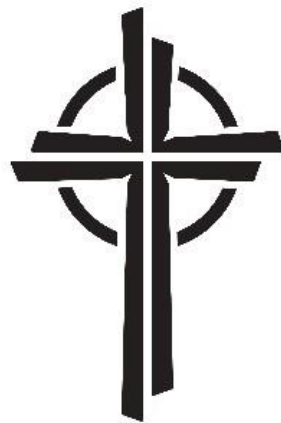


13 September 2026
16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Season of Creation

Readings and Hymn Sheet

To be used in conjunction with the Service Booklet for Pentecost



PROCESSIONAL HYMN *(at 10am – refer to Service Booklet page 1)*

- 1 Give to our God immortal praise,
mercy and truth are all his ways:
wonders of grace to God belong,
repeat his mercies in your song.
- 2 Give to the Lord of lords renown,
the King of kings with glory crown:
his mercies ever shall endure,
when lords and kings are known no more.
- 3 He built the earth, he spread the sky,
and fixed the starry lights on high:
wonders of grace to God belong,
repeat his mercies in your song.
- 4 He fills the sun with morning light,
he bids the moon direct the night:
his mercies ever shall endure,
when suns and moons shall shine no more.
- 5 He sent his Son with power to save
from guilt and darkness and the grave:
wonders of grace to God belong,
repeat his mercies in your song.
- 6 Through this vain world he guides our feet,
and leads us to his heavenly seat:
his mercies ever shall endure,
when this vain world shall be no more.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Public domain

Sentence *(refer to Service Booklet page 1)*

If you, O Lord, should note what we do wrong, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. Psalm 130.3–4

Collects *(refer to Service Booklet page 2)*

Said by the President

Collect of the Day:

O God, you call your Church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you: help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Season of Creation:

Creator of all, we praise you for the gift of life and for the beauty of your creation. Forgive us for the harm we do to the earth. Open our eyes and our hearts, and

give us the courage to be good stewards of your world. Help us to hear the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor, and guide us to live in justice, peace, and love. **Amen.**

Collect for Peace:

O God of love, look in your mercy on the nations of the world and unite them in the bonds of peace. Strengthen the love of righteousness, freedom and understanding among all people. Show people the way to peace where there is war and suffering, and bring the whole earth into obedience to your ways of righteousness; through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD *(refer to Service Booklet page 2)*

Please be seated for the First Reading, the Psalm and the Second Reading

First Reading

Exodus 14.19-31

A reading from the book of Exodus, Chapter 14, beginning at verse 19

¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.'

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Hear the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 114

- 1 When Israel came out of Egypt:
and the house of Jacob from among a people of an alien tongue,
- 2 **Judah became his sanctuary:
and Israel his dominion.**
- 3 The sea saw that, and fled:
Jordan was driven back.
- 4 **The mountains skipped like rams:
and the little hills like young sheep.**
- 5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled:
O Jordan, that you were driven back?
- 6 **You mountains, that you skipped like rams:
and you little hills like young sheep?**
- 7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord:
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- 8 **Who turned the rock into a pool of water:
and the flint-stone into a welling spring.**

Second Reading

Romans 14.1-23

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans, Chapter 14, beginning at verse 1

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. ¹¹For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' ¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

¹³ Let us therefore no longer pass judgement on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling-block or hindrance in the way of another. ¹⁴I know and

am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. ¹⁵ If your brother or sister is being injured by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. Do not let what you eat cause the ruin of one for whom Christ died. ¹⁶ So do not let your good be spoken of as evil. ¹⁷ For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸ The one who thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and has human approval. ¹⁹ Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual edification. ²⁰ Do not, for the sake of food, destroy the work of God. Everything is indeed clean, but it is wrong for you to make others fall by what you eat; ²¹ it is good not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that makes your brother or sister stumble. ²² The faith that you have, have as your own conviction before God. Blessed are those who have no reason to condemn themselves because of what they approve. ²³ But those who have doubts are condemned if they eat, because they do not act from faith; for whatever does not proceed from faith is sin.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL HYMN (*refer to Service Booklet page 3*)

- 1 Help us accept each other
as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother,
each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us
and bring us to believe
we are *ourselves* accepted
and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O Lord, your lessons,
as in our daily life
we struggle to be human
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people,
for all - not just for some,
to love them as we find them
or as they may become.
- 3 Let your acceptance change us,
so that we may be moved
in living situations
to do the truth in love;
to practise your acceptance
until we know by heart
the table* of forgiveness
and laughter's healing art.

4 Lord, for today's encounters
with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance,
for righteousness and bread,
we need new eyes for seeing,
new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit;
Lord, free us, make us one!

* The 70 times table is in Matthew 18:21-22: 'seventy times seven'.

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The Gospel *(refer to Service Booklet page 3)*

Matthew 18.21-35

(Standing facing the reader)

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Your word, O Lord, is truth;
make us holy in the truth.

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, Chapter 18,
beginning at verse 21

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³ 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

OFFERTORY HYMN *(refer to Service Booklet page 4)*

During the singing of this hymn, the offertory will be collected and brought forward to the Sanctuary.

- 1 'Forgive our sins as we forgive'
you taught us, Lord, to pray,
but you alone can grant us grace
to live the words we say.
- 2 How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let
old bitterness depart?
- 3 In blazing light your cross reveals
the truth we dimly knew,
what trivial debts are owed to us,
how great our debt to you.
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
and bid resentment cease;
then, bound to all in bonds of love,
our lives will spread your peace.

Rosamond Eleanor Herklots (1905-87) © Oxford University Press. Used By Permission. CCL Licence No. 247379

FINAL HYMN *(refer to Service Booklet page 7)*

- 1 All things praise you, Lord most high,
heaven and earth, and sea and sky;
all were for your glory made,
that your greatness thus displayed
should all worship bring to you:
so we praise you, Lord, anew.
- 2 All things praise you — night to night
sings in silent hymns of light;
all things praise you — day by day
hymns your power in burning ray;
time and space are praising you:
so we praise you, Lord, anew.
- 3 All things praise you: heaven's high shrine
rings with melody divine;
lowly bending at your feet,
seraph and archangel meet,
know their highest bliss to be
ever praising: so may we.

- 4 All things praise you, glorious Lord,
great Creator, powerful Word,
omnipresent Spirit, now
at your throne we humbly bow,
lift our hearts in praise to you:
so we praise you, Lord, anew.

George William Conder (1821-74). Public domain

You are welcome to take the Readings and Hymn Sheet with you.