

**SUNDAY SCRIPT
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 3, 2023 8:15 AM WORSHIP SERVICE**

WELCOME AND GREETING

OPENING SONG “How Great Thou Art”

**O Lord, my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r through-out the universe displayed.**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee;
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee;
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

INVOCATION and PSALM 26

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

C: Amen.

P: Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

C: Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and my mind.

P: For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness.

C: I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites.

P: I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.

C: I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD, proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds.

P: O LORD, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.
**C: Do not sweep my soul away with sinners, nor my life with blood-thirsty men,
In whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.**

P: But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.
C: My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the LORD.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS and ABSOLUTION

P: God's unfailing love caused Him to devise a plan for our salvation. He did not spare His only Son but sent Him to bear the burden of our sin on the cross. Jesus bled and died and took away our sin. Take a moment now to silently admit to God that you are a sinner in need of forgiveness and then express to Him your thanksgiving that Jesus is that Savior!

A moment of Self-reflection and Silent Confession

**(Sing) And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

P: God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life. It is my pleasure to announce to you the forgiveness of your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Live your life for Jesus, taking up your cross and following Him, until the Day of His return when He will take us home.

C: Thanks be to our great and merciful God!

**(Sing) When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee;
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

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EPISTLE Romans 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL Matthew 16:21-28

²¹From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

NICENE CREED

**C: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen. *(Be Seated)***

SERMON “30 Encouragements Boiled Down to TWO” Romans 12:9-21
(Sermon Outline provided on back of Announcements)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

Refrain **Jesu, Jesu,
Fill us with Your love,
Show us how to serve
The neighbors we have from You.**

**Kneels at the feet of His friends,
Silently washes their feet,
Master who pours out Himself for them. *Refrain***

**Neighbors are wealthy and poor,
Varied in color and race;
Neighbors are nearby and far away. *Refrain***

**These are the ones we will serve;
These are the ones we will love;
All these are neighbors to us and You. *Refrain***

**Kneel at the feet of our friends,
Silently washing their feet:
This is the way we will live with You. *Refrain***

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

BLESSING

CLOSING SONG “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

**Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father’s bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.**

**Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.**

**Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.**

**Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken.
Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members;
Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.**

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