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.

Music: LAND OF REST, American folk tune
Text: "Sanctus," tr. English Language Liturgical Consultation

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

You are indeed holy...

In the night in which he was betrayed, ... Do this for the remembrance of me.

All honor and glory are yours...now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come Lord Jesus be our guest. **And let your gifts to us be blessed. Amen**

Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ present and received in, with, and under the bread and wine. All who are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and who believe the Lord's words "This is my body given for you" and "This is my blood poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins" may receive Communion. Young children, not yet receiving Communion, may receive a blessing.

(Matt 26:26ff, Mark 14:22ff, Luke 22:19ff, 1 Cor. 11:24ff)

Communion administration occurs in a continuous fashion at the Communion rail. The ushers will guide you to the rail. To receive the elements, extend your hand, palm up, to the ministers. White grape juice is available in the center of the trays. For those unable to consume either bread or wine, the Church affirms the Lord's full presence in each element alone. Once you have received the elements, return to your seat by the side aisles. If you do not desire to receive Holy Communion, you may remain seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"Lamb of God"

p154 John 1:29



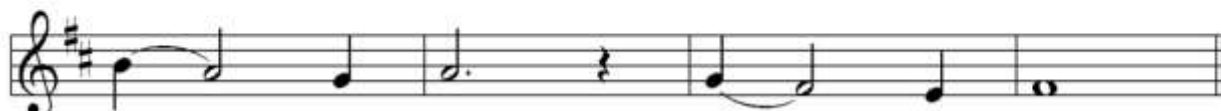
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING, SONG, & PRAYER
May the body and blood...keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

#313

“O Lord, Now Let Your Servant”

Luke 2:29-32



1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,
2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
till earth-ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,
till rap-tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin - ing shore,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
where Christ, the bless - ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.

Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886–1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis
Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune
Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Let us pray... we give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing powers of this gift of life. In your mercy strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you, and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

We stand. CLOSING HYMN

#551

“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH
100 North Promenade, Hallettsville, Texas 77964
(361) 798-2808 www.stpeterhallettsville.org

Our mission is Christ's mission – "I will build my church"
by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Opening Hymn; "Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace" (#716)

Text by Olive Spanaus; Music by Samotulsky Kaneional

**1 Lord of all nations, grant me grace
to love all people, every race;
and in each person may I see
my kindred loved, redeemed by thee.**

**2 Break down the wall that would divide
thy children Lord, on ev'ry side.
My neighbor's food let me pursue;
Let Christian love bind warm and true.**

**3 Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred
By loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do
Will crucify my Lord anew.**

**4 Give me thy courage, Lord, to speak
Whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I myself the victim be,
Help me forgive, remembering thee.**

**5 With thine own love may I be filled
And by thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where-e'er I be,
Divinely touched by thee.**

Hymn of the Day: "O Savior, Precious Savior" (#820)

Text by Frances R. Havergal; Music by Arthur H. Mann

1 O Savior, precious Savior,
whom yet unseen we love;
O name of might and favor,
all other names above:
we worship thee; we bless thee;
to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee,
our holy Lord and King.

2 O bringer of salvation,
who wondrously hast wrought,
thyself the revelation
of love beyond our thought:
we worship thee; we bless thee;
to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee,
our gracious Lord and King.

3 In thee all fullness dwelleth,
all grace and pow'r divine;
the glory that excelleth,
O Son of God, is thine.
We worship thee; we bless thee;
to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee,
our glorious Lord and King.

4 Oh, grant the consummation
of this our song above,
in endless adoration
and everlasting love;
then shall we praise and bless thee
where perfect praises ring,
and evermore confess thee,
our Savior and our King!

Closing Hymn: “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”(#551)

Text by Delores Dufner; Music by Thomas Haweis

**1 The Spirit sends us forth to serve;
we go in Jesus' name
to bring glad tidings to the poor,
God's favor to proclaim.**

**2 We go to comfort those who mourn
and set the burdened free;
where hope is dim, to share a dream
and help the blind to see.**

**3 We go to be the hands of Christ,
to scatter joy like seed
and, all our days, to cherish life,
to do the loving deed.**

**4 Then let us go to serve in peace,
the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
we go in Jesus' name.**