

10:00 a.m. **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost** September 6, 2026

Welcome, Life in the Community, and Ritual of Friendship

*Hymn 401 **Here in This Place** GATHER US IN

*Expressing Our Joy

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
Leader: Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!
People: “Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!”
Leader: Your face, Lord, do I seek. Do not hide your face from me.
People: I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
Leader: Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your hearts take courage;
People: Wait for the Lord! (Psalm 27)
Leader: May the Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us pray. (Congregation seated.)

Prayer of Trust and Confidence

Invitation to Self-Examination and Corporate Prayer of Confession (unison)
God of all forgiveness, we pray for new life as we confess our old ways. We hear your promise amid our own self-doubt. Hope is proclaimed, yet we seek guarantees. Christ calls us to obedience, but we set conditions. When called to follow, we ask to what end. We applaud commitment, but we treasure our comfort. Forgive our reluctance to walk in newness of life.

Time of Personal Reflection

Assurance of God’s Forgiveness

Children’s Message

*Hymn 503 **Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation** O QUANTA QUALIA

Psalm 46 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 489-490 in the pew Bible.]

Anthem

John 15:12-17 (NRSV) [You will find the text on page 103 in the pew Bible.]

Meditation **9/11/2001: 25th Anniversary** The Rev. Vance E. Polley

*The Apostle’s Creed (*Traditional Version*, Page 35) and **Gloria Patri** (No. 581)
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.

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(In the *Offering*, we dedicate our lives and a portion of the resources God has entrusted to us.
Your gifts may be dedicated online, by mail, or in-person.)

*At the Presentation **Doxology** (No. 606) OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving, concluding with *The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Lord’s Supper
(All who are baptized are invited to share in *The Lord’s Supper*.)

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn 686 **God of Our Life** SANDON

*Benediction and Choral Benediction

*Those that are able, please stand.