

September 1, 2024

Lectionary 22, Year B
15th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor David Wall
Worship Assistant Mary Danielson Gates



PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND GRACE

- P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.
- C: Amen.**
- P: Let us acknowledge our brokenness and
come to God for healing.
Silence is kept for reflection.
- P: Gracious God,
- C: Have mercy on us.**
**We honor you with our lips, but harm
others with our tongues. We fail to
follow your commandments. In our
desire to be first we make distinctions
among ourselves, placing the needs of
others last. In your great mercy, free us
from our failures and create in us clean
hearts. Draw near to us with grace, and
turn us to follow in the way of Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**
- P: God promises to forgive us and remember
our faults no more. By grace we have been
saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, the
source of eternal healing, we are forgiven.
- C: Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

No. 848

Give to Our God Immortal Praise!

- 1 Give to our God immortal praise! Mercy and
truth are all his ways. Wonders of grace to God
belong; repeat his mercies in your song.
- 2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt
and darkness and the grave. Wonders of grace
to God belong; repeat his mercies in your song.
- 3 Give to the Lord of Lords renown; the King of
Kings with glory crown. His mercies ever shall
endure, when lords and kings are known no
more!

PRAYER OF THE DAY *We pray together*

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: O God our strength,

**C: Without you we are weak and wayward
creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack
us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil
that arises from within ourselves, that we may be
preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings

FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2, 6-9

God's law: a sign of a great nation

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and
ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that
you may live to enter and occupy the land that
the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving
you. ²You must neither add anything to what I
command you nor take away anything from it, but
keep the commandments of the LORD your God with
which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will
show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples,
who, when they hear all these statutes, will say,
"Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning
people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so
near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call
to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes
and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am
setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so
as neither to forget the things that your eyes have
seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days
of your life; make them known to your children and
your children's children.

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

PSALM 15 *We read responsively*

- L: LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your holy hill?
- C: Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**
- L: They do not slander with the tongue; they do no evil to their friends ;they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.
- C: In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**
- L: They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING: JAMES 1:17-27

Be doers of the word, not hearers only

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of Lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, ongoing away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

WORD OF GOD. WORD OF LIFE.
THANKS BE TO GOD.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: MARK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

Religious practice and God's commandment

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' ⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

²¹"For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

P: THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD.

C: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

MESSAGE *PASTOR DAVID WALL*

HYMN

No. 772

O That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his statutes still! Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!

2 Order my footsteps by your word and make my heart sincere; let sin have no dominion, Lord, but keep my conscience clear.

3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray, a stricter watch to keep; and should I e'er forget your way, restore your wand'ring sheep. > >

4 **Make me to walk in your commands, 'tis a delightful road; nor let my head or heart or hands offend against my God.**

APOSTLES CREED

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

SHARING OF PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING—OFFERTORY--GLOBE OFFERING

Children are invited to bring forward an offering to the globe in the front of the church. Globe offerings will go to one of our global mission partners to be decided by our youth.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God,
source of every gift of your creation.

**C: By these gifts and with our lives,
help us to serve one another and all in
need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior
and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING *Spoken*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table. Jesus welcomes you.

DISTRIBUTION & HYMN

No. 806

O God My Faithful God

1 O God, my faithful God, true fountain ever lowing, without whom nothing is, all perfect gifts bestowing: give me a healthy frame, and may I have within a conscience free from blame, a soul unstained by sin.

2 Give me the strength to do with ready heart and willing whatever you command, my calling here fulfilling--to do it when I ought, with all my might--and bless whatever I have wrought, for you must give success.

3 Keep me from saying words that later need recalling; guard me, lest idle speech may from my lips be falling; but when, within my place, I must and ought to speak, then to my words give grace, lest I offend the weak.

4 When dangers gather round, oh, keep me calm and fearless; help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheerless; help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small, and, by your Spirit's might, to live at peace with all.

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy God,

C: you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: God all mighty, God most merciful

✠ bless you, keep you,

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: No. 551

The Spirit Sends Us Forth

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 comfort those who mourn and set the captive 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.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

PARTICIPANTS

PRESIDER—Bridge Interim Pastor David Wall

ORGANIST—Tammy Hanson

COMMUNION SET-UP—Erica Aronson

GREETERS— Sandy Doehling

WORSHIP ASSISTANT— Mary Danielson-Gates

COMMUNION SERVERS— Carmen Nesseth, Erica

Aronson and Sandy Doehling

COFFEE SERVERS—Cora Lee Monroe

TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Barb Groth, Steve Johnson, Holly Aldorfer

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jennifer Lurfald, Lavon Underdahl, Kevin Hildebrandt, Jim Fountaine, Boe Aronson, Renee Spidahl-Carmichael, Brent Ashland, Carol Lozon.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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PUBLIC DOMAIN HYMNS: *Give to Our God Immortal Praise, O That the Lord Would Guide My Ways, O God My Faithful God*

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Calendar - This Week

| | |
|---------|---|
| Sun 9/1 | 9 AM WORSHIP 10 AM COFFEE |
| Wed 9/4 | <i>NO Wed Worship</i> |
| Thu 9/5 | 4-7 PM Farmers Market 7 PM AA |
| Sun 9/8 | 9 AM WORSHIP RALLY SUNDAY <i>SEE BELOW</i> ↓ |

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun, Sept 8 9 AM RALLY SUNDAY WORSHIP
incl...Cradle Roll, Gr. 3 Bibles & Backpack Blessing. After Service: pancake feed, Sunday School registration, family games, face-painting, & fellowship & stewardship challenge.

Sun, Sept 15 **No Worship at First Luth.**
10:30 AM WORSHIP / SUNSCH / LUNCH @ Holden Park w/area churches. Bishop Hassanally leads worship. In case of rain t/b held @ Holden Church. Bring Lawn Chairs. Donate supplies benefiting Ruth's House. See <https://ruthshousemn.org/>
SEE SIGN UP SHEETS FOR LUNCH HELPERS

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