

***14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST***

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020



**INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

**COMMUNION DURING COVID-19**

Welcome to worship! We celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion today. Please have elements ready and placed in a way that you have easy access during our communion liturgy. Are there people you know who are probably worshiping alone? How about giving them a call, inviting them to celebrate the meal over the phone? For more information about our communion practice during the time of covid-19, please check out our resources tab on our website: [www.glcwen.org](http://www.glcwen.org).

# GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**C** Amen.

**P** 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.

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

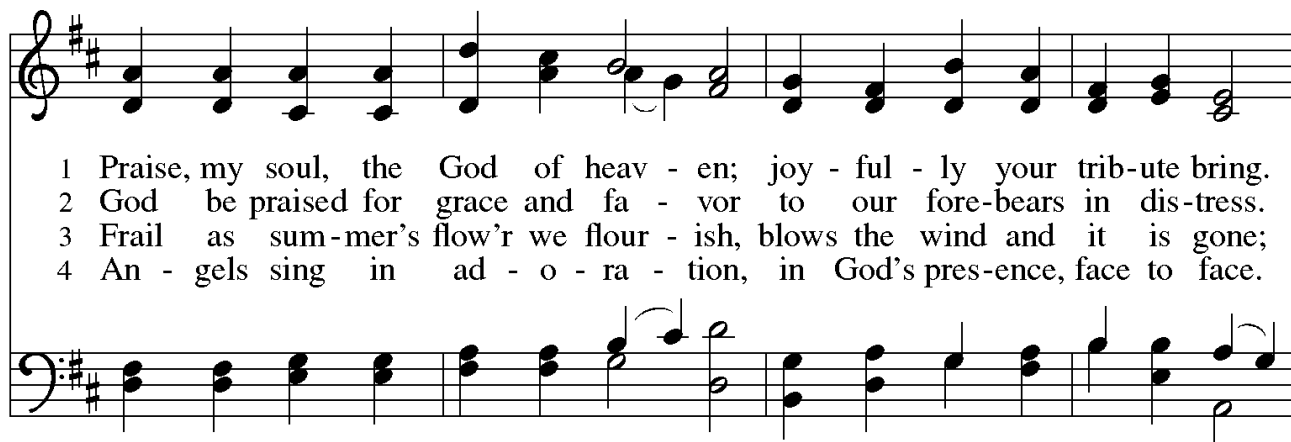
**C** we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus 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.

**P** 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.

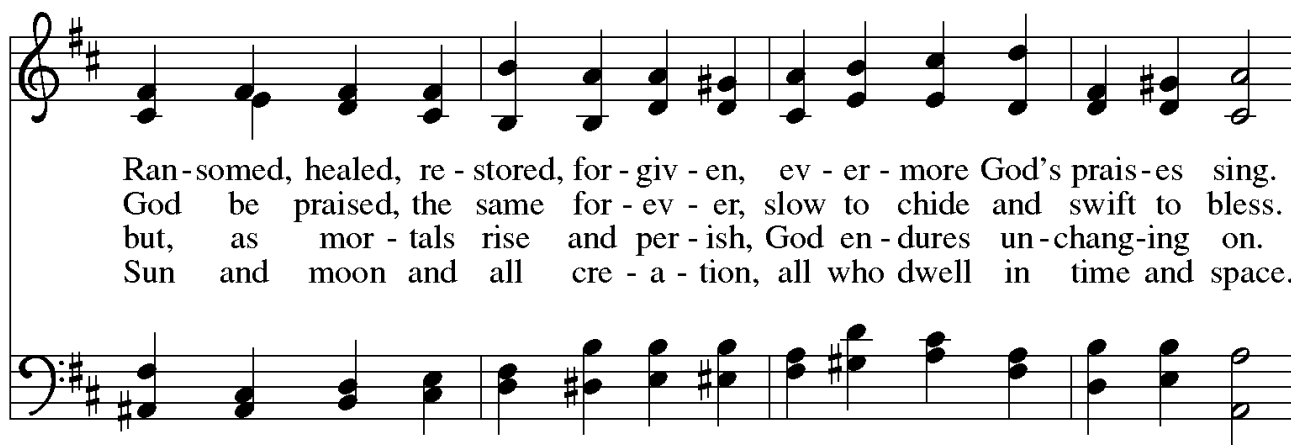
**C** Amen.

# GATHERING HYMN

## ELW 864, *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*



1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.  
2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.  
3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;  
4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.  
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.  
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.  
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847; alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927–2005  
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

## GREETING

**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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen.

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

*God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.*

<sup>7</sup>So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

<sup>10</sup>Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said:  
“Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away  
because of them; how then can we live?” <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, says  
the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that  
the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from  
your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The word of the Lord.

