

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

Gathering Music
"Love Us into Fullness"
(MV # 81)

Welcome



Light the Christ Candle

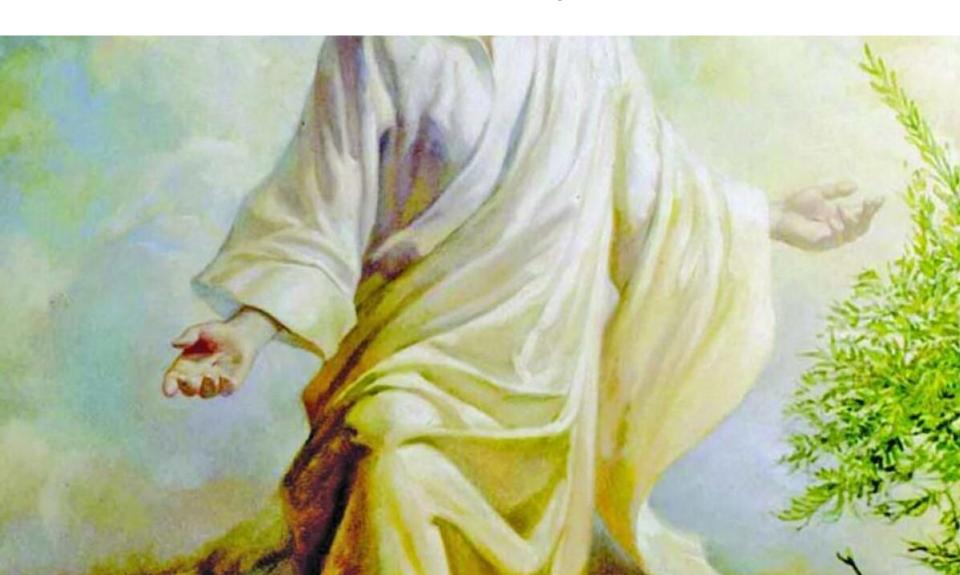
We light the Christ candle, sign of the light that lives with us and within us. God's generous light shines out from us! We light this candle as a sign of the Christ-light we carry within us. We are God's generous light in the world! Amen.





Prelude

"Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"



Opening Prayer

Renewing Spirit, as open windows let fresh air in, so prayer is like an opening into our soul through which you can flow.

May you blow through each one of us and through this community; stir our stale places; ruffle our status quo; be like a breeze gently unsettling our religious certainties.

May we be wholly shaped by you through prayer.

Amen.

"I Come with Joy"

I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved and free, the life of Jesus to recall in love laid down for me,

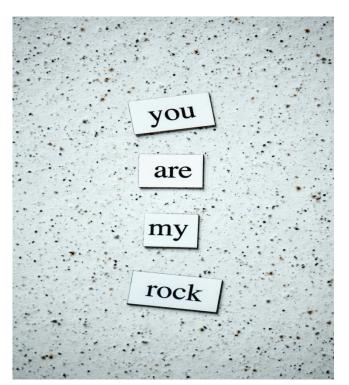
in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed, the new community of love in Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.

Hymn VU # 477

- As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division ends.
 The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.
 - 4 The Spirit of the risen Christ unseen, but ever near, is in such friendship better known, alive among us here, alive among us here.

Together met, together bound by all that God has done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.



Prayer of Confession

Attentive Spirit who waits on each heart, we admit that sometimes it is difficult to pray. We reach for you but our hearts come up empty. We open our lips but our soul is dry and lifeless. We fill the vacuous space with familiar phrases that ring like hollow jargon. We attempt pious statements that sound like prayers but leave our hearts cold as ever. May you hold us, loving Spirit. (Silent prayer)

A voice arises from deep within the yielding and humble heart – a voice more beautiful than poetry, more true and authentic than anything we have known. This is the prayer of a soul that has faced the emptiness and been filled by the Eternal Source.

May you forgive us for the times we fill the holy, empty space with trite words.

Words of Assurance

The One to whom we pray is with us always. In silence and darkness, in song and the light of day, in relationships and solitude we are never far from the Eternal Source. Lean into the Grace of this Steady One, know it, trust it, live for this Grace always. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

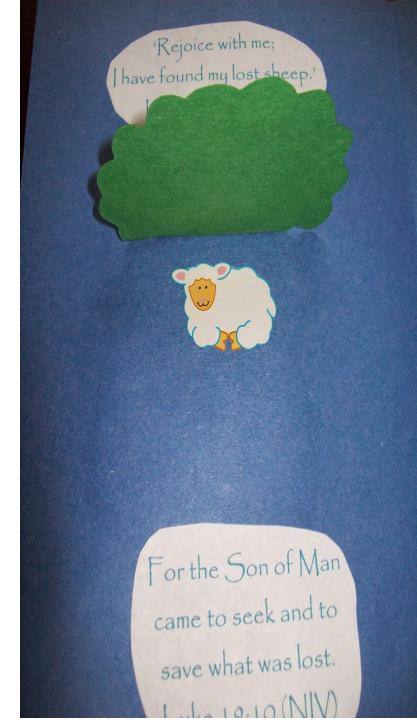
Time with the Young People

By Yun-Hee

Children Song

"B-I-B-L-E"

(The children may now proceed with their guardians to have sharing time.)



The Scriptures
First Reading

read by Donna

1 Timothy 1:12 - 17

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners - of whom I am the worst.

But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Second Reading Luke 15:1 - 10

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbours together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in Heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbours together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. We give thanks for inspiration.

