



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2020

* Please stand if you are able

Gathering

Welcome and Lighting the Christ Candle

Acolyte: May the Holy Spirit unite us in worship, point us toward Jesus Christ, and inspire us to love mercy, do justice, and walk humbly with God. Come, let us worship God.

* Liturgist: When Israel came out of Egypt, Judah became God's sanctuary, Israel his dominion.

All: **The sea looked and fled, the Jordan turned back; the mountains leaped like rams, the hills like lambs.**

Liturgist: Why was it, sea, that you fled? Why, Jordan, did you turn back? Why, mountains and hills, did you leap?

All: **Tremble earth, at the presence of the Lord, who turned the rock into a pool, the hard rock into springs of water.** *Psalm 114*

All Singing: **43 "Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer"**

Minister: To God's people gathered in hope: Grace to you, mercy and peace, from God our Creator and Christ our Redeemer, through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Passing the Peace at a Distance

Reconciliation

Liturgist: The angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind, coming between the armies of Egypt that were pursuing Israel. Through the night the cloud brought darkness to one side and light to the other; so neither went near the other all night long.

All: Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the Lord drove the sea back with a strong wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.

Exodus 14: 19-20

Liturgist: Lord just as you delivered Israel so to deliver us.

All: Deliver us from fear and flimsy faith, deliver us from indifference and self-absorption, deliver us from sin that weighs us down and sin that we hardly notice.

Liturgist: Lord have mercy; forgive us our sins even as we forgive those who sin against us.

Silent confession and reflection

Liturgist: If you declare with your mouth that "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. As scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame."

People: For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile – the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Romans 10: 9-13

* **All Singing: 693 "Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"**
Singing verses 1-4, singing refrain after 2 and 4

The Baptism of John Owen "Jack" Riley IV (10:15 AM)

Minister: Having heard God's gracious promises to us in Christ, do you desire that John Owen be baptized?

Parents: We do.

All: With joy we celebrate together the gift of God's grace in Christ!

Minister: In presenting your child for baptism, desiring that John Owen be grafted into Christ as a member of his body do you receive the teachings of the Christian faith, which we confess in the Creeds of the church?

Parents: Yes! We trust in him as our Lord and Savior. We intend to be Christ's faithful disciples, trusting in his promises, obeying his Word, honoring his church, and showing his love, with God's help as long as we shall live.

Minister: Will the congregation please stand and with these parents proclaim your faith using the words from the Apostle's Creed.

All: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to 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 catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Covenant Vows
Prayer of Thanksgiving
Baptism

Minister: Some of us will have the privilege of encouraging John Owen often, over the course of many years. Others of us may not be able to do so. Yet we all speak words of promise and welcome, speaking on behalf of Christ's whole church, in time and space, and committing ourselves to live lives of Christian encouragement wherever God calls us.

Brothers and sisters, we now receive John Owen into Christ's church. I charge you to nurture and love him and to assist him to be Christ's faithful disciple.

All: With joy and thanksgiving, we now welcome you, John Owen, into Christ's church; for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage, and support you and to help you know and follow Christ.

Soloist: "In the Water" Jim Hofman

In the water He claims us, with his promise he saves us, children of His love. Born for His purpose, grace poured out to us, His blessing from above.

Jesus our brother, one like no other, come bless our little babe.
We offer to You, our hands of love, to grow and guide them on your way.

Show us the way to share past today, with John Owen as he grows.
Help us to model the way that we ought to, your spirit in this place.

Jesus our brother, one like no other, come bless our little babe.
We offer to You, our hands of love, to grow and guide them on your way.

In the water he claims us, in the water he claims us, in the water he claims us.

Proclamation

All: Lord God, may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Scripture: Matthew 18: 21-35

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

"Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

"At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

“His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

“But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Arithmetic of the Kingdom

* **All Singing: 638 “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”**

Dedication

Prayers of the People (9:00 AM)

* Benediction

* **All Singing: 938 “My Friends, May You Grow in Grace”**

Praying with Elders – If you have a concern or joy that you’d like to talk or pray about with an Elder, one or two will be available in the shade near the sanctuary entrance following the service.

Worship Leaders

Pianist/Vocalist: Erin Pacheco
Sound Engineer: Schuyler Roozeboom
Minister: Roger Nelson

9:00 AM Service

Liturgist: Emily Bosscher
Prayer: Arlo Compaan
Vocalist: Emily Bosscher

10:15 AM Service

Liturgist: Annelise Latham
Vocalist: Chris Gabrielse
Soloist: David Hofman
Percussion: Paul Mulchrone

Hymns are from “Lift Up Your Hearts” (Faith Alive Christian Resources, 2013)
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