



SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 • 8:30 AM • FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
GOD'S POWER

Welcome! We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened by His Word to be His witnesses.

Families, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; there is a cry room near the back of the sanctuary and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the elevator (to the left as you exit the sanctuary). **Guests**, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the Guest side of the Welcome Card found in the pews/ chair backs and place it in the offering plates.

As We Gather: God's power isn't limited to the Old Testament, to prophets on a mountain, or fire from above. Jesus has come for sinners, and if you are not a sinner, He does not have anything for you. To emphasize why He has come, our Lord tells the stories of ninety-nine sheep left behind to find one who is lost and a woman who rejoices over finding one lost coin. You are that lost sheep and lost coin for whom Christ has come and in whom heaven rejoices. Jesus has come for you and for you He has offered Himself upon the cross and been laid in the tomb. This is the heavenly joy of the angels above, and it is our earthly joy as well. Christ came for us!

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

OPENING HYMN

686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

- 1 Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee; May I still Thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer, Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P O Lord, my God, I cry to You for help.

C Heal and restore me, O Lord.

(Continued on next page.)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(cont.)*

P Most holy and merciful Father,

C like sheep, O Lord, we have strayed and wandered from You. We have sinned against You and one another. We have done the evil You forbid, and we have not done the good You desire. There is no health in us. O merciful and divine Shepherd, cover our sins with Your forgiveness, clothe us with Your perfect righteousness, and preserve us in this faith and fear, that we may be kept to the day when Your Son comes to judge all people. Have mercy, O Lord, and fulfill Your Word to us in Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. His peace be with you.

C And also with you.

GREETING

KYRIE

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the Lord to be delivered to troubled homes and hearts, for friendship to replace warfare, and for His people to choose love instead of hate, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For evil to be overcome and victory in Christ to be known, both here in this holy house and wherever the Gospel is proclaimed, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For salvation, deliverance, and forgiveness for all, including our enemies, that we may walk in the steadfast love of our Savior, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Heal us! Bless us! Renew us, gracious Lord!

C Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

423 Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

- 1 Jesus, refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended, Gazed upon the sinner's fall;
Yet upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.
- 2 Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding, See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us Calms the sinner's deep distress.
- 3 Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

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SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Kings 19:9b-21

(The LORD speaks to Elijah.)

And behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰ He said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away." ¹¹ And he said, "Go out and stand on the mount before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. ¹² And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. ¹³ And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴ He said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away." ¹⁵ And the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. ¹⁶ And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. ¹⁷ And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him." ¹⁹ So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him. ²⁰ And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" ²¹ And he returned from following him and took the yoke of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the yokes of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and assisted him.

L *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

702 *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

(1st verse sung by Julia Witt; Verses 2-4 sung by congregation.)

- 1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine. Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away; O let me from this day
Be wholly Thine!
- 2 May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart;
My zeal inspire! As Thou hast died for me,
Oh, may my love to Thee Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!

(Vs. 3 & 4 on next page.)

HYMN (cont.)

- 3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my guide; Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away, Nor let me ever stray
From Thee aside.
- 4 When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above,
A ransomed soul!

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EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:18–25
(The cross is the wisdom and power of God.)

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

VERSE

Luke 15:10

P Alleluia. I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God

C over one sinner who repents. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:1–10

(Jesus tells the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

15 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." ³So he told them this parable: ⁴"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. ⁸"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹And 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.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Be Seated – Children Dismissed for Children's Church

MESSAGE HYMN

609 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -
5 Oh, how blest it is to know: Were as scar - let
6 Now my con - science is at peace; From the Law I

say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;
my trans - gres - sion, It shall be as white as snow
stand ac - quit - ted. Christ hath pur - chased my re - lease

And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for
Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my
By Thy blood and bit - ter pas - sion; For these words I
And my ev - 'ry sin re - mit - ted. Naught re - mains my

all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
now be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
soul to grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

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MESSAGE

Please Stand – Children return from Children's Church

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.

OFFERING *(Thanks for your ongoing stewardship and support of God's mission here!)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Prayer response after each petition...)*

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

850 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On Your peo - ple
2 Lo, the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure Your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e - vils

pour Your pow'r; Crown Your an - cient Church's sto - ry;
sail His ways! From the fears that long have bound us
Your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; Let the gift of Your sal - va - tion

Bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom,
Free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom,
Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,
Be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,

grant us cour - age For the fac - ing of this
grant us cour - age For the liv - ing of these
grant us cour - age Lest we miss Your king - dom's
grant us cour - age, Serv - ing You whom we a -

hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.
days, For the liv - ing of these days.
goal, Lest we miss Your king - dom's goal.
dore, Serv - ing You whom we a - dore.

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DISMISSAL

Into the world, telling about how God's power is displayed in the cross...

A HUGE "Thank you" to those that served to make worship happen (virtual and in-person) today...

Pastor Rev. Jason Hoerth

Reader Todd Thorbahn

Children's Mess Chris Graves, DCE

Pianist Carol Trumbo

Elder Robert Buckingham

Acolyte Dean Remmele

Acknowledgments

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Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.