

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 21, 2025

10:30 am Contemporary

AS WE GATHER

The Divine Service is unlike our other activities during the week—in the marketplace, our place of employment, or our school—where we struggle to be “the people of God” amid the temptations and confusing details of living in a world still disfigured by sin, tragedy, selfishness, and death. By our own fault, we daily fall short of our calling as Christians. We are reminded today of the judgment of God’s Law by the prophet Amos against our worry over money and our own needs that distract us from the often-greater needs of others and even our own true need of faith and reliance on God above all. Each day of the week, the demands of the Ten Commandments of God call us back to our need for forgiveness and God’s mercy, grace, help, and love. So, we gather here for Divine Service, that is, God attending to our real needs. We come to repent of our sin and failure, and to receive forgiveness and new life and hope. That forgiveness and hope comes solely from the God who “loved the world” so much “that He gave His only Son” to die for you (John 3:16). We do not have to wait and wonder until the Day of Judgment. By your Baptism into Christ, by His mighty and reliable Word of forgiveness spoken over and into you, and by your connection with the body and blood of your crucified and risen Lord Jesus, you are being delivered from all evil, redeemed, restored, and forgiven for everlasting life in the kingdom of God already here and now.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING SONG

Lead On Good Shepherd

Verse 1

Well I've been turned 'round
But I've never been lost
Seen the water get troubled
But we walked across
When my knees were shaking
You held my hand
Turning my problems
To a promised land

Verse 2

Seen some mighty deep canyons
That You brought me through
Seen some mighty big mountains
That just up and moved
Glory glory hallelujah
Yeah that's my song
Walking with my Father
Into the great unknown

Chorus

Lead on Good Shepherd
I'll follow all my days
There ain't nothing sweeter
Than to watch You make a way
You've walked me through the valley
But You never steered me wrong
So lead on Good Shepherd lead on

Bridge

Step by step day by day
Lead me on Lord I pray
Road gets dark walk by faith
Lead on Good Shepherd

Ending
Lead on Good Shepherd lead on Good
Shepherd
Lead on Good Shepherd lead on Good
Shepherd

Lead on Good Shepherd lead on

CCLI Song #7209206

INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

SONG

Shoulders

When confusion's my companion
And despair holds me for ransom
I will feel no fear I know that You are near
When I'm caught deep in the valley
With chaos for my company
I'll find my comfort here
'Cause I know that You are near

My help comes from You
You're right here pulling me through
You carry my weakness my sickness my
brokenness
All on Your shoulders, Your shoulders
My help comes from You
You are my rest my rescue
I don't have to see to believe
That You're lifting me
Up on Your shoulders, Your shoulders

You mend what once was shattered
And You turn my tears to laughter
Your forgiveness is my fortress
Oh Your mercy is relentless

My help comes from You
You're right here pulling me through
You carry my weakness my sickness my
brokenness

All on Your shoulders, Your shoulders
My help comes from You
You are my rest my rescue
I don't have to see to believe
That You're lifting me
Up on Your shoulders, Your shoulders

My help is from You
My help is from You
My help is from You
My help is from You
My help comes from You
You're right here pulling me through
You carry my weakness my sickness my
brokenness
All on Your shoulders, Your shoulders
My help comes from You
You are my rest my rescue
I don't have to see to believe
That You're lifting me
Up on Your shoulders, Your shoulders

My help is from You
My help is from You
My help is from You
My help is from You

CCLI Song #7028523

SALUTATION

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray.
O Lord, keep Your church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

READINGS

FIRST READING

Amos 8:4–7

Hear this, you who trample on the needy
and bring the poor of the land to an end,
saying, "When will the new moon be over,
that we may sell grain?
And the Sabbath,
that we may offer wheat for sale,
that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great
and deal deceitfully with false balances,
that we may buy the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and sell the chaff of the wheat?"

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
"Surely I will never forget any of their deeds."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first,

then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 16:1–15

[Jesus] also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.' And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON SONG

Reckless Love

Before I spoke a word
You were singing over me
You have been so so good to me
Before I took a breath
You breathed Your life in me
You have been so so kind to me

(And) O the overwhelming never-ending
Reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending
Reckless Love of God

When I was Your foe
still Your love fought for me
You have been so so good to me
When I felt no worth
You paid it all for me
You have been so so kind to me

O the overwhelming never-ending
Reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it

Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending
Reckless Love of God

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me

There's no shadow You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me

O the overwhelming never-ending
Reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending
Reckless Love of God

CCLI Song # 7089641

SERMON

"Just Pray"
1 Timothy 2:1-7

Pastor Bill Brunold

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Leader: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

In the Bread, in the Wine

In the bread, in the wine,
Jesus Christ is here in space and time.
With his body and his blood
Jesus comes to offer us forgiveness.

We are stone, but Jesus makes us flesh
With his body and his blood
We are stale, but Jesus makes us fresh
With his body and his blood

In the bread, in the wine,
Jesus Christ is here in space and time.
With his body and his blood
Jesus comes to offer us forgiveness.

