

THE WORD OF GOD

TAKE-HOME INSERT

(14th Sunday after Pentecost IRCL – Proper 15)

Collect

Presider: The Lord is with you.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray together:

Adonai,

You alone are Sovereign of Creation:

When our mouths would defile one another;

When our eyes would be blind to your presence;

Transform our hearts,

As you transformed the heart of Jesus;

So that we might receive the one who is before us,

Not as our prejudice would judge,

But as the very presence of you,

The just and the living God. Amen.

A period of silence for reflection follows each lesson and the sermon. Allow your attention to drop in and down and rest upon your breath. When distractions arise – such as thoughts and sounds and smells – simply notice and return to the breath.

Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Reader: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says YHWH: “Do what is right! Work for justice! For my liberation is about to come, and my justice is about to be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to me, ministering to me, loving the name of YHWH and worshiping me – all who observe the Sabbath and do not profane it, and cling to 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 acceptable on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all peoples!” Thus says the Sovereign YHWH, who gathers the diaspora of Israel: “There are others I will gather besides those already gathered.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 67: May God Bless Us in His Mercy (Michel Guimont)

This music covered under One Licensing Agreement #A-714367

Christian Scriptures

The Epistle

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Reader: A reading from Paul's letter to the Community at Rome.
I ask, then, has God rejected the chosen people? Of course not! I myself am an Israelite, descended from Sarah and Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. No, God has not rejected the chosen people, who were foreknown long ago. For God's gift and call are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God and now have received mercy through Israel's disobedience, now they have become disobedient-since God wished to show you mercy – that they too may receive mercy. God has imprisoned everyone in disobedience in order to have mercy on everyone.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn (see hymn board)

We stand as able.

The Gospel

Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

Deacon: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

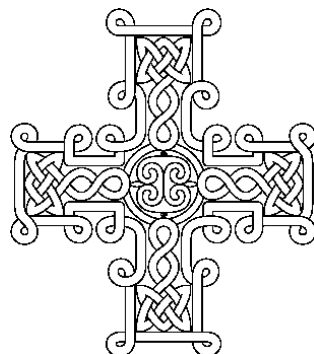
Assembly: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

[Jesus called the crowd together and said to them, "Hear this and understand: it's not what enters your mouth that defiles you – it's what comes out of your mouth that defiles you." Then the disciples approached him and said, "Do you realize that the Pharisees were offended by what you said?" Jesus replied, "Every plant that my Abba God in heaven has not planted will be pulled up by the roots. Ignore them – they are blind people leading other blind people. And when the blind lead the blind, they all will fall into a ditch." Then Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Jesus replied, "Do you still not understand? Don't you realize that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and eventually finds its way into the sewer and is gone? But what comes out of the mouth comes from the heart. This is what makes a person 'unclean.' For from the heart come all sorts of evil intentions – murder, sexual infidelity, promiscuity, stealing, lying, even foul language. These things make a person unclean-not eating with unwashed hands!"] Jesus left there and departed for the district of Tyre and Sidon. It happened that a Canaanite woman living in that area came and cried out to Jesus, "Heir to the House of David, have pity on me! My daughter is horribly demon-possessed." Jesus gave her no word of response. The disciples came up and repeatedly said to him, "Please get rid of her! She keeps calling after us." Finally Jesus turned to the woman and said, "My mission is only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel." She then prostrated herself before him with the plea, "Help me, Rabbi!" He answered, "But it isn't right to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." "True, Rabbi," she replied, "but even the dogs get to eat the scraps that fall from the table." Jesus then said in reply, "Woman, you have great faith! Your wish will come to pass." At that very moment her daughter was healed.

Deacon: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

The readings are taken from *The Inclusive Hebrew Scriptures Vol. I, II, and III* and *The Inclusive New Testament* with © permission from: Priests for Equality/Quixote Center, P.O. Box 5206 Hyattsville, MD 20782 301-699-0042. Collect is by Kevin G. Thew Forrester.



WELCOME to all visitors and guests this morning! After the service, you are invited to the Great Room on the lower level (accessible by stairs or elevator) for coffee and conversation.

TODAY'S HOSPITALITY AND WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Presider:	Marcia Franz
Preacher:	Vince Reed
Deacon:	Coralie Hambleton
Organist:	Jan Brodersen
First Reader:	Nancy Railey
Second Reader:	Chet DeFonso
Prayers of the People:	Judd Spray
Chalice Bearers:	Pat Micklow and Larry Shell
Ushers:	Bob and Nancy Railey
Server:	Dan Platt
Altar Guild:	Bertha Loehde and Marcia Franz
Coffee Hour Hosts:	Pat Micklow and Judd Spray, Carol and Tom Cappuccio
Evening Prayer Officiant:	Bob Railey
Eucharistic Visitors:	MGH: Kai Carrigan; Valente Facility: Bob & Nancy Railey; Alice York and Marian Carlton: Marcia Franz

*Flowers on the altar today are given in loving memory of
Mary-Jane Schmidt*

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

August Food Bank Needs: Canned peaches, canned pears, and fruit cocktail

Tuesday, 19 th	Mindfulness Meditation	7:45 am
	Outreach Committee	7:00 pm
Wednesday, 20 th	Finance Committee	12:00 pm
	Evening Prayer	5:30 pm
Thursday, 21 st	Mindfulness Meditation	7:45 am
	Vestry	7:00 pm
Sunday, 24 th	Holy Eucharist: 15 Pentecost	10:30 am

QUARTERLY LITURGICAL SIGN-UP/AVAILABILITY LIST NOW POSTED

The Fall Quarter list (October through December) and rosters for the various activities are posted on the "sign-up bulletin board" in the chapel hallway through September 14. Completed Fall Quarter schedules will be distributed beginning September 21. If there are periods when you should not be scheduled, please indicate that in the appropriate spaces of the schedule ("Away") or roster ("Comments"). You may use the appropriate roster to increase or decrease your involvement in any of these activities. I would especially like more people to serve as coffee hour hosts. - Bob Railey

ALTAR FLOWERS

Anyone wishing to have flowers on the altar in memory or celebration of a loved one can sign up on the list on the board in the atrium. If you have any questions or would like more information, call Jayne McQuaid at 226-2355.

Annual Convention Delegates

The Diocesan Annual Convention will be held in Marquette October 17th – 19th. At its August 21st meeting, our Vestry will select four voting delegates to the convention. Anyone interested in being a delegate or for more information please contact a member of the Vestry.