

The Service of Holy Communion
The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 5, 2021 8:30 A.M.

The Announcements

The Prelude

Lobe den Herren

Piano arr. Anne Krentz

The Ringing of the Bell

Confession and Forgiveness

L: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are 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.

L: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Entrance Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

ELW #858

Greeting, Kyrie

"In peace, let us pray..."

page 147-148

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord.

C: Amen

The Hymn of Praise pp. 149-150

L: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Prayer of the Day L: 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.

C: Amen.

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.

Psalm 146

L: ¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

C: ²I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

L: ³Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

C: ⁴When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

L: ⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

C: ⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

L: ⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

C: ⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

L: ⁹The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

C: ¹⁰The 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.

Anthem

We Will Rejoice

Ruth Elaine Schram

Senior Choir

Children Message

Gospel Acclamation *"Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?..."* page 151

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Gospel: Mark 7:24-37

Glory to you, O Lord/Praise to you, O Christ.

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 Syro-Phoenician 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."

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

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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.

The Offering Hymn

Light Dawns on a Weary World

ELW #726

The Offering Prayer

God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

L: Lord, in your mercy,... C: hear our prayer.

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Hymns ELW #460 *Now the Silence*, ELW #480 *O Bread of Life from Heaven*

The Post-Communion Prayer

P: Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection so that we may show your glory to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. C: Amen.

The Benediction

P: The God of life, who raised Jesus from the dead, who sends forth the Spirit to renew the face of the earth, be merciful to you, Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. Go in peace. Share the Good News! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Hymn

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

ELW #719, vss. 1-3-6

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude

Walton

arr. Timothy Albrecht

Activities this Week at St. John's

Sunday, Sept 5 8:30am
Wednesday, Sept 8 8:45-noon
 6:00pm
 7:00pm
 8:00pm
Sunday, Sept 12 8:30am

Sept 5, 2021 to Sept 12, 2021

Worship w/communion
Mini Do Day
Youth Bells
Sr Bells
Sr Choir
Worship at City Park
Sunday School kickoff

Scripture Reader	8:30am	Mary Jackson
Acolyte	8:30am	Ushers
Ushers	8:30am	Ron & Linda Dahlstrom Lee Ellickson family
Greeters	8:30am	Wendy & Sadie Bucheit Jane Kallevang, Vickie Larson
Comm. Prep	8:30am	Linda Groe, Rosanne Wicks
Comm. Asst	8:30am	Corb & Arica Grimstad, Rhonda Barr
Secretary		Rhonda Barr
Custodians		John & Sharon Roe
Organist/Director of Music		James H. Bieber
Pastor		Bryan Robertson

Radio Broadcast Ministry - Today's radio broadcast is given by Vic & Diane Fye, faithful listeners from Decorah. Thank you to everyone for your continuing support of this outreach ministry. Join us on Sunday mornings on KNEI 103.5 at 8:30am.

Outdoor Service

St. Johns Church is going to have an outdoor church service in our beautiful city park on Sunday, Sept. 12th. It will start at 8:30 AM at the amphitheater. Please bring a lawn chair to sit on if you would prefer not to sit on the benches. We will have a potluck brunch after the service. The brunch will take place in one of the park's shelters. The church is furnishing egg bakes, coffee, juice, and milk. We will also have paper products such as plates, napkins, etc for you. We ask that you bring a dish to share. The side could be muffins, bagels, fruit, coffee cakes, cinnamon rolls, etc. There will be a time for fellowship and games after the brunch. Parents of Sunday School kids are asked to bring along their child's registration form to turn in if you have it ready.

Hope for beautiful weather, but if it is rainy we will be back in the church for this service.

If anyone has a golf cart/people mover that they would be willing to bring to help move people from one place to another, that would be great!

Invite friends and neighbors to join us! It should be fun worshipping together in our park surrounded by God's beauty!