



Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 16, 2026 Blended Setting 3 10:45

Welcome

As We Gather

Our love for Him is to be so central to our lives that we would give up everything else rather than let go of Him.

+ WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP +

Opening Song "In Christ Alone" SSP 38

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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Invocation

P We begin our worship this day in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 91

¹He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

²I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."

³For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence.

⁴He will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

⁵**You will not fear the terror of the night,**
nor the arrow that flies by day,

⁶**nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness,**
nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

⁷**A thousand may fall at your side,**
ten thousand at your right hand,

but it will not come near you.

⁸You will only look with your eyes
and see the recompense of the wicked.

⁹Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—
the Most High, who is my refuge—

¹⁰no evil shall be allowed to befall you,
no plague come near your tent.

¹¹For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.

¹²On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.

¹³You will tread on the lion and the adder;
the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

¹⁴“Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him;
I will protect him, because he knows my name.

¹⁵When he calls to me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and honor him.

¹⁶**With long life I will satisfy him**
and show him my salvation.”

Confession and Absolution

P With the apostle Paul today we admit, “I do not understand my own actions.

C **For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.”**

P At the invitation of God our Savior, let us bring our weariness and burdens to Him, that His forgiveness may rescue us and restore to us the joy of His salvation.

C **For if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

- A** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean and cannot free ourselves. Even though we rejoice at the joy of Christmas, daily our sins of thought, word, and deed cause us grief. We have forgotten You even when we needed You the most. Our love for our neighbors has faded. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, we come at His invitation seeking the true rest of the forgiveness of our sins. Amen.**
- P** "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Upon this, your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Song of Forgiveness "How Deep (I will not boast)" SSP 40

I will not boast in anything.
No gifts, no power, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

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Prayer of the Day

A Let us pray.

Lord God, almighty Father, Your mercy has been published throughout the world, calling all people to repentance and faith in Your Son. Grant us a lively faith that we may proclaim Christ to all nations for the gathering of all people into Your house of prayer; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

+ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD +

Old Testament

Isaiah 56:1, 6–8

¹Thus says the LORD:

“Keep justice, and do righteousness,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed. . . .

⁶“And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,
and holds fast my covenant—

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.”

⁸The Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,
“I will gather yet others to him
besides those already gathered.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. . . .

¹³Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? . . .

²⁸As regards the gospel, they are enemies of God for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³²For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 15:21–28

A The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by

a demon." ²³But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

A This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

(No Children's song)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day "God of Our Fathers"

God of our fathers whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor thru the skies
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise

Thy love divine hath led us in the past
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast
Be Thou our Ruler Guardian Guide and Stay
Thy Word our law Thy paths our chosen way

God of our Fathers we love You Lord
God of our Fathers we lift our praise to You

From war's alarms from deadly pestilence
Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense
Thy true religion in our hearts increase
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way
Lead us from night to never ending day
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine
And glory laud and praise be ever Thine

God of our Fathers we love you Lord
God of our Fathers we lift our praise to You

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Message "Rescued from Death" Colossians 1:13-14

Prayer of the Church

- A** Let us come before God in prayer as His people, the sheep of His pasture, trusting that the Lord is good and His love endures forever.

- A** Lord of the Harvest, in recent weeks international students from around the world have arrived on campus at UNT to begin their semester of education. You have brought nations to our doorsteps that are inaccessible to missionaries. Lord, please open doors of friendship with the students who are ready to hear your Word.
In mercy,
- C O Lord, hear our prayer.**

A For those in need in our community—the sick, those facing surgery, those with terminal illness—that they receive mercy and healing according to God’s will, that they find peace in the love of Jesus, and that their hearts may be opened to receive the love of Christ. Heal with Your mercy those we lift before You *Deane Peters, Rick Miller, John Haubold, Jan Peterson, Carla Weikert, Robert Wood, Kerstin Krueger, Mary Fodor, Joseph Davis and for Judy Diztenberger as she mourns the loss of Roger.* For those harmed by natural or man-made disasters, that they experience renewal through those who donate and do relief work. In mercy,

C O Lord, hear our prayer.

A For this congregation, during this Pastoral call process and granting your wisdom to our Call Committee and Staff during this vacancy. Knowing God is God and that we have been raised with Christ, our lives be transformed from the old self with its selfish practices to life abundant with the new self, filled with generosity toward God and others. In mercy,

C O Lord, hear our prayer.

A Grant that Your presence and provision be known in our families and in the lives of our children. Be with each member of St. Paul, especially those we lift to You this day, Lisa De Los Santos, Judy Ditzenberger, Blake Edwards, Sharon Fitch, Bless the children of our CLC, Emma, Alex, Blakey, Logan, along with their parents and our staff. Guide families to be places where Your love is demonstrated to strangers as well as to friends. Grant that we share with them our faith in Christ and live together as God’s sanctified and thankful people. In mercy,

C O Lord, hear our prayer.

A In faith we entrust our prayers to You, heavenly Father. You are good and Your love endures forever; Your faithfulness continues through all generations. In mercy, Let us pray....

