

Welcome to Worship! | September 21, 2025 | 15th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

Prelude Song without Words, Opus 85, No. 4

Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome

Joyfully Present & Prayerfully Connected Announcement

*Call to Worship Rev. Parker Lucas

Come, let us praise God together!

For God is great and worthy of our praise!

Let's tell stories of God's power and majesty, the Lord's mighty acts throughout history:

for God is great and worthy of our praise!

Let us remember the compassion God has shown toward us; God's mercy and unfailing love, generation after generation:

for God is great and worthy of our praise!

We will pass these stories along to our children and grandchildren, so that they, too, may come to know and love the Lord our God.

For God is great and worthy of our praise!

*Hymn **35** *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession[†]

Lord, forgive us for all the times our prayers were mere lip service. We are sorry that our allegiances have been given to every plan and purpose but your own. We are sorry that we have been content to ignore injustice, as long as it stays far from our lives. We are sorry that in our secret hearts we would rather keep things as they are than see your kingdom upend this world. Give us strength to turn prayer to action, Lord. Turn us from sin to solace, and from solace to a new way of living. Make us your true disciples, today and always. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Sung Response 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Isaiah 56:1-8

Second Lesson Matthew 5:1-11

Sermon Pray This Way: Thy Kingdom Come

Rev. Katherine B. Harrington

*Hymn 175 Seek Ye First

*Affirmation of Faith: A Brief Statement of Faith PC (USA)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

THANKSGIVING

Offering

Offertory *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

arr. Kurt Meyer

*Doxology 606

*Prayer of Dedication[‡]

Generous God, over and over and over again, you bestow your gifts upon us. You drop them into our lives, then our hearts overflow in gladness, and—like ripples in a tidal pool—we respond by spreading our time, our talent, and our treasures outward. Through our offering, may we, like you, be the pebble that begins the ripple; through our prayers, may we, with you, be the water that carries it onward; and through our actions, may we, for you, be the vessel that spreads your love, now and forever more. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn 307 God of Grace and God of Glory

*Charge and Benediction

*Dismissal

We stand while the bell is rung three times, remembering that God, Creator, Redeemer and Renewer of Life goes with us.

Postlude | Will Arise and Go to Jesus

Penny Rodriguez

Worship Leaders

Senior Pastor, Rev. Katherine B. Harrington Associate Pastor, Rev. Parker Lucas Director of Music, Cindy Litzinger Pianist, Sara Bryant Bell Soloist, Beth Davis Pianist, Rhesa Stone Oboe, Sarah Parker Production Coordinator, Jim Fox Lay Reader, Thomas Bissette

[†]Written by Rev. Carol Holbrook Prickett [‡]Written by the Capital Campaign Prayer Team

Our Mission

Inspiring one another to love Jesus by staying faithfully present in our community.