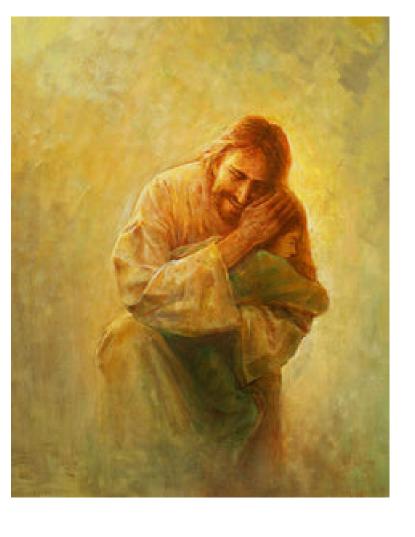
Anthem "Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope" (MV # 33)

- Jesus came bringing us hope, Jesus came bringing us hope, Jesus came bringing us hope, Hallelujah for ever more!
- Jesus came bringing us peace, Jesus came bringing us peace, Jesus came bringing us peace, Hallelujah for ever more!

Jesus came bringing us love,
Jesus came bringing us love,
Jesus came bringing us love,
Hallelujah for ever more!

Jesus came bringing us joy, Jesus came bringing us joy, Jesus came bringing us joy, Hallelujah for ever more!





Message

by Rev. Yun-Hee

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie in pastures green; he leadeth me, the quiet waters by.



2 My soul he doth restore again; and me to walk doth make within the paths of righteousness, even for his own name's sake.

- Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill; for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me comfort still.
 - 4 My table thou has furnished in presence of my foes; my head thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.
- Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me, and in God's house for evermore my dwelling-place shall be.

Prayers of the People

Sometimes godly wisdom comes to us as we move prayerfully along the labyrinth. Here we discover that no matter how far we seem to wander - even when circumstances thrust us out into the outer courses of life - the centre is always with us. We learn to trust, to move at peace and without fear, for the spirited journey is trustworthy and will always bring us to the heart of the Sacred.

Bring to mind your present reality. Where are you in the labyrinth of life? Speak now with your Holy Companion about your journey (silent prayer).

Sometimes we pray with our eyes open. Aware that we are woven together with all that is, we delight in the beauty of Creation and the great capacity for love among humans. The joy of others is our joy. But with our eyes open we also perceive the desecration of the land and the incredible suffering that is also part of being human. Our hearts join in the weeping. Bring to mind the images of the past days. Where was the beauty? Where have you encountered suffering? Speak now with the Holy Weaver about what you perceived (silent prayer).

Sometimes we pray with our bodies, aware of the Spirit pulsing in our flesh and bones. We reach up and out beyond ourselves and extend love into the world. Our feet move our good intentions into the realm of goodly realities. Our hands offer practical care to people and places in need. Our arms bring comfort to those who grieve and suffer. When has love been enfleshed through or for you recently? Speak now with the Author of Love, giving thanks for love received and asking where embodied love might be needed

(silent prayer).

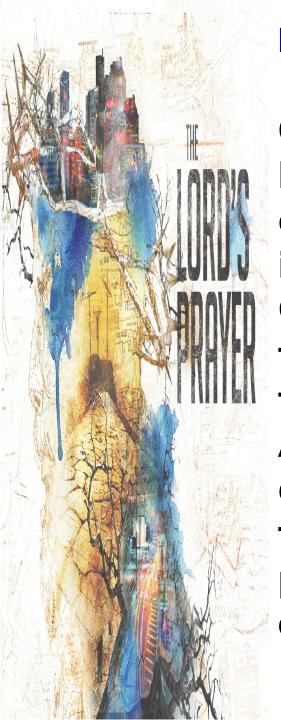
Lord, now we give you our humble hearts and minds, may you answer us. We pray for all who are in sorrow or in pain . . .

We pray for all who live with fear, oppression, or hunger . . .

We pray for all whom the world counts as last and least

We pray for the Church and its varied ministries for peace and justice . . .

We pray for all our families and friends . . . in Jesus'



HYMN VU # 960 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 trespasses, as we forgive them that 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

We Offer Our Gifts

Musical Offering VU # 540

Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free, that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.



Offering Prayer

Holy God, you have called us friends and named us partners in your work of Creation. May you accept the gifts we bring and bless them for your use, that they may reveal to others the depth of your love for all people and for Creation itself. Amen.

Hymn VU # 271 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty.



- There is no place where Earth's sorrows are more felt than up in Heaven; there is no place where Earth's failings have such gracious judgement given.
- There is plentiful redemption in the Blood that Christ has shed; there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.

- Troubled souls, why will you scatter like a crowd of frightened sheep?
 Foolish hearts, why will you wander from a love so true and deep?
- For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind, and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

Blessing

We go now to live as answers to prayer through our pursuit of justice, acts of kindness, and expressed compassion.

- Let us join the Spirit of God at work in this good world seeking, continually, the realm of love. Go in love, for love.
- The Grace of Christ attend you, the Love of God surround you, and the Holy Spirit keep you. **Amen.**



Commissioning

"Go Now in Peace"

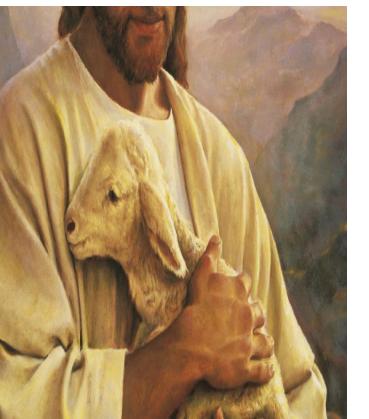
Go now in peace. Never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true.

Know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love and show you believe.



Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there within, around, above.

Go now in peace, in faith and in love.

Amen, amen, amen.

20ST SHEEP

We thank God for being with us! Thank you for worshipping together today and for participating in the Service!



(adapted from "Seasons of the Spirit – Seasons Fusion" and Images from the public domain)