



*FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST*

September 14, 2025

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

THANK YOU for joining us in God's house today! We cordially ask that our Guests with us today sign one of the guestbooks located at either the front or back entryways, or fill out a "Let's Get Acquainted" card located in the hymnal pew rack and place it in the collection plate.

THANK OFFERING: Members of Trinity give their offering as an expression of love and thankfulness to the Lord and to help support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

RESTROOMS are located at the back of the upper level (the annex), and in the basement (down the back stairs of the sanctuary or annex). Handicap access is available, please ask an usher for assistance.

YOUNG FAMILIES / TODDLER BAGS – We are **GLAD YOU BROUGHT YOUR CHILDREN** to our worship service. Jesus said: *"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."* We know that having little children in church can be a challenge, but **DO NOT WORRY** about it. Many of your fellow worshippers have been in your shoes and are just happy you brought your children with you. For your convenience, we have reserved the back rows of seating for parents with small children. These areas provide more flexibility for your family, as well as, easy access to move downstairs if necessary. A closed-circuit TV system allows families to continue participating in the service while downstairs. Pre-school **toddler bags** and **children's bulletins** are available for their enjoyment. Ask an usher for one to use during the service and please return the toddler bag afterwards.



Year C (2025) – Season after Pentecost (Series 2)

WOUNDS THAT HEAL

SERIES EXPLANATION

Not all wounds are bad. A skilled surgeon takes a deadly sharp scalpel and cuts through flesh and muscle. The result of that wound: not harm, but healing. In the same way, we often say that words cut us to the heart. Words can wound. Sometimes, however, those painful words provide the very healing we need.

“Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem” (Luke 13:22). Jesus knows that when he gets to Jerusalem, he is going to die. So, with a sense of extreme urgency, Jesus shares truths we need to hear, even though it hurts to hear them. In this series, we might not like everything that Jesus says. Yet, to ignore what Jesus teaches is to court eternal death. Hard as it may be, let us listen and take all that Jesus says to heart. For while Jesus speaks words that wound us, his intent is to heal our very soul.

Our worship follows this pattern.

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

God's Word Divides
The Door Is Very Narrow
Those Who Exalt Themselves Will Be Humbled
Count the Cost
The Found are Left; the Lost are Found
No One Can Serve Two Masters
What Helps In Life Fails in Death
Increased Faith Increases Duty

SERVICE OF THE WORD

606 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

CW 606



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the
food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to
sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er, hear our plea where the
ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re-deemed us by his blood."
songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, abr., alt.

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867

Text and tune: Public domain

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

¹⁵See now, today I have set before you life and prosperity, death and disaster. ¹⁶This is what I am commanding you today: Love the LORD your God, walk in his ways, and keep his commandments, his statutes, and his ordinances. Then you will live and increase in number, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are going to possess.

¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you do not listen, and you are lured away, and you bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸then I declare to you today that you will most certainly perish. You will not live a long life on the land that you are about to enter and possess by crossing over the Jordan.

¹⁹I call the heavens and the earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live ²⁰by loving the LORD your God, by listening to his voice, and by clinging to him, because that means life for you, and you will live a long life on your land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

51D God, Be Merciful to Me

Psalm 51D



1 God, be mer - ci - ful to me, on your grace I
2 My trans - gres - sions I con - fess, grief and guilt my
3 I am e - vil, born in sin; you de - sire all
4 Bro - ken, hum - bled to the dust by your wrath and



rest my plea; your com - pas - sions o - ver - flow,
soul op - press; I have sinned a - gainst your grace
truth with - in. You a - lone my Sav - ior are,
judg - ment just, let my con - trite heart re - joice

(continued)



blot out my trans - ges - sions now; wash me, make me
and pro - voked you to your face; I con - fess your
teach your wis - dom to my heart; make me pure, your
and in glad - ness hear your voice; from my sins, O



pure with - in, cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.
judg - ment just, speech - less, in your mer - cy trust.
grace be - stow, wash me whit - er than the snow.
hide your face, blot them out in bound - less grace.

- 5 Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true;
let me not abandoned be, let your Spirit dwell in me;
your salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.
- 6 Sinners then shall learn from me and to God restored shall be;
Savior, all my guilt remove, and my tongue shall sing your love;
touch my silent lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall praise accord.
- 7 No attempted sacrifice has acceptance in your eyes;
broken hearts are in your sight more than sacrificial rite;
contrite spirit, pleading cries, you, O God, will not despise.
- 8 Prosper Zion in your grace and her broken walls replace;
then our righteous sacrifice shall delight your holy eyes;
freewill offerings, gladly made, on your altar shall be laid.

Text: Psalter, 1912, alt.
Tune: Richard Redhead
Text and tune: Public domain

Second Reading

Philemon 1, 7–21

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon, our dear friend and coworker,

⁷For I have received great joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.

⁸For that reason, even though I have plenty of boldness in Christ to order you to do what is proper, ⁹I am appealing to you instead, on the basis of love, just as I, Paul, am an old man and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ. ¹⁰I am appealing to you on behalf of my child Onesimus. I became his father while I was in chains. ¹¹There was a time when he was useless to you, but now he is useful both to you and to me. ¹²I have sent him (who is my very heart) back to you. Welcome him. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might serve me in your place while I am in chains for the gospel. ¹⁴But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that your kindness would not be the result of compulsion, but of willingness. ¹⁵Perhaps this is why he was separated from you for a while: so that you would have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave, but as more than a slave, as a dear brother. He certainly is dear to me, but he is even more of a dear brother to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸And if he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge it to me. ¹⁹I, Paul, have written this with my own hand: I will repay it—not to mention that you owe me your very self. ²⁰Yes, brother, I am asking for a favor from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE

VERSE OF THE DAY

Luke 15:10

Alleluia. There is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.
Alleluia

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we 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!