We are sick, but Jesus makes us healthy
With his body and his blood
We are poor, but Jesus makes us
wealthy
With his body and his blood

In the bread, in the wine,
Jesus Christ is here in space and time.
With his body and his blood
Jesus comes to offer us forgiveness.

We're divided, but Jesus makes us one
With his body and his blood
We are sin, but Jesus makes us holy
With his body and his blood

In the bread, in the wine,
Jesus Christ is here in space and time.
With his body and his blood
Jesus comes to offer us forgiveness

Jesus comes to offer us forgiveness

Jesus comes to offer us forgiveness

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Leader: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, we give thanks that we have again received the Body and blood of Christ, the bread from heaven. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage, that we speak the truth in love and build up the Body of Christ until that day we see You face-to-face; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Leader: 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.

People: Amen

CLOSING SONG

Your Grace Is Enough
Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Yeah Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I sing Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me for me for me

CCLI Song # 4477026

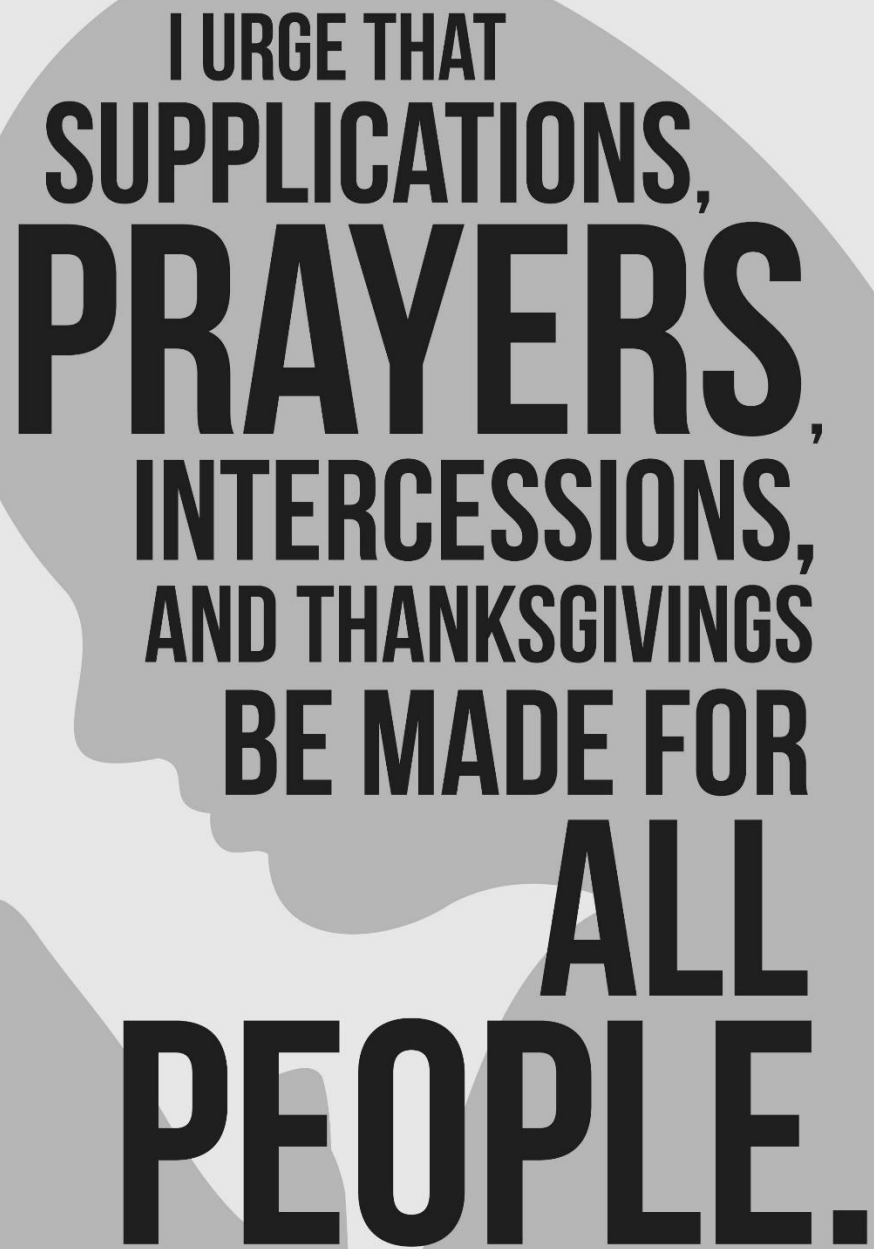
DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3.
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**I URGE THAT
SUPPLICATIONS,
PRAYERS,
INTERCESSIONS,
AND THANKSGIVINGS
BE MADE FOR
ALL
PEOPLE.**

1 TIMOTHY 2:1, ESV