

# THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HOLY EUCHARIST September 14, 2025 at 9 AM

### **Prelude**

Please stand as you are able.



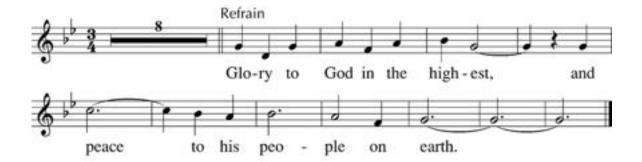


Words: Robert Grant (1779-1838); Music: Hanover, William Croft (1678-1727); Public Domain

# **Opening Acclamation**

Presider
All
Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.

#### Gloria



### Verses

- Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
- Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
- For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, the Father. Amen! Amen!

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# **Collect of the Day**

Presider May God be with you.

All And also with you.

*Presider* Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

A// Amen.

Please be seated.

First Reading Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Reader

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse-- a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them.

"For my people are foolish,

they do not know me;

they are stupid children,

they have no understanding.

They are skilled in doing evil,

but do not know how to do good."

I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void;

and to the heavens, and they had no light.

I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking,

and all the hills moved to and fro.

I looked, and lo, there was no one at all,

and all the birds of the air had fled.

I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert,

and all its cities were laid in ruins

before the LORD, before his fierce anger.

For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end.

Because of this the earth shall mourn,

and the heavens above grow black;

for I have spoken, I have purposed;

I have not relented nor will I turn back.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

A// Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 14

The choir will sing the refrain once, followed by the congregation.

The choir will then sing the verses with the congregation singing the refrain

#### Refrain



- 1 Fools say in their heart, "There is no God." \*
  Their deeds are corrupt and vile;
  Not one of them does any good.
- 2 God looks down from heaven, \*
  To see if there are any who are wise.
  Or if any are seeking after God.
- 3 But all have fallen away.

### Refrain

All are unfaithful; all alike are depraved: \*
Not one of them does what is right, not a single one.

4 Don't these evildoers understand? \*
They devour the people of God
As if they were eating bread;
They never pray to God.

### Refrain

- 5 They will be struck with fear and terror. \* For God is on the side of the faithful.
- 6 You may deride the hope of the poor, \* But God is their shelter.

### Refrain

7 O that salvation for Israel would come from Zion! \* When god restores the fortunes of the people, then Jacob will rejoice, then Israel will be glad!

#### Refrain

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Second Reading 1 Timothy 1:12-17

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Reader

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

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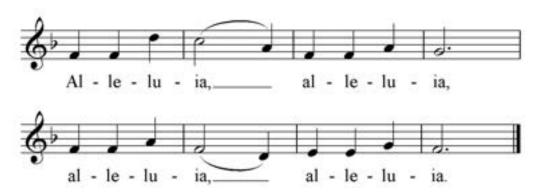
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

All children are invited to join the Gospel procession! Take an instrument from the basket and with joy & enthusiasm herald the proclamation of the Gospel!

### **Sequence Hymn**

Zimbabwe Alleluia (sung before and after the Gospel)



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### The Gospel

Gospeler All

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke **Glory to you, Lord Christ.** 

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell

you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninetynine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, `Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Children's Homily Rev. Dn Stefi Baiju

**Reflection** Rev. Kristin Saylor

Following the sermon, we will hold a short period of silence, begun and ended with the ringing of a bell. As with all things in our liturgy, we do not expect perfection and celebrate that the Holy Spirit meets us wherever we are - be it in stillness or in the joyful presence of children in our midst.

#### **Nicene Creed**

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

> We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# **Prayers of the People**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, Lord in your mercy,

A// Hear our prayer.

*Intercessor* For the holy Church of God: that it may be filled with truth and love and be found

faithful at the day of your coming. We pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; for Paula, our Diocesan Bishop; for all bishops and ministers; and for all the holy people of God.

Lord, in your mercy,

A// Hear our prayer.

*Intercessor* For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that

we may be united in your truth and show forth your glory in all that we do.

Lord, in your mercy,

A// Hear our prayer.

*Intercessor* For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among

nations and peoples. Lord, in your mercy,

A// Hear our prayer.

*Intercessor* For all who hold authority in public life: that, guided by your wisdom, they may faith-

fully administer justice, seek the common good, and uphold the dignity and liberty of

every person. Lord, in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer.

