

# THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 14, 2024

*“Lord, I Believe. Help My Unbelief!”*

## THE WELCOME

### THE OPENING HYMN #902 *“Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now”*



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in  
2 Un - seal our lips to sing Your praise In end - less  
3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, “O ho - ly,  
△ 4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly



true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with  
hymns through all our days. In - crease our faith and  
ho - ly Lord Most High!” And in the light of  
Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed



light di - vine, And let Your truth with - in us shine.  
light our minds; And set us free from doubt that blinds.  
that blest place We then shall see You face to face.  
Trin - i - ty, Be praise through - out e - ter - ni - ty!

## THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

**C: Amen.**

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C: Who made heaven and earth.**

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.**

*(please be seated)*

**THE INTROIT** Psalm 31:14-16; *antiphon*: Psalm 31:24 (ESV)

P: Be strong, and let your heart take courage,

**C: all you who wait for the LORD!**

P: But I trust in You, O LORD; I say, "You are my God."

**C: My times are in Your hand;**

**rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!**

P: Make Your face shine on Your servant;

**C: save me in Your steadfast love!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Be strong, and let your heart take courage,

**C: all you who wait for the LORD!**

**THE HYMN OF PRAISE #895** "Now Thank We All Our God"



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voic - es,  
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,  
△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,



Who won-drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;  
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us  
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,



Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way  
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed  
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



With count-less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.  
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!  
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your Church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*(please be seated)*

## **THE OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 50:4-10 (ESV)

The Lord GOD has given Me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning He awakens; He awakens My ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened My ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward. I gave My back to those who strike, and My cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not My face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord GOD helps Me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set My face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame. He who vindicates Me is near. Who will contend with Me? Let us stand up together. Who is My adversary? Let him come near to Me. Behold, the Lord GOD helps Me; who will declare Me guilty? Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up. Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of His Servant? Let Him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **THE EPISTLE** James 3:1-12 (ESV)

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For we all stumble in many ways, and if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(please stand)*

## **THE ALLELUIA AND VERSE** *(page 205 in the hymnal)*

**Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. These things are writ-ten that you may be-lieve  
That Je-sus is the Christ, the Son of God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.**

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL** Mark 9:14-29 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the ninth chapter.

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

When [Jesus, Peter, James and John] came to the [other] disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. And immediately all the crowd, when they saw Him, were greatly amazed and ran up to Him and greeted Him. And He asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" And someone from the crowd answered Him, "Teacher, I brought my son to You, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked Your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And He answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me." And they brought the boy to Him. And when the spirit saw Him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had entered the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And He said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **THE NICENE CREED**

**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.**

*(please be seated)*

## THE HYMN OF THE DAY #732 "All Depends on Our Possessing"



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant  
2 He who to this day has fed me And to man - y  
3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting O - ver tri - fles  
4 When with sor - row I am strick - en, Hope a - new my



grace and bless - ing, Though all earth - ly wealth de - part.  
joys has led me Is and ev - er shall be mine.  
and in get - ting Things that have no sol - id ground.  
heart will quick - en; All my long - ing shall be stilled.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en By their God are  
He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, He who dai - ly  
I shall strive to win a trea - sure That will bring me  
To His lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der Soul and bod - y



not for - sak - en And will keep a daunt - less heart.  
guides and rules me Will re - main my help di - vine.  
last - ing plea - sure And that now is sel - dom found.  
I sur - ren - der, For on God a - lone I build.

**5 Well He knows what best to grant me;  
All the longing hopes that haunt me,  
Joy and sorrow, have their day.  
I shall doubt His wisdom never;  
As God wills, so be it ever;  
I commit to Him my way.**

**6 If my days on earth He lengthen,  
God my weary soul will strengthen;  
All my trust in Him I place.  
Earthly wealth is not abiding,  
Like a stream away is gliding;  
Safe I anchor in His grace.**

**THE SERMON** "Lord, I Believe. Help My Unbelief!" Text: Mark 9:14-29

## **THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS** *“We Praise You, O God” (#785 vv.1-2)*

- 1) **We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;**  
    **In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.**  
**We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;**  
    **We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.**
  
- 2) **We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;**  
    **Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.**  
**When perils o’ertake us, You will not forsake us,**  
    **And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.**

*(please stand)*

## **THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*(Each petition concludes with the following response: “Let us pray to the Lord,” “**Lord, have mercy.**”)*

## **THE LORD’S PRAYER** *(printed inside the back cover of the hymnal)*

## **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **THE PEACE**

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

**C:** **Amen.**

*(please be seated)*

## **THE DISTRIBUTION**

*(please stand)*

## **THE DISMISSAL**

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

**C:** **Amen.**

## **THE POST COMMUNION COLLECT**

**P:** We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

## **THE BENEDICTION**

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

    The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✠ give you peace.

**C:** **Amen.**

*(please be seated)*

## **THE ANNOUNCEMENTS**