



The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

St. George's Church

Glenn Dale Parish • The Episcopal Diocese of Washington

September 17, 2023

Opening Hymn: Hymnal #411 *O bless the Lord, my soul*

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854). Music: *St. Thomas*; melody: Aaron Williams (1731-1776; harmony: Lowell Mason (1792-1872)
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O	bless	the	Lord,	my	soul!	God's	grace	to	thee	pro -	claim!
O	bless	the	Lord,	my	soul!	God's	mer -	cies	bear	in	mind!
God	will	not	al -	ways	chide;	and	will	with	pa -	tience	wait;
God	par -	dons	all	thy	sins,	pro -	longs	thy	fee -	ble	breath;
God	clothes	thee	with	pure	love,	up -	holds	thee	with	the	truth;
Then	bless	God's	ho -	ly	Name,	whose	grace	hath	made	thee	whole.



And all that is with in me join to bless God's ho - ly Name!
For - get not all God's ben - e - fits! The Lord to thee is kind.
God's wrath is ev - er slow to rise and rea - dy to a - bate.
and heal - eth thine in - fir - mi - ties and ran - soms thee from death.
and like the ea - gle God re - news the vi - gor of thy youth.
whose lov - ing - kind - ness crowns thy days: O bless the Lord, my soul!

Celebrant: We enter into your presence O Holy One, we who hunger for life:

People: For it is you O God who nourishes us at the table of grace.

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: Glory to God for ever and ever.

All pray together the Collect for Purity: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria: *A Song of Praise Wonder, Love, and Praise* #886 (Sung 3 times)

Words and Music: Carl Haywood (b. 1949) from *Fraction Anthems, Canticles and Chants*, © 1997 Carl Haywood
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Glo-ry to you, O Lord, glo-ry to you, O Lord, you are wor-thy of praise.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together the Collect of the Day: **O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Genesis 50:15-21

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?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, '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. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? 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. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103; 91-70, 8-13

Praise the Lord O my soul:

and all that is within me praise God's holy name.

Praise the Lord O my soul:

and forget not all that God has done for you.

The Lord forgives you all your sin:

and heals you of all your infirmities.

The Lord saves your life from the grave:

and crowns you with love and mercy.

he Lord fills your life with good things:

so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

You Lord are righteous in your acts:
and bring justice to all that are oppressed.
 You showed your ways to Moses:
your deeds to the children of Israel.
 You are full of compassion and mercy:
slow to anger and rich in kindness.
 You will not always be chiding:
nor do you keep your anger for ever.
 You have not dealt with us according to our sins:
nor punished us according to our wickedness.
 For as the heavens are high above the earth:
so great is your mercy over those who fear you.
 As far as the east is from the west:
so far have you put away our sins from us.
 As parents have compassion on their children:
so do you Lord have compassion on those who fear you.

At the conclusion of the psalm, all say together

**Glory to God, Source of all being, Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Gospel Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #469 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863) Music: *St. Helena*, Calvin Hampton (1938-1984) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323

There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven;
 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure of the mind;

there's a kind-ness in his jus - tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.

There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the
 There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been
 If our love were but more faith - ful, we should take him at his

good; there is mer - cy with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in His blood.
 shed; there is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
 word; and our life would be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 18:21-35

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?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 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. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

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.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 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.

Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you Lord Christ.

The Sermon: The Rev. Charles Hoffacker



The Creed *We Believe in God Our Creator*

Words: Nicene Creed para. Terry Doyle, TSSF. Music: 17th Century French Carol, *Picardy*;

Hymnal 1982 #324 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent* Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



We be - lieve in God our Cre - a - tor, mak - ing ev - 'ry u - ni - verse,
We be - lieve in Christ our Re - deem - er, God from God and love from love,
Christ now con - quers death on the third day, and as - cends to God's holy throne,
We be - lieve in God's Ho - ly Spi - rit, Breath of life sus - tain - ing Earth.
We are sim - ple, bro - ken peo - ple, gath - ered in one church and made whole.



who was and will be for - e - ver, source of all that live and breathe.
one in be - ing with the Cre - a - tor, and the Spir - it three in one.
God tri - une now rules for all time as the course of stars will run.
For the Spir - it groans in la - bor as cre - a - tion gives new birth.
One with seek - ers, saints, and sin - ners, bap - tized in God's mer - cy and love.



All things vis - i - ble, and all that is un - seen come to be through God the One.
Je - sus born of Ma - ry from the Spir - it formed, shared our flesh and died our death.
Christ now comes a - gain as judge of all on Earth, re - con - cil - ing all to God.
And God's Spir - it now re - news all life on Earth, in God's end - less flow - ing love.
As God's lov - ing kind - ness knows no hu - man bounds, be - yond death we're raised to new life.