*Intercessor* For a blessing upon all human labor and the faithful stewardship of creation's riches:

that the world may be delivered from poverty, famine, and disaster. We pray for the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all in

danger, that they may find relief and protection. Lord, in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer.

*Intercessor* For all who have commended themselves to our prayers; for our families, friends,

and neighbors: that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and

health. Lord, in your mercy,

All Hear our prayer.

*Intercessor* We remember especially those on our parish prayer list, particularly those suffering

from illness or entrusted to us for special needs. Strengthen our families, friends, and

neighbors, that, released from fear, they may live in peace, joy, and wholeness.

Lord, in your mercy,

All Here Our prayers

Intercessor We remember our children in school and those who are far from home for their stud-

ies or work; Lord, bless them with wisdom, knowledge, and strength.

Lord, in your mercy,

All Hear our prayers.

Into your hands, O God, we place ourselves, Support and strengthen us as we seek

to make the world a more welcoming place. Lord, in your mercy,

A// Hear our prayer.

*Intercessor* For all who have died in your love, and for those known to you alone, may they rest

in peace with all the saints, in a place without pain or sorrow, only eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy,

A// Hear our prayer.

### Confession

*Presider* Let us confess our sins to God.

A// God of all mercy,

we confess that we have sinned against you,

opposing your will in our lives.

We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created.

We repent of the evil that enslaves us,

the evil we have done,

and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of

Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit

keep you in eternal life.

All Amen.

#### The Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

All And also with you.

Jean Anne Shafferman and Anna Laura Page; Based on the Caribbean tune "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" and the American spiritual "I'm So Glad"

# **Presentation Hymn**

# With gratitude and humble trust



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# **Eucharist Prayer A – Expansive language (Mass of Creation)**



Presider

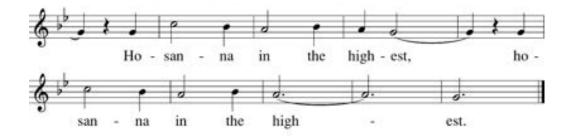
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

#### **Sanctus**





Presider

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

#### **Memorial Acclamation**

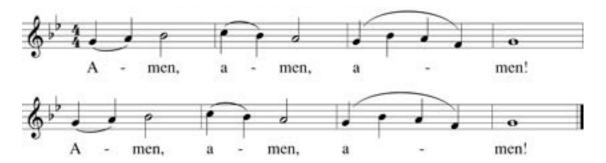


Presider

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with Lawrence and all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.



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# The Lord's Prayer

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All
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 for ever. Amen.

# **Breaking of the Bread**

### **Fraction Anthem**



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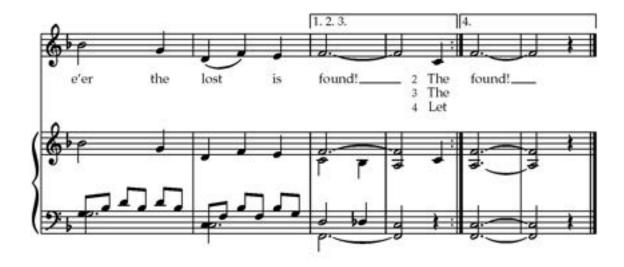
*Presider* The gifts of God for the people of God.

Ushers will guide you to the front of the congregation, where you will have the option to receive regular or gluten-free bread.

We offer two options for receiving wine. If you wish to drink directly from the common cup, please proceed to the communion ministers holding chalices, directly next to the bread stations. If you wish to receive by intinction (dipping the bread into the wine), please proceed to the external communion stations, where you will find Eucharistic ministers holding intinction bowls.







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# The sending forth of Eucharistic Visitors

When Eucharistic Visitors are sent out the following words are used.

 $A/\!\!/$ 

In the name of God and this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body. We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.

### **Postcommunion Prayer**

*Presider* Let us pray.

 $A/\!/$ 

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# **Blessing**



Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793–1847); Music: Lauda anima, John Goss (1800–1880); Public Domain

### **Dismissal**

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

A// Thanks be to God.

### **Postlude**

### **WELCOME!**

New to St. Lawrence? Please complete the top part of the newcomers card found in the pews and either drop it in the collection plate or hand it to an usher.

