

September 5 - 6, 2026
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Readings

First Reading

A Reading from Ezekiel

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel;
whenever you hear a word from my mouth,
you shall give them warning from me.
If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die,"
you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways,
the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand.
But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways
and they do not turn from their ways,
the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.
Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel:
Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us,
and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?"
Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God,
I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked
but that the wicked turn from their ways and live;
turn back, turn back from your evil ways,
for why will you die, O house of Israel?

(pause)

Reader: **Word of God, word of Life.**

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

A Reading from Romans

Owe no one anything, except to love one another,
for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.
The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder;
you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment,
are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
Love does no wrong to a neighbor;
therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.
Besides this, you know what time it is,
how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep.
For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;
the night is far gone; the day is near.
Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light;
let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness,
not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy.
Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ,
and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

(pause)

Reader: **Word of God, word of Life.**

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

A Proclamation of the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

Jesus said to the disciples:

“If your sibling sins against you,

go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone.

If you are listened to, you have regained that one.

But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you,

so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church,

and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church,

let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector.

Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven,

and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask,

it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.

For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

Pastor: **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.