FIFTHEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**SEPTEMBER 5, 2021**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross (***☩)***, the sign marked at baptism, as the service begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, **☩** one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in **☩** Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

### Opening Hymn: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

 O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!

 Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,

 joining in glad adoration!

2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning

 and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.

 Have you not seen all that is needful has been

 sent by his gracious ordaining?

3 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;

 surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.

 Ponder anew what the Almighty can do

 if with his love he befriend you.

4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!

 All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!

 Let the amen sound from his people again.

 Gladly forever adore him!

## Kyrie:

P:In peace, let us pray to the lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of Christ and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C:** **Lord, have mercy.**

P:For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the lord. **C:** **Lord, have mercy.**

P:Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen**

**Prayer of the Day**

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.**

### First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a (Read by Worship Assistant)

###  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.

### Psalm: Psalm 146 (r*ead resposively)*

### 1Hallelujah!Praise the Lord, O my soul! 2I will praise the Lord as long as I live;  I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. 3Put not your trust in rulers,in mortals in whom there is no help. 4When they breathe their last, they return to earth,  and in that day their thoughts perish.  5Happy are they who have the God of Jacob  for their help,whose hope is in the Lord their God; 6who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  who keeps promises forever; 7who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.The Lord sets the captive free. 8The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;  the Lordloves the righteous.  9The Lord cares for the stranger;the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way  of the wicked. 10The Lord shall reign forever,  your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  Hallelujah!

### Second Reading: James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17 (Read by the Worship Assistant)

 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.]
  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?

### Gospel: Mark 7:24-37

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Mark the seventh chapter.

### C: 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.”

**P**: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

**Hymn *–*** *“****Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life****”*

1 Where cross the crowded ways of life,

 where sound the cries of race and clan,

 above the noise of selfish strife,

 we hear your voice, O Son of Man.

2 In haunts of wretchedness and need,

 on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,

 from paths where hide the lures of greed,

 we catch the vision of your tears.

3 From tender childhood’s helplessness,

 from human grief and burdened toil,

 from famished souls, from sorrow’s stress,

 your heart has never known recoil.

4 The cup of water giv’n for you

 still holds the freshness of your grace;

 yet long these multitudes to view

 the strong compassion in your face.

## Apostles’ Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, He will come again 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.**

**Sharing of the Peace** (nods, waves, “air hugs” to each other, only)

**Prayers of Intercession**

Made children and heirs of God’s promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy One, you bring your people together in worship. Enliven your church. Guide all evangelists, preachers, prophets, and missionaries who seek to share your love through word and deed. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You provide water for thirsty ground and sunshine to feed hungry plants. Bless all who advocate for healthy forests, unpolluted air, and clean waterways. Inspire all people to show care for the world you have made. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You show no partiality. Increase justice in all nations. Encourage leaders and governments to work with one another for the good of our common world. Especially as we celebrate Labor Day*,* unite us in seeking the health, safety, and dignity of all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You accompany those who are most in need. Shelter all fleeing violence or persecution, protect any who are in danger, and sustain them through uncertain and unstable times. We pray especially for those we name out loud or in our hearts at this time (pause). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You support the work of your disciples. Continue to nurture the leadership and ministries of this congregation (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You bring comfort to the ill. Guide the doctors and other health workers in their efforts to heal those afflicted by COVID and other health issues. Especially today we pray for Pastor Matt, *(name others here)* and those we now name out loud or in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You embrace all who have died in the faith and brought them into your glorious presence. *(Especially today we remember . . . )* We thank you for their example and rejoice in their lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us now pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray:

**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.**

**Blessing**

People of God, you are Christ’s body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn*:* “*Shout to the Lord***”

My Jesus my Saviour

Lord there is none like You

All of my days I want to praise

The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort my shelter

Tower of refuge and strength

Let every breath all that I am

Never cease to worship You

Chorus

Shout to the Lord

All the earth let us sing

Power and majesty

Praise to the King

Mountains bow down

And the seas will roar

At the sound of Your name

I sing for joy

At the work of Your hands

Forever I'll love You

Forever I'll stand

Nothing compares to the promise

I have in You

**Dismissal** Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**OUR MISSION**

**+** To ***gather*** as God’s people and nurture one another

**+** To ***know*** the Word of God

**+** To ***grow*** in faith, love, and service

**+** To ***go*** into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ



SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY

 Guest Liturgist: Deacon Gail Oines

 Sermon: Mr. George Henry

 Music Director Mr. Michael Dettra

 Worship Assistant Mrs. Karen Matlack

#### **GUEST REGISTER**

If you are visiting with us today, please sign our Guest Book in the narthex.

##### ***ALTAR FLOWERS***

The Altar Flowers are presented by Karen & Bob Matlack in honor of their grandson, Jake’s birthday and to the Glory of God.

##### ***NUEVA CREACIÓN MISSION SUPPORT***

 Support of Nueva Creación Lutheran Church in Philadelphia for this week is presented by Peggy & George Spahn in honor of their son, Warren’s birthday.

**WINE/BEVERAGE SOCIAL SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11**

Lynn and Julie Roccograndi will be hosting our annual Wine/Beverage Gathering **Saturday, September** **11** at **7pm.** Their address is 19 Drexel Drive in Richboro. Everyone is asked to bring an appetizer or dessert and wine if you choose. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex or you can call the church office. Hope to see you there for a night of fellowship and good conversation.

***WORSHIP ATTENDANCE*:** August 29, 2021 **Total 28**

***THIS WEEK AT ADVENT***

**Fall Worship Schedule starts Sunday, September 12**

**15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - SEPTEMBER 5**

 9:00 a.m. Worship Service - indoor and online

 10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study

#### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 - LABOR DAY**

 7:30 p.m. A.A. Open Meeting

#### **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

 7:00 p.m. Bible Study by Zoom

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**

 7:00 p.m. Constitution Task Force

 7:30 p.m. A.A. Topic Group

#### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**

 8:00 p.m. A.A. Step Meeting

**WINE/BEVERAGE SOCIAL SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11- 7:00 PM**

(See information above for information)

**16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - SEPTEMBER 12**

 8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service

 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study

 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time - Julie & Lynn Roccograndi

 6:30 p.m. Sunday School Zoom meeting