



*Sunday, September 5, 2021*  
*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Holy Communion*

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**September 5, 2021 • 9:00 a.m. Service**

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**WELCOME TO EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**INTRODUCTION**

*James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.*

**PRELUDE**

***Lord, I Want to Be a Christian***

**arr. Bish**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TRINITARIAN CHIMES**

*The assembly stands.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

***Please sing "Sotto Voce" (softly)***

**GATHERING SONG**

***Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*** (Verses 1, 4)

**ELW 858**

**GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a**

*These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.*

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading: James 2:1-17**

*Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.*

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Please sing "Sotto Voce" (softly)**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SUNG)**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Gospel: Mark 7:24-37**

*In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.*

The holy gospel according to Mark, the seventh chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON**

**Pastor Steven Wigdahl**

*A moment of silent meditation follows the sermon.*

*The assembly stands.*

**Please sing "Sotto Voce" (softly)**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Healer of Our Every Ill (Verses 1, 3)**

**ELW 612**

**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.**

Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** *(You may take your preferred posture of prayer).*

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.  
The peace of Christ be with you always.*

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

**OFFERING**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

*During this time, the table is set.*

**Please sing "Sotto Voce" (softly)**

**OFFERTORY MEDITATION**

**We Are An Offering**  
*The assembly is invited to sing along.*

We lift our voices  
We lift our hands  
We lift our lives up to You  
We are an offering

All that we have  
All that we are  
All that we hope to be  
We give to You, We give to You

Lord use our voices  
Lord use our hands  
Lord use our lives they are Yours  
We are an offering

We lift our voices  
We lift our hands  
We lift our lives up to You  
We are an offering, We are an offering.

*The assembly stands.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of abundance,  
you cause streams to break forth in the desert  
and manna to rain from the heavens.  
Accept the gifts you have first given us.  
Unite them with the offering of our lives  
to nourish the world you love so dearly;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please sing "Sotto Voce" (softly)*

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE (SUNG)**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **HOLY (SUNG)**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

All who hunger and thirst, come.  
The table is ready.

## **COMMUNION**

*Jesus Christ is the host of this Holy Communion, in which we celebrate the Real Presence of Our Lord among us. Jesus' presence is in the sanctuary. Jesus' presence is also real in your home. Please have bread and wine available and ready (or juice). All the baptized are welcome to participate this morning in their homes during the livestream worship. Follow the presiding pastor for instructions.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion assistants in the sanctuary and at home will say:*  
The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
*and each person may respond Amen.*

*The assembly stands.*

### **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Lord of life,

in the gift of your body and blood

you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.

Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,

bearing witness to the abundance of your love

in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.**

*Please sing "Sotto Voce" (softly)*

### **SENDING SONG**

***The Lord Now Sends Us Forth***

**ELW 538**

*(Repeat the first two stanzas; then repeat the last four stanzas).*

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

***Jesus Shall Reign***

**arr. McCloskey**

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