Fifteenth Sunday after PENTECOST



Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to: Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all



James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophoenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.



WELCOME

PRELUDE

Dean Robinson, organ

Adagio, BWV 564.2 — J. S. Bach

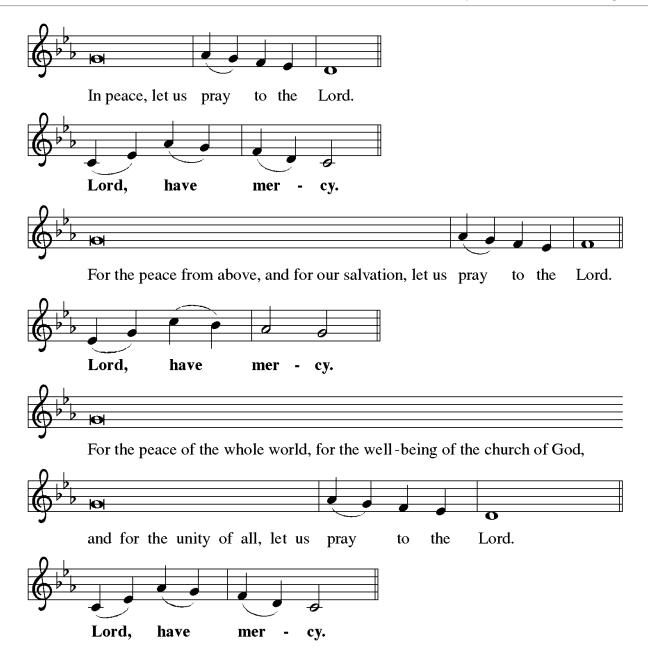
OPENING HYMN

ELW #511

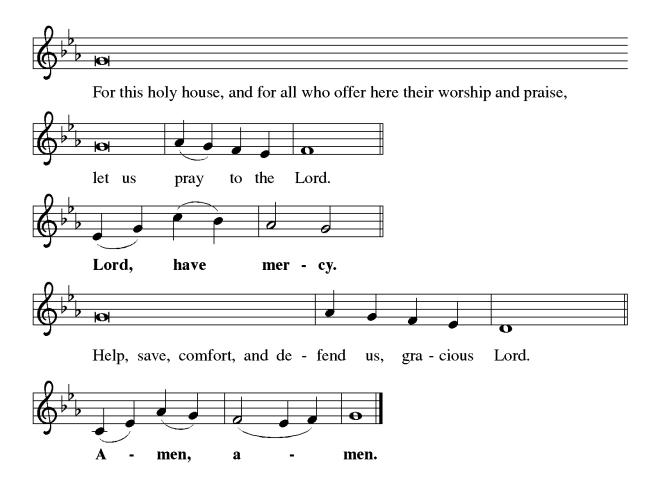


alleluias without end!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-1976 Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944 Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House



GATHER



CANTICLE

ELW Holy Communion: Setting One



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

LESSONS

FIRST LESSON

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."
⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;
⁷athe burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17 (NRSV)

Isaiah 35:4-7a (NRSV)

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

continued...

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

ELW Holy Communion: Setting One **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Al ia, _ le - lu al le - lu ia, -_ Ø al le - lu - ia, al le lu ia. Repeat alleluia O $\overline{}$

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 7:24-37 (NRSV)

The Holy Gospel as recorded in the sixth chapter of Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go —the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

This is good news. Thanks be to God.

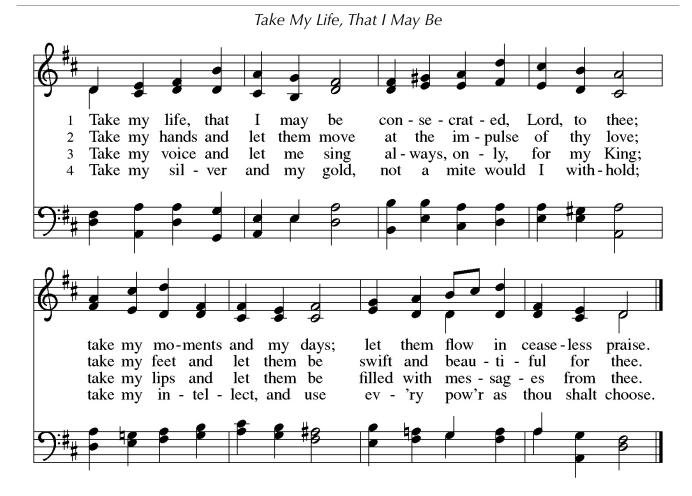
MESSAGE

Pastor Dave Thomas

LESSONS

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #865



5 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne. 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt. Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

PROFESSING OF FAITH

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.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord of Light be with you this day and always. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends, "Hear us, O Lord." To which the congregation responds, **"Your mercy is great."**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERING

Dean Robinson, organ

Improvisation on "Lord Jesus, Think on Me" - ELW #599

ANNOUNCEMENTS

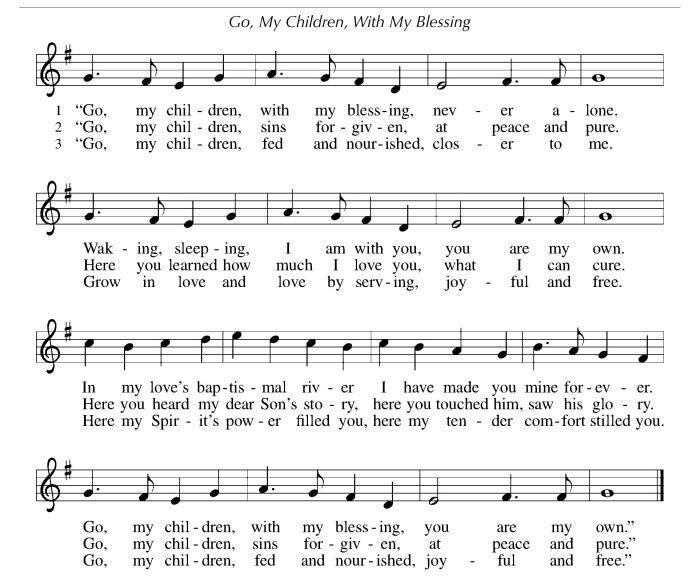
BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SENDING

CLOSING HYMN

ELW #543



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt. Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House SENT TO SERVE

Jesus said, "As I have been sent, so also I send you." By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to: Worship God, Grow in Faith, Share the Gospel, Serve Others, Welcome All. — Thanks be to God!

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