17th Sunday After Pentecost World Communion Sunday October 5, 2025

GATHERING: God invites us to enter His presence

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP (Time for Silent Preparation)

↑ CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)

Dan Obenschain

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

Come, let us all worship and bow down together, let us kneel together before the LORD, our maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

—from Psalm 95:6-7; 133, NRSV

♠ INVOCATION(Responsively)

Dan Obenschain

Praise be to you, LORD, the God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

Yours, LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things.

In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.

-1 Chronicles 29:10-13, NIV

OPENING SONG How Deep the Father's Love For Uss (See Screen)

CONFESSING: God invites us to be honest with Him

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dan Obenschain

When we gather to praise God, we remember that we are people who have preferred our wills to his. Accepting his power to become new persons in Christ, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dan Obenschain

Almighty God,

we confess that we are often swept up in the tide of our generation.

We have failed in our calling to be your holy people,

a people set apart for your divine purpose.

We live more in apathy born of fatalism than in passion born of hope.

We are moved more by private ambition than by social justice.

We dream more of privilege and benefits than of service and sacrifice.

We try to speak in your name without relinquishing our glories,

without nourishing our souls, without relying wholly on your grace.

Help us to make room in our hearts and lives for you.

By your Holy Spirit, forgive us, revive us,

and reshape us in your image. Amen.

TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Dan Obenschain

You are a chosen race,

a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people,

in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him

who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people;

once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

People of God,

all of us together have received God's mercy in Christ.

In Christ we are forgiven, redeemed,

and made to be a community united in faith.

Thanks be to God.

-based on 1 Peter 2:9-10, NRSV

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, Is now and ever shall be, world without end. A-men, A-men

TPASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You

All: And also with you

OFFERING: Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

INVITATION Remember the words the Lord Jesus himself said:

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

-from Acts 20:35, NIV

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Jesus Messiah C. Tomlin

Bill Mecaughey

∱ DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord of life, you promise abundant life to all who live together in Christ. We offer these gifts as a sign of our desire to share our resources for the common good and building of your kingdom. We humbly ask that you use them to strengthen our unity and deepen our witness and healing presence in this needy world. **Amen.**

PREPARATION HYMN 466

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

PROCLAIMING: God speaks to us through His Work

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING 2 Kings 5:1-27

5 Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. ² Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." ⁴ So Naaman went in and told his lord, "Thus and so spoke the girl from the land of Israel." ⁵ And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel."

So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing. ⁶ And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you Naaman my servant, that you may cure him of his leprosy." ⁷ And when the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Only consider, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me."

⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." ¹¹ But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, "Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper. ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ But his servants came near and said to him, "My father, it is a great word the prophet has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?" ¹⁴ So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

¹⁵ Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, "Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant." ¹⁶ But he said, "As the LORD lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none." And he urged him to take it, but he refused. ¹⁷ Then Naaman said, "If not, please let there be given to your servant two mule loads of earth, for from now on your servant will not offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god but the LORD. ¹⁸ In this matter may the LORD pardon your servant: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, leaning on my arm, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, when I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, the LORD pardon your servant in this matter." ¹⁹ He said to him, "Go in peace."

But when Naaman had gone from him a short distance, ²⁰ Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, "See, my master has spared this Naaman the Syrian, in not accepting from his hand what he brought. As the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something from him." ²¹ So Gehazi followed Naaman. And when Naaman saw someone running after him, he got down from the chariot to meet him and said, "Is all well?" ²² And he said, "All is well. My master has sent me to say, 'There have just now come to me from the hill country of Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets. Please give them a talent of silver and two changes of clothing." ²³ And Naaman said, "Be pleased to accept two talents." And he urged him and tied up two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of clothing, and laid them on two of his servants. And they carried them before Gehazi. ²⁴ And when he came to the hill, he took them from their hand and put them in the house, and he sent the men away, and they departed. ²⁵ He went in and stood before his master, and Elisha said to him, "Where have you been, Gehazi?" And he said, "Your servant went nowhere." ²⁶ But he said to him, "Did not my heart go when the man turned from his chariot to meet you? Was it a time to accept money and garments, olive orchards and vineyards, sheep and oxen, male servants and female servants? ²⁷ Therefore the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and to your descendants forever." So he went out from his presence a leper, like snow.

SERMON Humbled By Grace Rev. John Sheldon

THYMN OF RESPONSE 92 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

RESPONDING: We respond to God's Word

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.** Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise!

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Leader: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you

proclaim the Lord's death until He comes Again!

People: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come

PROFESSION OF FAITH (Apostle's Creed, In Unison)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And 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 buried; He descended into hell; The third day he rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

COMMISSIONING: God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

↑ COMMISSION SONG

O, Love That Will Not Let Me Go (See Screen)

BENEDICTION & BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

-Numbers 6:24-26, NIV

POSTLUDE

♠ Please stand if you are able.