

The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 13, 2020

Trinity Church in Menlo Park
An Episcopal Community



Help me O Holy One to rejoice in the gift of this new day. Wherever I am on my journey of faith, through our worship together this day, may the light of your presence set our hearts on fire with love for you, that we might love one another and ourselves in your name.

“For you alone, O God, my soul waits in silence, for my hope is in you.” Psalm 62:5

Please join us online for our worship livestream at
<http://www.trinitymenlopark.org/livestream>

The vestry invites you to join our “Let's Talk” small group conversations this afternoon at 2:00. Each group will have a host to guide the conversations about recent events at Trinity and our hopes for the future. You are welcome to attend whether or not you have pre-registered.

To join the conversation, go to:

<https://zoom.us/j/92704524542?pwd=VWtjbkNpenRjR2NsRUI2ZGhraEdvUT09>

PRELUDE

Deep River
Brian Leerhuber, soloist

Traditional Spiritual
Arr. by Mark Hayes

OPENING HYMN 379

God Is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him

Abbot's Leigh

1 God is Love, let heaven a - dore him; God is Love, let
 2 God is Love; and Love en - folds us, all the world in
 3 God is Love; and though with blind - ness sin af - flicts all

earth re - jice; let cre - a - tion sing be - fore him
 one em - brace: with un - fail - ing grasp God holds us,
 hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal lov - ing - kind - ness

and ex - alt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foun -
 ev - ery child of ev - ery race. And when hu - man hearts are
 guides us through our earth - ly strife. Sin and death and hell shall

da - tion, God who spread the heaven a - bove, God who breathes through
 break - ing un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 nev - er o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, so

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal Love.
 self - same ach - ing deep with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

OPENING SENTENCES

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People *Glory to God for ever and ever.*

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider God be with you.

People *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. *Amen.*

THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Romans 14: 1-12

Reader A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those 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. Who 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.

Some 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. Those 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.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If 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. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why 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. For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103: 8-13

8

The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9

He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

10

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

11

For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

12

As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.

13

As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

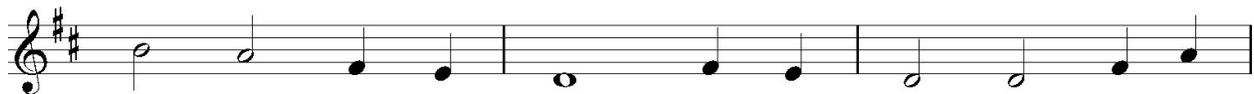
GOSPEL HYMN 686

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

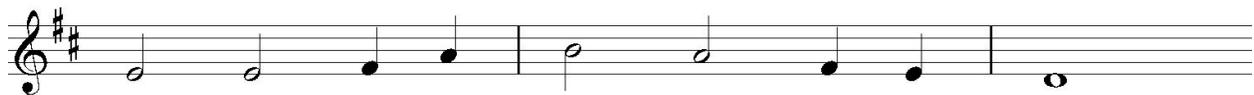
Nettleton



1 Come, thou fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my
2 Here I find my great - est trea - sure; hith - er,



heart to sing thy grace! Streams of mer - cy nev - er
by thy help, I've come; and I hope, by thy good



ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by
Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger wan - dering

flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise the mount! Oh, fix me
from the fold of God; he, to res - cue me from

on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18: 21-35

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People *Glory to you, O Christ.*

Peter 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?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, 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. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But 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.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt

because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Reader The Gospel of Christ.
People Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL HYMN 686 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly
I'm con - strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a
fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee:
prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to
leave the God I love; here's my heart, oh, take and
seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Joanne Sanders

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Presider Let us offer the prayers of the people from the people.

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest;
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

*The clergy will offer intercessions from our Virtual Prayer Board.
The Presider offers a concluding Collect.*

THE CONFESSION

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that 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.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTHEM

There's A Wideness In God's Mercy Tune: St. Helena
Susan Powers, Janet Campbell, Arr. by Calvin Hampton
Eric Levintow and Brian Leerhuber, soloists
Katie Behroozi, violin

*There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in His justice, which is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in His blood.*

*There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in Heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.
There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;
There is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.*

*For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we should take Him at His word;
And our lives would be thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.*

A REMEMBRANCE OF THE LAST SUPPER

Presider

Dear People of God: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to God, who by water and the Spirit has made us new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth his glory in all the world.

We remember that this same Jesus the Christ gathered with his friends on the night of his arrest for a Passover meal. At table with them he took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you." After supper, he 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." He told his friends that whenever they gathered together they should eat of this bread and drink of this cup in remembrance of him.

And so, the Church down through the centuries has been faithful to Christ's command, celebrating the Eucharist together and sharing in the mystical communion between Christ and his people. In this season, when the community of faith cannot gather at the Lord's Table, we remember the Last Supper of Jesus with his friends and we give thanks for the gift of the Eucharist that was given to us on that night. As we eagerly await the day when we can share the Bread and Cup together again, we remember that the mystical communion between Christ and his Church, and between us as members of Christ's Body, remains unbroken. And so, mindful of this deep bond in the Spirit, let us unite ourselves to Christ and to one another as we sing together the prayer that our Savior Christ has taught us:

2

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - low-ed be thy

6

Name, your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in

10

hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our

15

sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us, Save us from the time of trial,

19

and de - li - ver us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er, and the glo - ry are

23

yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men. A - men.

THE BLESSING

The priest blesses the people.

CLOSING HYMN 657

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Hyfrydol

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit! Alleluia, alleluia!

People Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

Special Thanks To
 Bob Cleveland, Livestream Manager
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Visit Trinity's YouTube channel at
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCg3tcDZW37doi2NYJDmD56A?sub_confirmation=1