

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

Greetings and Welcome

Thank you for worshipping with us today! If you are visiting, please fill out one of our welcome cards by the offering boxes so we can get to know you better. If you would like to share a prayer request, you may do so on a card and place it in the box.

Prelude

GATHERING

Call to Worship

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and

by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

**Sharing Christ's Peace*

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

C: And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

**Gathering Song – “As We Are Gathered”*

**As we are gathered, Jesus is here; one with each other, Jesus is here;
Joined by the Spirit, washed in the blood, part of the body, the church of God.
As we are gathered, Jesus is here; one with each other, Jesus is here.**

Children's Sermon

Hymn of Praise: “Shout to the Lord”

**My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you.
All of my days I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love.
My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength,
let ev'ry breath, all that I am, never cease to worship you.**

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing, power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.
I sing for joy at the work of your hands. For ever I'll love you, for ever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.**

WORD

Reading: James 1:16-18

Reader: Angela Spray

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers and sisters. ¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave

birth to us by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

R: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading:* Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20

¹After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: “Exit Doors and Change”

Song of the Day – “Go and Do”

**Go and do as I have done for you. Go and do as I have said!
Go and do as I have done for you. And they will know you by your love,
they will know you by your love,
they will know you by the things you go and do!**

**The 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.

**Prayers of Intercession*

Stewardship Time

"Goodness of God"

by Jenn Johnson, Brian Johnson, Jason Ingram, Ed Cash, & Ben Fielding

Sung by the Faith Singers



Stewardship is the spiritual practice of responding to God's grace in generosity towards God and others. If you would like to give an offering today, you are invited to come forward and place it in an offering basket. If you would like to give electronically, you can use the provided QR code.

**Offering Prayer*

P: Merciful God,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Great Thanksgiving*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Words of Institution*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Lord's Prayer*

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.

Communion Songs

“Change My Heart, O God”

Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.

You are the Potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me, This is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.

“Christ, Be Our Light” ELW 715

1. **Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.**

*Refrain: Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

2. **Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice. *Refrain***
3. **Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. *Refrain***
4. **Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. *Refrain***
5. **Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. *Refrain***

**Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor, and + give you peace.
C: **Amen.**

**Sending Song – “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*

- 1 **A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**

- 2 **No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**

Interlude by the Faith Singers

- 3 **Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage; in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.**
- 4 **God's Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!**

**Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The altar plants are donated today by Gayla Smith in honor of her birthday
and

by Liddy Stark in honor of Lindsey Stark-Turner's birthday

Song Credits

"As We Are Gathered," from **The Source**, Kevin Mayhew Limited, © 1998. CCLI#973583

"Shout to the Lord," from **The Source**, Kevin Mayhew Limited, © 1998. CCLI#973583

"Go and Do," from **Spirit Calls...Rejoice!**, Prince of Peace Publishing, Inc. CCLI#973583

"Goodness of God," by Jenn Johnson, Brian Johnson, Jason Ingram, Ed Cash, & Ben Fielding.

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Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Liddy Stark
Greeter: Liddy Stark
Reader: Angela Spray
Usher: John Williams
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Music Director: Jean Welch
Musician: Jean Welch
Guitarist: Adam Dichsen
Drummers: John Demien & Louis Dichsen
Financial Assistants: Monica Proefrock & Cory Street
Chancel Committee: Karen Sibert
Coffee Host: Karen Sibert



Singers:

Maddie Crossin	Kelly Hartz	Adam Krohe	Cole Street
Benen Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Kris Roth	Melissa Street

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kevin Krohe	Monica Proefrock	Cory Street
Greg Kimler	Patty Nelson	Kay Schnitker	John Williams

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, September 6, 9:30am: Outdoor Worship

Wednesday, September 9, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

Sunday, September 13, 9:30am: Worship

10:45am: Bible Study in the Justice Room

Wednesday, September 16, 10:00am: Read the Bible in a Year Group – Faith Library

Thursday, September 17, 6:00pm: Church Council Meeting

News Updates

Lay Ministry Sign-Up Sheets

Sign-Up Sheets are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Faith's Little Flock and Faith's Older Flock

We now have two groups of children meeting during worship on the Sundays we are inside. Faith's Little Flock is for children ages 2-7, and Faith's Older Flock is for children grades 1-6.

