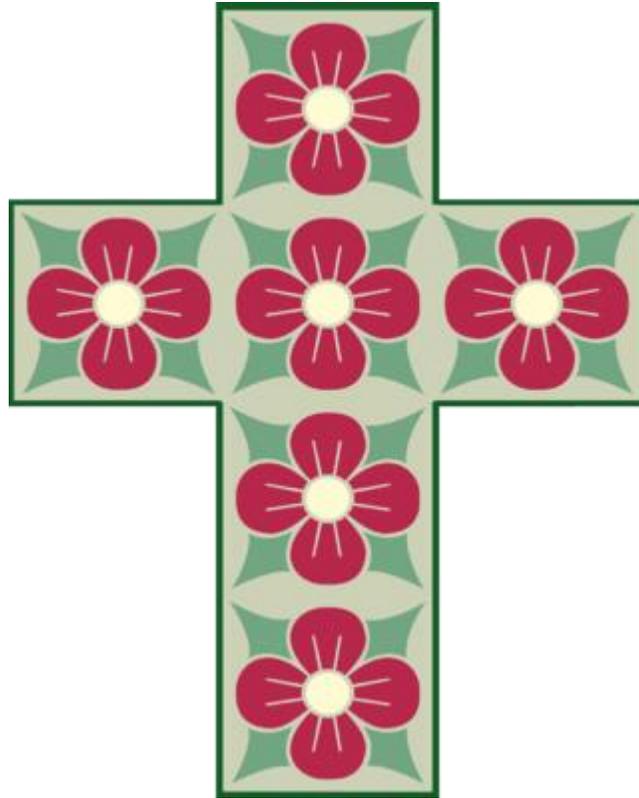


# Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

## September 13, 2020



### **LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS & DAY SCHOOL**

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Interim Pastor: Rev. Edward R. Benoway

Director of Youth and Family: Kristen Hitchcock

Director of Music: Matty Colonna

Head of School, LCC Day School: Holly Carlson

Administrative Assistant: Christine McLeod

Maintenance: Tim Pulham

## Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Cross

9:25 AM

*Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)*

Hillsong Video

### WELCOME

Pastor Ed Benoway

**P** Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Cross.  
Today is God's day. Let us rejoice in it!

If you have a prayer request, feel free to use one of the pew cards.  
Drop the card in the offering plate, and we will offer your prayer to our prayer chain.

### \*OPENING HYMN

*How Great Thou Art*

ELW 856 vs. 1,2

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1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

#### *Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; *Refrain*

**\*GREETING**

Pastor Benoway

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Kyrie*

Matty Colonna

**L** In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,

**L** For the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For your people here who have come to give you praise.

**L** For the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord

**C** Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** Help, save, and defend us, O God.

**C** Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY 09/13/2020**

**P** Let us Pray.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**G** Amen.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Kristen Hitchcock &  
"Donkey"

**FIRST READING**

Genesis 50:15-21

pg. 11

**L** <sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

**L** Word of God, Word of life.

**G** Thanks be to God.

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Glory to You  
O Word of God  
Lord Jesus Christ*

☐ The Holy Gospel according to **St. Matthew, the Eighteenth Chapter.**

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

“Just How Nice?”

Pastor Ed Benoway



**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace*

ELW 716 vs. 1,2

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993

Music: George N. Allen, 1812-1877

**1** Lord of all nations, grant me grace  
to love all people, every race;  
and in each person may I see  
my kindred, loved, redeemed by thee.

**2** Break down the wall that would divide  
thy children, Lord, on every side.  
My neighbor's good let me pursue;  
let Christian love bind warm and true.

**\*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.**

*Each petition will end with the words, "Hear us, O God." Please respond with, "Your mercy is great."*

☒ Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

*[Pause for silent prayers.]*

You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth. Hear us, O God.

☒ **Your mercy is great.**

☒ The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world. Hear us, O God.

☒ **Your mercy is great.**

☒ Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom. Hear us, O God.

☒ **Your mercy is great.**

☒ Even beyond our expectations, you choose to give generously. Grant life, health, and courage to all who are in need especially Tom, Dale & Dick, Elaine and Gus. Hear us, O God.

☒ **Your mercy is great.**

☒ Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. Hear us, O God.

☒ **Your mercy is great.**

☒ Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors. Hear us, O God.

☒ **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

☒ Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord

☒ **Amen.**

**\*SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE**

*(Note: Share the Peace by turning and waving to one another.)*

☒ The peace of Christ be with you always..

☒ **And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

**OFFERATORY SONG**      *Give Me Jesus*

Video - LCC Choir

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, you are the creator and source of all things good. You shower us with your love even on the days we fail to acknowledge you. We praise you for all the gifts and blessings you have given us.

As You have been generous to us, we offer to you these gifts as symbols of our gratitude for your kindness. Use us and these gifts to multiply your love in our community and world. In Jesus name, we pray.

**C**      **Amen.**

### \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

### \*BENEDICTION

**P**      May God, the brightness of the universe, bless us.  
May Jesus, the light of the world, save us.  
May the Holy Spirit, energy of the creation, strengthen us.  
And may we be blessed with the power to speak and share  
God's love with others. In the name of the Father, (+) Son and Holy Spirit.

**C**      **Amen.**

**\*DISMISSAL**

*The assisting minister may send the assembly into mission.*

**A** You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.  
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!  
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

**C** **Thanks be to God!**

**\*CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENT**

**P** During the singing of the Closing Hymn, onsite worshippers may depart as you desire. Please proceed directly to the parking lots and do not linger or congregate in the hallways. Outside in the parking lots you may visit with one another as you choose!

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Lift High the Cross*

ELW 660 vs. 1,2,4

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*Refrain*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,  
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*

2 All newborn servants of the Crucified  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*

3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*

4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

**POST-SERVICE MUSIC**

*This Little Light of Mine*

Video

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