



**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2021**

Some tips for our time together:

1. Please mute your Zoom feed. There will be moments for you to share as you feel led at which point you can unmute.
2. As is typical, the singing and bold print are for communal response. Caroline and Dave will be unmuted and be the “out-loud” voice of the people. We invite you to sing and say the words aloud along with them where you are while muted.
3. Follow along in the bulletin on a separate device (e.g. phone)
4. We aren’t sure, but it might make sense to switch back and forth between the ‘gallery’ and ‘active speaker’ modes. Perhaps utilizing active speaker mode for the reading of scripture, homily/sharing, and prayers of the people, while using gallery for the rest.
5. Create sacred space. Find symbols of the faith—cross, candles, Bible, bowl of water, icons—to put on a table near you during this time.
6. Asterisks in the bulletin indicate where the congregation is invited to stand.

## **GATHERING**

CALL TO WORSHIP\* (adapted from Psalm 146)

Come! Sing praise to God!

**We will praise God as long as we live!**

Blessed are those who have the God of Israel as their helper,  
whose hope is in the Most High--  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
the sea, and all that is in them.

Come! Sing praise to God!

**We will praise God as long as we live!**

God keeps every promise forever.  
God gives justice to the oppressed,  
and food to those who hunger.

Come! Sing praise to God!

**We will praise God as long as we live!**

God frees the prisoners,  
opens the eyes of the blind,  
and lifts the burdens of those bowed down.  
God watches over the refugee,  
and upholds the orphan and widow.

Come! Sing praise to God!

**We will praise God as long as we live!**

Our God loves those who do right,  
but deliberately thwarts those who do evil.

Come! Sing praise to God!

**We will praise God as long as we live!**

SONG - For Everyone Born

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,  
for everyone born, a star overhead.

For woman and man, a place at the table,  
revising the roles, deciding the share,  
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,  
For woman and man, a system that's fair.

Chorus:

And God will delight  
when we are creators of justice  
and joy, compassion and peace:  
Yes, God will delight

For gay and for straight, a place at the table,  
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,  
a rainbow of race and gender and color,  
for gay and for straight, a chalice of grace.

When we are creators of justice,  
justice and joy.

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
to live without fear, and simply to be,  
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,  
for everyone born, the right to be free.

### SONG - Cuando el Pobre/When the Poor Ones

When the poor ones who have nothing share with strangers,  
when the thirsty water give unto us all,  
when the weak ones in their weakness strengthen others,

refrain:

va Dios mismo en nuestro mismo caminar.

va Dios mismo en nuestro mismo caminar.

When at last those who suffer find their comfort,  
when they hope though even hope seems hopelessness,  
when we love though hat at times seems all around us,

When our joy fills up our cup to overflowing,  
when our lips can speak no words other than true,  
when we know that love for simple things is better,

When our homes are filled with goodness in abundance,  
when we learn how to make peace instead of war,  
when each stranger that we meet is called a neighbor,

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(adapted from Nancy C. Townley)*

**God of infinite love,  
we come before you this day  
knowing that we have not always been faithful  
to what you would have us do.  
We have too often turned our backs on those in need,  
limited our love and grace  
to those who think or act like us,  
and ignored your call to tear down  
the walls of hate and fear that divide us.  
Forgive us, O Lord,  
for our shortcomings,  
and let your love and mercy  
be a beacon to guide our own actions,  
until all things have been reconciled in your Son  
by the power of your Spirit  
to the glory of your Name.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### SONG - Ososo/Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Come now, O Prince of Peace,  
make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus,  
reconcile all people.

Come now and set us free,  
O God our Savior.  
Come, O Lord Jesus,  
reconcile all people.

Come now, O God of love,  
make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus,  
reconcile all people.

Come, Hope of unity,  
make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus,  
reconcile all people.

## WORD

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON - Isaiah 35:4-7

“Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then 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; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

### GOSPEL LESSON\* - Mark 7:24-37

From there he 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, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He 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.” But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

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

SERMON - Crossing Boundaries - Pastor Dave

## **RESPONSE**

SONG - Your Peace Will Make Us One

Mine eyes have seen the glory  
of the coming of the Lord;  
you are speaking truth to power,  
you are laying down our swords.  
Replanting every vineyard  
'til a brand new wine is poured.  
your peace will make us one.

I've seen you in our home fires  
burning with a quiet light.  
You are mothering and feeding  
in the wee hours of the night.  
Your gentle love is patient,  
you will never fade or tire.  
Your peace will make us one.

Refrain:

Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Glory, glory, hallelujah!  
Your peace will make us one.

In the beauty of the lilies  
you were born across the sea  
with a glory in your bosom  
that is still transfiguring.  
Dismantling our empires  
'til each one of us is free.  
Your peace will make us one.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

*(To give online, visit [rescov.org/give](http://rescov.org/give))*

DOXOLOGY\*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

## **SENDING**

SONG\* - One Bread, One Body

Refrain:

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many, throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.

Many the gifts, many the works,  
one in the Lord of all.

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,  
gathered to one, for all.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,  
woman or man, no more.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION\*