Lord's Prayer

**☪ 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.**

Passing of the Peace

(Having received the Gospel's grace, let us joyfully share "Peace of Christ" with one another.)

Offerings are Received

Prepare our Hearts for Communion

1. Do I believe that I am sinful, without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy in Christ Jesus?
2. Do I harbor resentment for another or refuse to forgive another's sin?
3. Do I believe that Jesus is God's Son and my personal Savior?
4. Do I believe that He is personally present with His Body and Blood?
5. Do I desire by the Holy Spirit's power to live a Godly life?

If this is what you believe, we invite you to come forward to share Communion with us. If this is not what you understand or believe you are welcome to come forward for a blessing; simply cross your arms for the Pastor to bless you.

Communion Instructions

(For those who are intolerant to alcohol, grape juice is available in the center of each communion tray marked by purple cups. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.)

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- A** Blessed are You, Lord God, heavenly King, for the grace You have shown to all creation in sending a Savior, Your Son, Jesus Christ. To the condemned, He speaks: "Today you will be with Me in Paradise," and we truly taste His Word fulfilled among us as He gathers us around His life-giving body and blood. Help us to partake of this heavenly feast in sincerity and truth, looking forward to the royal banquet that awaits as the faithful are gathered by Christ, the Lamb, in the midst of the throne, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Song of Sacrifice "Lamb of God " SSP 13

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us,
mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you break the chains of hatred and fear;
have mercy on us,
mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you are the way of justice and peace:
have mercy on us,
mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you are the way of mercy and love:
have mercy on us,
mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

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Distribution Song "Once Again" SSP 36

Jesus Christ

I think upon Your sacrifice

You became nothing

Poured out to death

Many times I've wondered

At Your gift of life

And I'm in that place once again

I'm in that place once again

Once again

I look upon the cross

Where You died

I'm humbled by Your mercy

And I'm broken inside

Once again I thank You

Once again I pour out my life

Now You are

Exalted to the highest place

King of the heavens

Where one day I'll bow

But for now

I marvel at this saving grace

And I'm full of praise once again

I'm full of praise once again

Once again

I look upon the cross

Where You died

I'm humbled by Your mercy

And I'm broken inside
Once again I thank You
Once again I pour out my life

Thank You for the cross
Thank You for the cross
Thank You for the cross my Friend
Thank You for the cross
Thank You for the cross
Thank You for the cross my Friend

Once again I look upon the cross
Where You died
I'm humbled by Your mercy
and I'm broken inside
Once again I thank You
Once again I pour out my life

Text (sts. , , , ,): Matt Redman

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Distribution Hymn "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" LSB 717

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, whose voice the waters heard
And hushed their raging at Thy word,
Who walkedst on the foaming deep
And calm amid its rage didst sleep:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

Most Holy Spirit, who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease,
And give, for wild confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and pow'r,
Our people shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad praise from air and land and sea.

Text: William Whiting, 1825–78, alt.; (sts. 2a–3a): Robert N. Spencer, 1877–1961, alt.
Text: Public domain

Hymn "Your Table I Approach" LSB 628

Your table I approach;
Dear Savior, hear my prayer.
Let not an unrepentant heart
Prove hurtful to me there.

Lord, I confess my sins
And mourn their wretched bands;
A contrite heart is sure to find
Forgiveness at Your hands.

Your body and Your blood,
Once slain and shed for me,
Are taken at Your table, Lord,
In blest reality.

Search not how this takes place,
This wondrous mystery;
God can accomplish vastly more
Than what we think could be.

O grant, most blessed Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
Text: Public domain

Song of Blessing "Thanks be to You" SSP 14

Praise to you, O God of mercy!
Thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly:
Thanks be to you forever!

From of old you loved and sought us!
Thanks be to you forever!
Truth and justice you have taught us:

Thanks be to you forever!
Strong is your faithfulness,
strong is your love,
rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.

Praise to you, O God of mercy!
Thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly:
Thanks be to you forever!
Thanks be to you forever!

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Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

O gracious God, we give You thanks for having fed and nourished us by Your Word of life and the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Give us Your Spirit so that our lives may reflect your holiness as an outgrowth of your grace. Since we received this gift from those who came before us, give us the will and desire to faithfully pass on this sacred treasure to those who come after us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.

C **Amen.**

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

A 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.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn "We Believe" SSP 67

In this time of desperation
When all we know is doubt and fear
There is only one foundation
We believe we believe
In this broken generation
When all is dark You help us see
There is only one salvation
We believe we believe

We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's coming back again, we believe

So let our faith be more than anthems
Greater than the songs we sing
In our weakness and temptations
We believe we believe

We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's coming back again

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised
In the here and now let love invade
Let the church live loud our God will save
We believe we believe
And the gates of hell will not prevail
For the pow'r of God has torn the veil
Now we know Your love will never fail
We believe we believe

We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's coming back again

He's coming back again
He's coming back again
We believe we believe

Text: Matthew Hooper; Richie Fike; Travis Ryan

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Dismissal

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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