📌 **Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 119:33-40**

<sup>33</sup>Teach me, O LORD, the way | of your statutes,  
and I shall keep it | to the end.

<sup>34</sup>**Give me understanding, and I shall | keep your teaching;  
I shall keep it with | all my heart.**

<sup>35</sup>Lead me in the path of | your commandments,  
for that is | my desire.

<sup>36</sup>**Incline my heart to | your decrees  
and not to | unjust gain.**

<sup>37</sup>Turn my eyes from be- | holding falsehood;  
give me life | in your way.

<sup>38</sup>**Fulfill your promise | to your servant,  
which is for | those who fear you.**

<sup>39</sup>Turn away the reproach | that I dread,  
because your judg- | ments are good.

<sup>40</sup>**Behold, I long for | your commandments;  
by your righteousness en- | liven me.**

## SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14

*The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.*

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy.

<sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

**☛ Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20**

**P** The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup>But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

# HYMN OF THE DAY

## ELW 470, *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*



1 Draw us in the Spir - it's teth - er, for when hum - bly  
2 As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of  
3 All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -



in your name two or three are met to - geth - er,  
Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er  
ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing,



you are in the midst of them. Al - le - lu - ia!  
break the bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia!  
we may be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.  
Al - le - lu - ia! so now bind our friend - ship up.  
Al - le - lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

Text: Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936, alt.

Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958

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## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**P** With the whole Christian Church on earth, let us confess our faith.

**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.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**P** Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

**P** Lord, in your mercy,

**C** ...hear our prayer.

**P** All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## OFFERING



1 What have we to of - fer? What have we to share?  
2 What have we to of - fer? What have we to bring?  
3 What have we to of - fer? What have we to give?

Coins from the cof - fer, hearts filled with care.  
Love, ripe with laugh - ter; hope that we can sing;  
Eyes that are wide o - pen; lies that we won't live;

God will not fal - ter; so let us dare  
dreams of what we're af - ter; prom - is - es of when.  
truth that must be spo - ken; jus - tice some - how.

lay it at the al - tar there.  
Lay it at the al - tar then.  
Lay it at the al - tar now.

4 What have we to of - fer? What have we to  
give? Lives we will live.

Text: Ray Makeever

Music: LET US ENTER IN: OFFERTORY, Ray Makeever

Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

**C Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

**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.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

**P** In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **LORD'S PRAYER** *(Please pray whatever version you prefer)*

**P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C** **Our Father in heaven,**  
**hallowed be your name,**  
**your kingdom come,**  
**your will be done,**  
**on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**  
**Forgive us our sins**  
**as we forgive those**  
**who sin against us.**  
**Save us from the time of trial**  
**and deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom, the power,**  
**and the glory are yours,**  
**now and forever. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** Taste and see that the Lord is good.

## **COMMUNION**

**P** The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
**C** **Amen.**

# LAMB OF GOD

Finland

1. *Oi,* *Ju - ma - lan* *Ka - rit - sa,* *io - ka* *pois* *o - tat*  
2. *O* *Lamb* *of* *God,* *you* *take* *a - way* *the*

6 *maa - il - man* *syn* *nin,* *have* *ar - mah - da* *mei - ta,*  
*sin* *of* *the* *world:* *mer - cy* *on* *us,*

11 *ar - mah - da* *mei* *ta.* *us.* 3. *O* *Lamb* *of*  
*mer - cy* *on*

17 *God,* *you* *take* *a - way* *the* *sin* *of* *the*

21 *world,* *grant* *us* *vi - sion,* *grant* *us*

26 *jus - tice,* *grant* *us* *your* *own* *true* *peace.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P** Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BENEDICTION

### *May the Love of the Lord*

Swee Hong Lim, 1992, Singapore

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score consists of 16 measures. The lyrics are: May the love of the Lord, rest u - pon your soul. May His love dwell in you, through - out ev - ery day. May His coun - te - nance shine u - pon you and be gra - cious to you. May the Spi - rit be u - pon you as you leave this place.

May the love  
of the Lord, rest u - pon your soul.  
May His love dwell in you, through - out ev - ery  
day. May His coun - te - nance shine u - pon you  
and be gra - cious to you. May the Spi - rit  
be u - pon you as you leave this place.

Words: maria Ling Poh Choo. Music: Swee Hong Lim.  
General Board of Global Ministries-GBGMusik

## SENDING HYMN

### ELW 836, *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be-fore thee, prais-ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flow-'ry mead-ow, flash - ing sea,  
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.  
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di-vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C** Thanks be to God.

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