

**The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost - A**  
**September 13, 2020 • Online Church at 10:00 a.m.**

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

**Coos Bay, Oregon • 541 267-2347**

*"Gathered in Christ, we are called to bring light to our community."*

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**Reconciling in Christ Welcoming Statement**

*We welcome everyone into all aspects of congregational life and leadership: All gender and sexual expressions and identities, all ages, all race and ethnicities, all economic and marital situations, all physical and mental abilities. We come as we are.*

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**Now the Feast and Celebration**  
**Order of Worship**

Welcome to worship at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Coos Bay, Oregon! This is the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Those serving in our worship today are Becky Bell-Greenstreet on piano, and vocalists Doris Smith, Kallie Mill, and Dave and Mo Aakre. Angela McAlister and Lynn Danner are our Zoom tech people, acting as service cohosts. The Altar Flowers today are provided by Ray Robison in honor of his new church family that has been so welcoming.

*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: Let us take a moment to center our hearts and our minds on Jesus Christ our Lord.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Dave & Mo Aakre, Kallie Mill, Doris Smith

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

**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: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✚ Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

**C: Amen.**



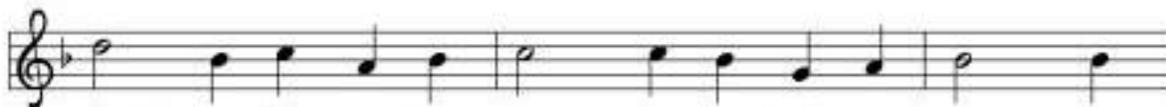
1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my  
2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the  
death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can



true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou  
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his



break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly  
glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es



and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are  
in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for



pin-ing to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,  
glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!  
and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

## GREETING

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

**C:** **And also with you.**

# KYRIE

*Assistant:*

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*Congregation:*

Lord, have mer - cy.

*3rd time to Coda* ⊕

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer -

*Assistant:*

For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the  
For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you

cy.

world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the  
praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

⊕ Coda

Help, save, and de - fend us, O

cy.

\* *Ending for Kyrie*

God.

A - - - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE: *Now the Feast and Celebration*

## Refrain

*Congregation:*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,  
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and  
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -  
er - more!

## Verse 1

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*

Now is the feast of the Lamb once  
slain, whose blood has freed and u -  
nit - ed us to be one great  
peo - ple of God.

*To refrain*

Verse 2

*Congregation or Congregation 2:*

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and  
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ  
for ev - er. *To refrain*

Verse 3

*Congregation:*

3. For God has come to dwell with us,  
to make us peo - ple of God; to make  
all things new. *To refrain*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Let us pray together,

**C:** **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.**

*After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.*

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 103:[1-7] 8-13

<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, | O my soul,  
**and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.**

<sup>2</sup>Bless the LORD, | O my soul,  
**and forget not | all God's benefits—**

<sup>3</sup>who forgives | all your sins  
**and heals all | your diseases;**

<sup>4</sup>who redeems your life | from the grave  
**and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;**

<sup>5</sup>who satisfies your desires | with good things  
**so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.**

<sup>6</sup>O LORD, you provide | vindication  
**and justice for all who | are oppressed.**

<sup>7</sup>You made known your | ways to Moses  
**and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.**

<sup>8</sup>LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,  
**slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love;**

<sup>9</sup>you will not al- | ways accuse us,  
**nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.**

<sup>10</sup>You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,  
**nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.**

<sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,  
**so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.**

<sup>12</sup>As far as the east is | from the west,  
**so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.**

<sup>13</sup>As a father has compassion | for his children,  
**so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O LORD.**

## SECOND READING:

## ROMANS 14:1-12

*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.*

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." <sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Congregation:*

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Repeat optional*

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL:**

**MATTHEW 18:21-35**

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

<sup>21</sup>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?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>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.' <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**The Rev. Peggy Yingst**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Change My Heart, Oh God*

**ELW #801 2x**



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church, \*  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

- *The word catholic, with a small c, means universal – as in the universal church*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**P:** Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

**P:** You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth especially Sunday School that has started back this week via Zoom. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom especially our President and all the members of Congress. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. Comfort and heal the sick, including Don Bunyard, Carol Foster, Butch Jefferis and Joan Lewis. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: For whom or for what else do the people of God pray?..... Lord, in your mercy.

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

*We thank you for your generous support during this time when our community has had to be apart from each other.*

P: Let us pray,  
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.  
You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.  
Prepare us for your heavenly banquet,  
nourish us with this rich food and drink,  
and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world,  
through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

*Congregation:*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the

One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the

high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

P: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
you have brought us this far along the way.  
In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,  
but guided us into the path of love and light.

In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity.

The cry of the poor has become your own cry;  
our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.

In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted,  
to break bread with the outcast and despised,  
and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age,  
that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom  
and hope of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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.**

P: Friends of Jesus, come to the table. Receive nourishment for your journey.



## POST COMMUNION CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Congregation:*



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:



Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice



weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for - ev - er!



Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.



3. Praise to you O God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



Thanks be to you for ev - er. Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray,  
We give you thanks, gracious God,  
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ.  
Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard  
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus  
Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

P: God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ,  
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C: **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN:

*Rise, Shine, You People!*

**ELW 665**



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered  
2 See how he sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;  
3 Come, cel - e - brate; your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,  
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent the Son to save us.



our hu - man sto - ry; God in him is cen - tered. He comes to  
he brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing. All men and  
your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing. To all the  
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us. Tell how the



us, by death and sin sur - round - ed, with grace un - bound - ed.  
wom - en, who by guilt are driv - en, now are for - giv - en.  
world go out and tell the sto - ry of Je - sus' glo - ry.  
Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry na - tion God's new cre - a - tion.

## DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord and our community.

C: **We will. Thanks be to God!**