

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 16, 2026

PREPARATION FOR THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Because Holy Communion is an expression of our oneness in faith, we request that each person desiring to commune with us examine him/herself on the basis of these points of faith:

- I believe that:
- + I am a sinner in need of God’s forgiveness.
  - + Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan and death.
  - + Jesus Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and
  - + The bread and wine I receive are also the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.
  - + All my sins are forgiven through this Sacrament.
  - + As God enables me, I pledge to thank, praise, serve and obey Him.

Those who hold in common these teachings are invited to join us at the Lord’s Supper. If you are visiting us for the first time, or have questions or reservations about these points of faith, we invite you to speak with the Pastor before the service.

The lighter colored wine is non-alcoholic for those with special needs. Gluten-free wafers are also available on the small table as you approach the railing.

Hymns during Distribution — Please join in singing:

- “O Christ, You Walked the Road” #424
- Special Music #779
- “Come, My Soul, with Every Care”

“O Lord, We Praise Thee” v. 1 #617  
Post-Communion Collect p218

THE BENEDICTION

THE CLOSING HYMN — “In Christ There is No East or West” vs. 4-5 #653

THE POSTLUDE

✠ ✠ ✠

***WELCOME!** In our Old Testament reading today, the prophet Isaiah declares that God’s house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today’s Holy Gospel reading is a Gentile—an outsider—who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal, we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.*

✠ ✠ ✠

THE PRESERVICE MUSIC AND PRELUDE

THE RINGING OF THE BELL AND PASTORAL GREETING

✠ THE PREPARATION ✠

THE OPENING HYMN – “In Christ There is No East or West” vs. 1-3 #653

THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (taken from D.S. V—p213)

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen.**
- P: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C: **Who made heaven and earth.** *Psalm 124:8*
- P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.  
C: **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** *Psalm 32:5*
- P: O almighty God, merciful Father,  
C: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: **Amen.**
- P: Lord, have mercy upon us.  
C: **Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS—“All Glory Be to God on High” #947

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.  
C: And also with you.  
P: Let us pray.  
Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
All: Amen.

✠ THE WORD ✠

THE FIRST READING — Isaiah 56:1, 6-8, ESV Pew Bibles p 732

*In our reading the prophet Isaiah calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God’s imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.*  
Thus says the Lord: “Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come, and my righteousness be revealed. [...] “And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant—these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”  
The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, “I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered.”  
L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING — Romans 11:1-2a, 13-16, 28-33, ESV Pew Bibles p 1125

*St. Paul shares with us that God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy on all.*  
[St. Paul wrote:] I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. [...]

Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches. [...]  
As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.  
Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!  
L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

THE VERSE OF DOXOLOGY– “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” #805

THE HOLY GOSPEL READING —Matthew 15:21-28, ESV Pew Bibles p 976

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.  
C: Glory to You, O Lord.  
And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” And he answered, “It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.” Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.  
P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE APOSTLES’ CREED p192

THE SERMON HYMN –“Where Love and Charity Prevail” vs. 1-4 #845

THE SERMON

✠ THE RESPONSE ✠

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE –(8:00) “Where Love and Charity Prevail” v. 5-6 #845  
(10:00) “I Speak Jesus” on screen

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE AND TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

THE GATHERING OF OUR OFFERINGS-  
(8:00) “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” #649  
(10:00) “Let It Be Said of Us” on screen

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD’S PRAYER (8:00)

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION (10:00) (Please see next page to prepare.)  
Preface p216  
“Holy, Holy, Holy” vs. 1-2 #507  
Lord’s Prayer p217  
Words of Institution and Pax Domini p218  
Agnus Dei p198