

## THE WORD OF GOD

### TAKE-HOME INSERT

(15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost IRCL – Proper 16)

#### Collect

*Presider:* The Lord is with you.

*Assembly:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Let us pray together:

**Adonai,**

**You are the living Rock**

**From which all life is cut:**

**Though the earth wear out;**

**Though creatures wither and die –**

**Our hearts are hewn of you:**

**Flow into us this day**

**Forever forming us as one body in Christ;**

**Flow into us this day**

**Renewing our minds**

**To know your reign**

**As the bedrock of freedom from all bondage. 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 51:1-6

*Reader:* A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Listen closely to what I say, you who pursue justice, you who seek YHWH, consider the rock from which you were hewn, the quarry from which you were cut: Look to Abraham, your father, and Sarah, your mother who bore you. They were but one couple when I called them, but I blessed them and made them many. Indeed, YHWH will comfort Zion, will give comfort to all its ruins – will turn its desert into an Eden, its desert will be like the garden of YHWH. Joy and happiness will be found there, thanksgiving and the sound of music. “Hear me, my people! Listen to me, my nation! For Instruction comes from me, and my justice will be a beacon to the peoples. My vindication draws near, my deliverance approaches; my arm will bring justice to the people and the islands will put their hope in me. They will put their future in my hands. Lift your eyes and look up to the heavens, then look to the earth below: for the heavens will vanish like smoke; the earth will wear out like a coat, and those who live on it will die like flies. But my liberation will last forever, my vindication will never fail.

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

*Assembly:* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 138: The Fragrance of Christ** (David Haas)

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### **Christian Scriptures**

#### **The Epistle**

#### **Romans 12:1-8**

*Reader:* A reading from Paul's letter to the Community at Rome.

Sisters and brothers, I beg you through the mercy of God to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. Don't conform yourselves to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your minds, so that you can judge what God's will is – what is good, pleasing and perfect. In light of the grace I have from God, I urge each of you not to exaggerate your own importance. Each of you must judge yourself soberly by the standard of faith God has given you. Just as each of us has one body with many members – and these members don't have the same function – so all of us, in union with Christ, form one body. And as members of that one body, we belong to each other. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophecy, use it in proportion to your faith. If your gift is ministry, use it for service. If you're a teacher, use your gift for teaching. If you're good at preaching, then preach boldly. If you give to charity, do so generously; if you're a leader, exercise your authority with care; if you help others, do so cheerfully.

*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 16:13-20**

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

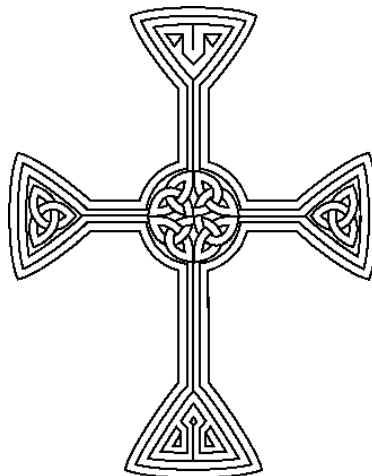
*Assembly:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus came to the neighborhood of Caesarea Philippi, he asked the disciples this question: "What do people say about who the Chosen One is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptizer, others say Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "And you," he said, "who do you say that I am?" "You are the Messiah," Simon Peter answered, "the Firstborn of the Living God!" Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon begot of Jonah! No mere mortal has revealed this to you, but my Abba God in heaven. I also tell you this: your name now is 'Rock,' and on bedrock like this I will build my community, and the jaws of death will not prevail against it. "Here – I'll give you the keys to the reign of heaven: whatever you declare bound on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you declare loosed on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then Jesus strictly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

*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:* Bob Railey

*Deacon:* Pat Micklow

*First Reader:* Mary Sullivan

*Prayers of the People:* Chet DeFonso

*Ushers:* Peter and Meg Goodrich

*Preacher:* Jo DeYoung

*Organist:* Jan Brodersen

*Second Reader:* Jayne Yelland

*Chalice Bearers:* Vince Reed

*Server:* Michael Edwards

*Altar Guild:* Sue Micensky and Ann Smith

*Coffee Hour Hosts:* Sue Micensky, Frank Kerwin and Mary Sullivan

*Evening Prayer Officiant:* Kay Payant

*Eucharistic Visitors:* MGH: Kai Carrigan

Phyllis Reynolds (Mill Creek) & Bill Mudge (Jacobetti): Barb and Dan Carpenter

Mary Lola Kent (Norlite) and Warren Glass (Snowberry Heights): Bob Railey

**THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S**

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

Tuesday, 26 <sup>th</sup>	Mindfulness Meditation	7:45 am
Wednesday, 27 <sup>th</sup>	Evening Prayer w/Holy Eucharist	5:30 pm
	Soup Supper	6:00 pm
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup>	Mindfulness Meditation	7:45 am
Sunday, 31 <sup>st</sup>	Holy Eucharist: 16 Pentecost	10:30 am

**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.

**Quarterly Liturgical Sign-Up/Availability List Posted**

The Fall Quarter list (October - 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

**Outreach Sunday**

Next Sunday is Outreach Sunday. Please consider a contribution to either or both of the following outreach efforts:

1. Each month, a different local social service agency receives our outreach contributions. This month's agency is the Almoner's Fund.
2. Nonperishable food items and designated money are given alternately to these Marquette area food pantries: The Salvation Army or St. Vincent de Paul

**SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL MARQUETTE/ALGER HUNGER WALK**

This annual effort, sponsored by our ecumenical partners of the ELCA Synod, will be Saturday, Sept. 27, 10:00 am at Bethany Lutheran Church, Ishpeming; the fair-weather walking site is Al Quaal Recreation Area, two blocks from the church. As usual, walkers don't have to walk on that day or in Ishpeming. Watch September's *Messenger* for details. At this time, we do not know when walkers' envelopes will be available for gathering pledges. As always, pledge early and pledge often. Walker recruiters this year are Bob Railey, Al Raymond & Larry Shell.

Year A 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost - Proper 16