

for the homeless and the pampered,
may our homes be simple, warm, and welcoming;
 for the vibrant and the dying,
may we all die to sin and live to love. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER - Our prayers continue with the words our Savior taught us:
Our Father, who art in heaven... Amen.

— *Eucharist* —

INVITATION TO OFFERING
PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE
GREAT THANKSGIVING
COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION HYMN Taste and See Worship Ensemble

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*God of glory, in this holy feast
 you have made us one with Christ
 and with that great multitude of the faithful—
 those who hunger and thirst no more
 and worship night and day in your temple.
 Lead us in the paths of righteousness
 and guide us to the springs of the water of life,
 until we join the choir of the redeemed,
 singing: Salvation belongs to our God
 who is seated on the throne,
 and to the Lamb: Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

— *Sending* —

***HYMN #852** When the Lord Redeems the Very Least

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Slyahamba

Rev. Michele R. Goff Pastor
 Joshua Allen Music Director
 Debbi Ricci Admin. Asst.

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*Serving God,
 Honoring Creation,
 Embracing Differences*



Christ Performing Miracles, Healing Scenes, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

*15th Sunday after Pentecost
 Sunday, September 5, 2021
 Service for the Lord's Day*

(*) Please rise in body or in spirit.
Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses

— *Gathering* —

PRELUDE My Faith Looks Up To Thee Joshua Allen
WELCOME Rev. Michele Goff
INTROIT We Need Each Other's Voice to Sing Joshua Allen

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist: Kelly Weaver

The eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

The lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

The burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

***HYMN #401**

Gather Us In

CONFESSION

It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin together.

You love us with open arms, O God.

Forgive us when we do not put your love into practice:

when we do not challenge the injustice around us;

when we are not generous with the gifts we have to share;

when we are slow to compassion and quick to judgment;

when we contribute to the brokenness of the world

instead of helping to make it whole.

Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short.

Free us to try again,

and let your love lead the way.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! *Thanks be to God.*

— *Word* —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness....Amen.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 22:1, 2, 8, 9, 22 and 23

Bible p. 570

This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

EPISTLE READING

James 2:1-17

Bible p. 215-216

Hear the word of the Lord. This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL

Mark 7:24-37

Bible p. 40

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

Jesus Crosses the Line

DESCRIPTION OF PRAISE

To the Lord our God, Alpha and Omega, be all glory and honor forever. **Amen.**

— *Response* —

HYMN

God of the Poor

Worship Ensemble

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – APOSTLES' CREED

*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 Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on 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 Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Loving God, you cause rain to fall on the just and the unjust.

Hear our prayers for your church and world:

for the hungry and the overfed,
may we have enough;

for the mourners and the mockers,
may we laugh together;

for the victims and the oppressors,
may we share power wisely;

for the peacemakers and the warmongers,
may clear truth and stern love lead us to harmony;

for the silenced and the propagandists,
may we speak our own words in truth;

for the unemployed and the overworked,
may our mark on this earth be kindly and creative;

for the troubled and the secure,
may we live together as wounded healers;