Doorbell Dinners – September 7-11

Help us deliver meals in the community. We are in need of drivers & deliverers to cover the needs of five routes — time commitment is 11:15-12:30 each day. For more information and to sign up, visit the sign-up counter by the Fair Trade coffee sales.

Read the Bible in a Year

Join us in reading the Bible over the course of a year, **Wednesdays at 10:00am in the Faith Library**. We gather weekly to discuss our insights and reflections. We are utilizing The Bible Recap by Tara-Leigh Cobble, available on the YouVersion Bible app, to guide our journey. For more information, feel free to reach out to Pam Devlin.

Post-Service Discussions – Digging Deeper

will resume after church on September 13 in the Justice Room. Join us for exploring the new sermon series based on the Lectionary.

Help Make Faith's Fall Fest Fantastic

Fall Fest is right around the corner, and you're invited to help shape one of Faith's most fun and festive events of the year. **Join the planning team in the Peace Room right after worship on Sunday, September 20**, to brainstorm activities, map out details, and bring creative ideas to life.

Whether you love organizing, decorating, dreaming up games, or simply enjoy being part of a joyful community event, your energy and imagination will make a big difference. Come be part of the team that makes Fall Fest happen — it's a great way to connect, contribute, and have fun along the way. If you can't be at the meeting but would like to help, reach out to Monica Proefrock at monica.proefrock@gmail.com.

Retirement Receptions for Kris Roth & Jean Welch

Our congregation is giving thanks for the partnership in ministry we have shared with two of our beloved staff members - Kris Roth as our Secretary and Jean Welch as our Music Director. All are invited to gather in gratitude and celebration as they enter retirement. Two receptions will be held to offer heartfelt opportunities to share memories, express appreciation, and bless Kris and Jean as they step into this new chapter.

A reception honoring Kris Roth will be held following worship on Sunday, Sept. 27, and a reception for Jean Welch will take place following worship on Sunday, October 4, both in the Great Room. All are welcome to attend.

If you would like to contribute to a retirement gift from the congregation, please indicate “Kris retirement” or “Jean retirement” on your check or envelope so your gift can be directed appropriately. Your generosity will help celebrate their years of faithful service and the many ways they have enriched the life of our Faith family. Thank you Kris and Jean! You have been such a blessing to us and we give thanks to God for the ministry we have shared together!

SUNDAY SACK LUNCHES TO GO -- Help stop hunger in our community

The Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches is partnering with Go Church to collect food items for their ‘Sunday Sack Lunches to Go’ program, helping the hungry in the Jacksonville Area.

Collected supplies will be donated to Go Church to include in their food distribution program. Needed items include:

- Mixed Fruit Cups
- NutriGrain Breakfast Bars
- Quaker Chewy Granola Bars
- Nature Valley Trail Mix Bars
- Individual Packets of Cookies
- JIF To Go, Creamy Peanut Butter Cups
- Peanut Butter Cracker Variety Packs
- Tuna Salad with Crackers (Individual Servings)
- Chicken Salad with Cracker Packs (Individual Servings)
- Vanilla Pudding Cups
- Chocolate Pudding Cups
- Slim Jims

Monetary donations are appreciated and needed, with checks payable to ‘Go Church.’

(continued on next page)

Items will be collected **through September 20, 2026**. Supplies can be left in the blue collection box in the Mission & Ministry Center (coat closet).

Questions? Contact coordinator Pat Glyshaw at pat.glyshaw@gmail.com