Prayers of the People

Grateful for the gifts we have already been given, we now bring our hopes and needs into the presence of our provident God, saying: **Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for our church, for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Mariann our Bishop, Connie our rector, and for this congregation St. George's. May we all hunger for the bread of life, that we be transformed into the body of Christ. We pray, saying **Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray that all people be nourished as they journey in faith through life; may we accompany each other in a spirit of compassion. We pray, saying **Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who lead in our country and in the world. May they work for justice rather than power and act for the good of those they are called to serve. We pray, saying **Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who are hungry, especially for the families of Gaywood Elementary School, the guests of the Warm Nights program, and those served by the Bowie Food Pantry, that all who are hungry may be fed. We pray, saying **Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick, for those who are suffering, for all those who are in need of our healing prayers. We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list, and for those we name before you now. *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray, saying **Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who have died, knowing that God is doing more for them than we could ask or imagine. *The people may add their own petitions.* We pray, saying **Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for those marking birthdays and anniversaries, and for other blessings of this life, that we may live in gratitude to God for all that we have and all that we celebrate. We pray, saying **Lord, in your mercy, receive our prayer.**

All-generous God, hear these prayers made in faith and hope, that we may put our trust in you and your love for us, today and always. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant: Now let us confess our sins to God.

After a time of silence, all pray together: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Celebrant The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins, the will for amendment of life, and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Blessings for Birthdays & Anniversaries

The celebrant then offers the following prayer for those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries:
O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) and anyone celebrating their birthday or anniversary this week as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Offertory

Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering holy and acceptable to God.

Although St. George's no longer physically "passes the basket" everyone is invited and encouraged to make a financial offering to express your gratitude to God for the gifts we are given and in support of our mission and ministries. We encourage you to give electronically wherever possible; you can text stgeodragon to 72356. (Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.) Or just use your web browser to go to www.onrealm.org/StGeorgesChurch/Give. You may also donate via Zelle to donations@stgeorgesglennedale.org. or use Cash App to send your donation to \$StGeorgesGlennDale

Offertory Hymn: Gather #551 *God of Day and God of Darkness*

Words: Beach Spring, from *The Sacred Harp*, 1844. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



God of day and God of dark - nes, Now we stand be - fore the night;
Still the na - tions curse the dark - ness; Still the rich op - press the poor;
Show us Christ in one an - other - er Make us ser - vants strong and true;
You shall be the path that guides us, You the light that in us burns;
Praise to you in day and dark - ness, You our source and you our end;



As the shad - ows stretch and deep - en, Come and make our dark - ness bright.
Still the earth is bruised and bro - ken By the ones who still want more.
Give us all your love of jus - tice So we do what you would do.
Shin - ing deep with - in all peo - ple, Yours the love that we must learn,
Praise to you who love and nur ture us As a fa - ther, moth - er, friend.



All cre - a - tion still is groan - ing For the dawn - ing of your might,
Come and wake us from our sleep - ing, So our hearts can - not ig - nore
Let us call all peo - ple ho - ly, Let us pledge our lives a - new,
For our hearts shall wan - der rest - less 'Til they safe to you re - turn;
Grant us all a peace - ful rest - ing, Let each mind and bod - y mend,



When the Sun of peace and jus - tice Fills the earth with ra - diant light.
All your peo - ple lost and bro - ken, All your chil - dren at our door.
Make us one with all the low - ly, Let us all be one in you.
Find - ing you in one an - oth - er, We shall all your face dis - cern.
So we rise re - freshed to - mor - row, Hearts re - newed to King - dom tend.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right to give unceasing thanks and boundless praise to you, Holy God, ruler of the universe and giver of life. You brought the world into being and declared it good; you made humankind in your image, and entrusted to us the stewardship of all creation.

Despite our failings you showed us mercy. Through your law and the voices of prophets and poets, you called us to faithfulness and justice. You commanded us to remember the poor and the needy, the orphan and the stranger. With infinite generosity you forgave us as we followed selfish goals and ignored your words of love. Never abandoning us to our sinfulness, you came among us and showed us the path of life.

Therefore we praise you, joining the saints and angels in proclaiming your glory, as we sing:

Sanctus: *Santo, Santo, Santo Wonder, Love and Praise #785*

Words and Music: based on two-part version taught by Pablo D. Sosa (5. 1950) © 1990 Iona Community, G.I.A. Publications.
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Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. Your word of peace has been active from the beginning; your justice has sought incarnation in every age. In the fullness of time you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive your Son through the power of your Holy Spirit.

