14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST **AUGUST 30, 2026**

GREETING
P: Gathered in Christ.
C: We serve with grace.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
P: Blessed be the holy Trinity,☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.
C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
C: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.
C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG *"Son of God, Eternal Savior"* ..... #655

PRAYER OF THE DAY
C: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 15:15-21
15 O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me
on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your
account I suffer insult. 16 Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words
became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD,
God of hosts. 17 I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under
the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. 18 Why is
my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me
like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. 19 Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn

back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. [20] And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. [21] I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless. The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 26: 1-8

[1] Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.
[2] **Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**
[3] For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.
[4] **I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**
[5] I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.
[6] **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,**
that I may go in procession round your altar,
[7] singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.
[8] **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell**
and the place where your glory abides.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 12: 9-21

[9] Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; [10] love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. [11] Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. [12] Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. [13] Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.
[14] Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. [15] Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. [16] Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. [17] Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. [18] If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. [19] Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." [20] Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." [21] Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

KIDS TALK

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
P: *Alleluia.*
C: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which God has called us. *Alleluia.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 16:21-28
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.
21 From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began
to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the
hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be
raised. 22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it,
Lord! This must never happen to you." 23 But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind
me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine
things but on human things." 24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come
after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For those
who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will
find it. 26 For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life?
Or what will they give in return for their life? 27 "For the Son of Man is to come with his
angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been
done. 28 Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before
they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom." The gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Lift High the Cross"*..... #660

APOSTLES' CREED
C: 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.For the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive. Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: For the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace to a world scarred by violence. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our committees, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: For the faithful departed, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church. Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG "*GIVE THANKS*"

C: Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the holy one. Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say I am strong. Let the poor say I am rich; because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks. Give thanks.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Loving God, we offer you our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can know your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

SENDING

BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG *"Let Streams of Living Justice"* ..... #710

RINGING OF THE BELLS

SONG OF PEACE

C: My peace I give unto you. It's a peace that the world cannot give. It's a peace that the world cannot understand; peace to know; peace to live. My peace I give unto you.

DISMISSAL

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.