

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 13, 2020**

Preaching today is Pastor Reuben Schnaidt

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Gathering Song** - "Sanctuary"

Kelsey Joy

**Litany of the Word**

P: You are the treasured people of the Lord.

**C: A people holy to the Lord God.**

P: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart, teach them to your children.

**C: Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

P: One does not live by bread alone,

**C: But by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

**Prayer of the Day**

P: Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life.

**C: 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**

**Reading** - Romans 14:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

**Reading** - Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

<sup>1</sup>Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name.

<sup>2</sup>**Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits—**

<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,  
<sup>4</sup> **who redeems your life from the Pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**  
<sup>5</sup> who satisfies you with good as long as you live  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.  
<sup>6</sup> **The Lord works vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.**  
<sup>7</sup> He made known his ways to Moses,  
his acts to the people of Israel.  
<sup>8</sup> **The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**  
<sup>9</sup> He will not always accuse,  
nor will he keep his anger forever.  
<sup>10</sup> **He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**  
<sup>11</sup> For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;  
<sup>12</sup> **as far as the east is from the west,  
so far he removes our transgressions from us.**  
<sup>13</sup> As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

### Gospel - Matthew 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup> 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?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup> "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup> When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents<sup>Ⓜ</sup> was brought to him; <sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>26</sup> So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> 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.' <sup>29</sup> Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup> But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> 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. <sup>32</sup> Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup> And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup> So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

### Sermon

Song of the Day - "We Are Called"

Kelsey Joy

### Response to the Word

P: In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C: **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith...

## Apostles' Creed

**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.**

## Response to the Word

P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

*Silence for reflection...*

P: Gracious God, have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins.

**C: Amen**

## Sharing of the Peace

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, and live in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

## Offering

### Prayers of the People

P: As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the Church, the world, and all of creation.

P: Lord in your mercy...

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**C: Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

**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**

### Benediction

**Sending Song - "Lord I Lift Your Name on High"**

Kelsey Joy

### Dismissal

**P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

**C: Thanks be to God!**