Expecting his birth she sang of your purpose: The mighty shall be cast down and the humble lifted up; the promise of mercy to Abraham and all his children shall be fulfilled in the birth of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Glory to you, holy and living God. Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He pronounced the blessedness of peacemakers, all those who

are willing to seek first your Kingdom and your righteousness. Jesus yearned to draw all the world to himself, yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. We returned violence for his friendship, crucifixion for his self-offering. Yet even this you turned to blessing, and transformed his unjust death into the means of salvation.

Glory to you, holy and living God. Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Accept, O Lord, our sacrifice of praise, this memorial of our redemption. Send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts. Let them be for us the Body and Blood of your Son. Send your Spirit upon us also, and grant that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may be filled with your life and goodness. Through the abiding presence of Christ, empower us to live the gospel of peace and bring reconciliation to the world in his Name.

Glory to you, holy and living God. Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: The Risen Christ is in our midst, and so with Christ we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen



The Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken. After a time of silence, all sing together

Fraction Anthem: Gather #247 *May We Be One*

Words: Rory Cooney (b. 1952) Music: Gary Daigle (b. 1957). © 1993 G. I. A. Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



When we eat this bread and drink this cup we pro-claim your death, Lord Je - sus.



So as we share this feast may we be come, heal-ing and light and peace. May we be one.

Celebrant: Mindful that not all are present physically to receive the sacrament, we pray with those who receive spiritual Holy Communion this day:

Lord Jesus, in union with your faithful people, we offer to you our praise and thanks. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we pray that you come spiritually into our hearts. Strengthen us with your grace, O Lord, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died, and rose again for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion

Wherever you are on your journey, whatever you believe or don't believe, know that you are welcome at this table. For this is Christ's table, and all are welcome.

If you would like to receive a blessing rather than the bread and wine, please indicate this to the Celebrant by crossing your arms in front of your chest.

Communion Hymn 1: Gather #89 *The Lord is Kind and Merciful*

Words: Psalm 103 paraphrased by Marty Haugen. Music: Marty Haugen © 1983 G.I.A. Publications. Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



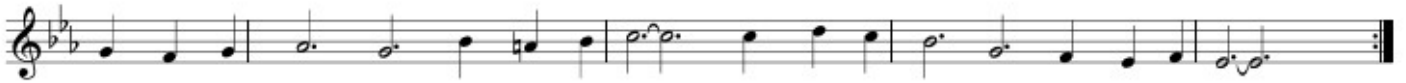
The Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful, The Lord is kind and mer-ci-ful.

Communion Hymn 2: LEVAS #145 *Have Thine Own Way, Lord!*

Words: Adelaide A. Pollard (1862-1934). Music: George C. Stebbins (1846-1945) Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-701323



Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the pot-ter I am the clay!
Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Search me and try me, Mas-ter, to - day!
Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Wound-ed and wea-ry, Help me, I pray!
Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Hold o'er my be-ing Ab - so-lute sway!



Mold me and make me Aft - er thy will, While I am wait-ing, Yield-ed and still.
Pur - er than snow, Lord, Wash me just now As in thy pres-ence Hum-bly I bow.
Pow - er all pow - er Sure - ly is thine! Touch me and heal me, Sav - ior di - vine!
Fill with thy Spir - it 'Til all shall see Christ on - ly, al - ways, Liv - ing in me!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebrant Let us pray: **Holy and Gracious One, with joy we offer thanksgiving for your love as we have experienced it sharing Christ's body in fellowship around this table. As we go forth into the world you have made, we pray that you move our hearts to be generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ, the Lord of all creation. Amen.**

Announcements



The Blessing

Celebrant: May God, who is the source of all goodness and growth, pour out blessings upon all creation, and upon us God's people, that we may use the gifts God has given us to do justice and bring peace. And may the blessing of God who created us, Christ Jesus who brings us new life, and the Holy Spirit who guides and sustains us, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen**

Dismissal Hymn: Hymnal 1982 #690 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Words: William Williams(1717-1791), tr Peter Williams (1722-1796). Music: *Cwm Rhondda*. John Hughes (1873-1796).

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Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this bar - ren land;
O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing stream doth flow;
When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious fears sub - side;



I am weak, but thou art might - y; hold me with thy power - ful hand; bread of hea - ven,
let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my jour - ney through; strong de - liv - erer,
death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es,



bread of hea - ven, feed me now and ev - er more, feed me now and ev - er more.
strong de - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

People: Thanks be to God!