# "Soft Space" for Children

This space is for children young enough to enjoy a front row seat, up to age 10. The soft space gives kids a chance to experience our liturgy, worship, and communion without anything in their way.

Join us for coffee hour in the narthex immediately following the service

# **Community Prayers**

The Universal Church, its members and its mission; The Church of South India (United); and for our Companion Dioceses of Southeast Mexico and Renk

The concerns of the local community, especially those who are affected by gun violence

Those who suffer and are in any trouble and those who have requested our prayers: the Smith family, the Frank family, Joe, Celeste, Danny, Kristine, Valorie, Craig, Jane, Evelyn, Cara, Robin, Duke, Phyliss, Mike, Ruth, Sherry, Mark, Jen, Fran, Jay, Nancy, Kristin, Marianne, Dave, Liz, Katie, Jackie, Jeremy, Evelyn, Alan, Paul, Van, Julia, Jack, Courtenay, Beverly

We pray for those who are incarcerated, especially: Charles, Christino, Gregory, Jermaine Karlondo, Maurice, Rickie, Robert, Shane, Damian

We pray for those awaiting children, especially: Lauran and Daniel, Diana and Shane; Liz and Nathanael

We offer thanksgiving for the arrival of children

We pray for those who have died

We pray for our beloved animal companions, especially: Missy, Buster

We pray for peace and healing in our nation and the world

We pray that peace and justice may come soon in places of war and conflict, and for all whose life of service puts them at risk; and for all victims of religious, racial and gender oppression throughout the world.

If you have a loved one you would like mentioned in the Prayers of the People list, please write their first name on the clipboard located at the rear of the church. You may also visit www.stlawrencechurch.org and click on "worship" and look for "Online Prayer Group".

Names are checked and updated weekly and refreshed every month

### **Excited to Kick Off Godly Play 2025!**

We are thrilled to begin Godly Play 2025 today! After receiving the Eucharist, children will go to their assigned classrooms according to their age groups. Our dedicated Godly Play teachers are ready and excited to guide them.

### This week:

- **Elementary Class (ages 3–7):** Exploring the *Circle of the Church Year* lesson
- Junior Class (ages 8+): Learning the Lost Coin Parable

Let the children enjoy the First day wondering questions, creating, and having fun with their crafts and class activities!

**Note for Parents:** Please join us for coffee hour after the service while our children are engaged in Godly Play.



#### Teachers' Retreat a Wonderful Success!



We are delighted to share that our Teachers' Retreat last week was a truly meaningful and inspiring experience. Heartfelt thanks to each of our dedicated teachers for your wholehearted participation. Your energy, openness, and enthusiasm made this time together so special.

As we enter this new year, we are filled with gratitude and excitement. Each of you brings unique gifts that play a vital role in nurturing the faith and spiritual growth of our children.

Through your guidance, our young ones are learning to wonder, grow, and discover God's love lessons that will stay with them for a lifetime.

Please know that our prayers and blessings are always with you as you embark on this year of teaching, sharing, and inspiring.

With gratitude, Rev. Dn. Stefi Baiju





### Join us Sundays at 10:15am to explore passages of the bible

The theologian Phyllis Trible coined the term "Texts of Terror" to describe passages in the Bible that have, in human hands, been used as tools of oppression, especially towards those on the margins of communities. While it is tempting to sweep these uncomfortable texts under the proverbial rug, our faith tradition invites us to face what makes us cringe head on, to wrestle with God and these stories until we can make meaning from them. In this five week series, we will discuss what it means that our sacred texts include stories with such a capacity for violence and explore how we might read them in ways that, instead of causing terror, lead to joy and new life.



On the STL calendar (see the entire calendar on the STL website, stlawrencechurch.org)

Sunday, September 14 - First Day of Sunday School, Sunday School Rm, 10 AM

Tuesday, September 16 - Young Episcopal Seniors (YES), Library, 11:30 PM;

Vestry Meeting, Fireside Rm, 7 PM

Saturday, September 20 - Seeking Sophia, Fireside Rm, 9 AM

**Sunday, September 21** - Ministry Connection, Sanctuary, 10:15

Thursday, September 25 - Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary, 7 PM

Saturday, September 27 - Hope Food Pantry, Narthex, 8-10 AM

Saturday, October 4 - POSTPONED—Chili Cook Off







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