Gospel

Luke 14:25-35

²⁵Large crowds were traveling with Jesus. He turned and said to them, ²⁶"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry his own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, if he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, everyone who sees it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, 'This fellow began to build, but was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, as he goes out to confront another king in war, will not first sit down and consider if he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if he is not able, he sends out a delegation and asks for terms of peace while his opponent is still far away. ³³So then, any one of you who does not say farewell to all his own possessions cannot be my disciple. ³⁴Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its flavor, how will it become salty again? ³⁵It is not fit for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. The one who has ears to hear, let him hear."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

654 Jesus Sinners Does Receive

CW 654



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; oh, may all this
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, yet his words, rich
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray are not by the
 4 I, a sin - ner, come to you with a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der who in sin's de - lu - sions live
 grace re - veal - ing, par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
 Lord for - sak - en; wea - ry souls who lost their way
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



and from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope for
 here their ills have per - fect heal - ing who with hum - ble
 are by Christ, the Shep - herd, tak - en in his arms that
 grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 hearts be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 they may live: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
 soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know, were as scarlet my transgression,
 it shall be as white as snow by your blood and bitter passion,
 for these words I do believe: Jesus sinners does receive.
- 6 Now my conscience is at peace, from the law I stand acquitted.
 Christ has purchased my release and my ev'ry sin remitted.
 Naught remains my soul to grieve: Jesus sinners does receive.
- 7 Jesus sinners does receive, even I have been forgiven.
 And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
 Dying, still to him I cleave: Jesus sinners does receive.

SERMON

Luke 14:25–35

“Counting the Cost—Clinging to Christ”

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

PIANO DUET:

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

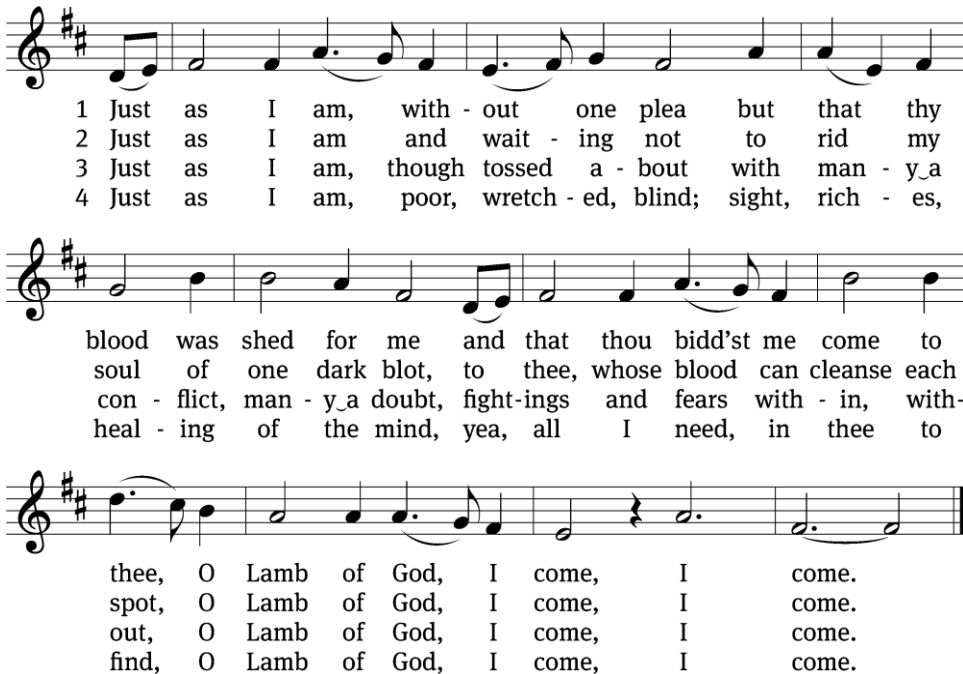
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PLEASE BE SEATED

814 Just as I Am, without One Plea

CW 814



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that thy
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not to rid my
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es,
blood was shed for me and that thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, to thee, whose blood can cleanse each
con - flict, man - y_a doubt, fight-ings and fears with - in, with-
heal - ing of the mind, yea, all I need, in thee to
thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

- 5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6 Just as I am; thy love unknown has broken ev'ry barrier down;
now to be thine, yea thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE

CLOSING PRAYER

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICTION

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



PLEASE BE SEATED

550 Lamb of God

CW 550



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love they cru - ci - fied, they laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died: the hum - ble King they named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod, and to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod, and to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain



O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the



ho - ly Lamb of God! O wash me in his pre-cious



blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text: Twila Paris, b. 1958

Tune: Twila Paris, b. 1958

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SERVING IN WORSHIP

Officiant.....Pastor Isaac Pappenfuss
Organist Marcia Marion Ackling
InstrumentalistsMarcia Marion Ackling, Sarah Hanke
Deacons.....Duane Mason and Jeff Neuburger
Ushers.....Henry Schneider and Ron Zahn
Altar GuildMarcia Marion Ackling and Malory Marion
VideographerJake Vershum

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