



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Order of Worship for streaming service during COVID-19

September 13, 2020

9:30 am



about today's service

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

P: Presiding Minister C: Congregation L: Lector

✝ Gathering ✝

We gather together to praise God and receive God's love.

Welcome Pastor John Brock

Gathering music "Let Us Come Return"
FaithX (pre-recorded)

Announcements Pastor John Brock

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Faithful God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Hymn: Where Charity and Love Prevail TWENTH-FOURTH

1. *Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.*

2. *With grateful joy and holy fear, God's charity we learn; let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in return.*

3. *Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son; as members of each body joined, in him we are made one.*
4. *Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease. Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.*
5. *Let us forgive each other's faults as we our own confess, that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.*

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(video)

Greeting Pastor John Brock

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

Prayer of the Day Pastor John Brock

P: Let us pray. O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message and Blessing of the Backpacks Pastor Liz Frey

Song: "His Mercy Is More"
FaithX (pre-recorded)

✝ Word ✝

We listen to the story of God's mighty acts for the sake of God's people.

Reading: Romans 14:1-12 Kim Hoover

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also, those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Pastor Jack Horner

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon:

Pastor Jack Horner

Series theme:

"Uncomfortable: How far are you willing to follow Jesus?"

Weekly sermon title: "We Do Not Live to Ourselves"

Solo: "Marchin' On Up"

arr. Mark Hayes

Ron Livingston, soloist

Prayers of the Church

Pastor John Brock

Lord's Prayer

Pastor John Brock

P: Let us pray the prayer our Lord taught us.

C: 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.

Peace

Pastor John Brock

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

✠ Meal ✠

When we celebrate communion we remember that Jesus died for us and we experience His love and forgiveness. As we eat the bread and wine Christ is present with us.

Eucharistic Prayer

Pastor John Brock

P: Delivering God, through your Son's dying and rising, you have released us from the debt of sin into the company of the forgiven. Sanctify us, who share this meal, to be a sign of jubilee hope in your freeing, redeeming, life-giving promise. Send your Spirit upon this bread and this cup of blessing to be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

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.

P: Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

P: God of mercy, shape your church to embody the forgiveness you make possible in Christ. Have compassion upon your sons and daughters who suffer the isolation of shame or disgrace. Give courage and conviction to any who find it difficult to forgive a brother or sister from the heart and console your children whose plea for clemency are unheeded. Bring your kingdom near in every place where financial debt weighs down nation or household. Draw us into your eternal life, that heralding your emancipation and proclaiming your liberation together with your people of every age, we may be bound to you forever in one perfect freedom, everlasting God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

✠ Sending ✠

We have heard the Word of God and offered our gifts. Now we are sent out, strengthened by the Holy Spirit to be God's people in the world.

Blessing of Communion to the Homebound Pastor John Brock

P: Compassionate God, we are all homebound during this time. Bless those who receive your word and sacrament at home. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Pastor John Brock

P: Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

Pastor John Brock

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Prelude: "Toccata" (excerpt)

Theodore Dubois

(pre-recorded)

United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.

worship leaders

Presiding Minister: The Rev. John H. Brock

Preaching Minister: The Rev. Dr. Jack M. Horner

Children's Message: The Rev. Elizabeth E. Frey

Music: H. Timothy Koch, Debbie D Wilson

Audio Visual: Jon Lobaugh, Amy Koch

Bulletin Production: Steve Kauffman

Bulletin Artwork: Trinity Staff

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