Humble Yourself

September 21, 2025



15th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome, guests! We're delighted that you could join us. If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be more than happy to assist you. This folder includes all the details about our services, with the congregational responses indicated by indented, bold letters. Please take a moment to fill out the guest register at the church's entrance; this will be used solely by the pastor and elder. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. May the Lord bless this service as Christ comes to you!

THE THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS: The life of faith is one of true humility. But it is humility rendered by faith in the promise of God that those who exalt themselves on earth will be humiliated for eternity. Still, those who humble themselves now will be exalted.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

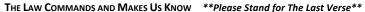
SPECIAL THANK YOU AND WELCOME: We welcome Dr. Martin Luther (Dr. Dwight Johnson, retired Lt. Col.) to Redomd, and we thank you for bringing us "An Evening with Luther."

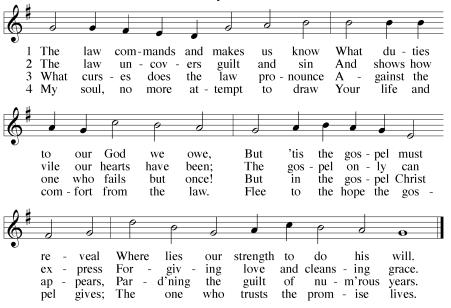
ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION - CW, Pg. 15











Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH (LM) Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551.



In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



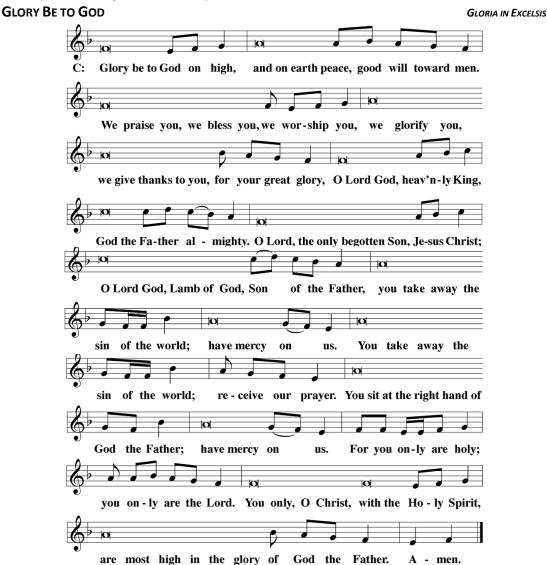


God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



PRAYER OF THE DAY



The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please Be Seated

FIRST LESSON: PROVERBS 25: 6, 7

Sinful pride can be one's undoing. Humility before the king is better than humiliation in his court. These words of Solomon are very similar to Jesus' words in today's Gospel. It might be easy to see these words as just etiquette for the royal court. But they speak to nearly every part of life for the believer.

Do not honor yourself in a king's presence. Do not stand in a place reserved for great people, because it is better to be told, "Come up here," than for you to be humiliated before a ruler whom your eyes have seen.

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 119A





Refrain

Blessed are they whose ways are <u>blame</u>less,*
who walk according to the law <u>of</u> the LORD.
Blessed are they who keep his <u>stat</u>utes*
and seek him with <u>all</u> their heart.
You have laid down <u>pre</u>cepts*
that are to be fully obeyed.

Refrain

Oh, that my ways were <u>stead</u>fast* in obeying <u>your</u> decrees!

Then I would not be <u>put</u> to shame*
when I consider all <u>your</u> commands.
I will praise you with an <u>upright</u> heart*
as I learn your <u>right</u>eous laws.
Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son*
and to the Holy <u>Spirit</u>,
as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning,*
is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON JAMES 2: 1 – 13

These words from James echo the lesson from Jesus in the final verses of the Gospel. Self-exalting pride also appears in favoritism toward those who can boost our social status or benefit us in some way. James warns that showing such favoritism makes someone a self-exalting lawbreaker destined for judgment. Instead, as humble servants who have experienced the mercy of the King, we should show mercy to everyone in need.

My brothers, have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ without showing favoritism. For example, suppose a man enters your worship assembly wearing gold rings and fine clothing, and a poor man also enters wearing filthy clothing. If you look with favor on the man wearing fine clothing and say, "Sit here in this good place," but you tell the poor man, "Stand over there" or "Sit down here at my feet," have you not made a distinction among yourselves and become judges with evil opinions? Listen, my dear brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom, which he promised to those who love him? But you dishonored the poor man. Don't the rich oppress you, and don't they drag you into court? Aren't they the ones who blaspheme the noble name that was pronounced over you? However, if you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. But if you show favoritism, you are committing a sin, since you are convicted by this law as transgressors.

In fact, whoever keeps the whole law but stumbles in one point has become guilty of breaking all of it. For the one who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not commit murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law of freedom. For there will be judgment without mercy on the one who has not shown mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Your words became a joy to me, and the delight of my heart. Alleluia. (Jeremiah 15:16 cf. RSV)



GOSPEL LUKE 14: 1, 7 – 14

We are so far removed from royalty and subjects, masters and slaves. First, Jesus speaks to the immediate situation of the banquet he was attending and the actions he observed there. But then he also emphasizes his point on humility with a parable. As Jesus warns against sinful pride, he warns those who would promote themselves and seek places of honor in the presence of the Host of the Heavenly banquet. Only those who humbly wait for the King's merciful acknowledgment will find eternal reward at his table.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



One Sabbath day, when Jesus went into the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat bread, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how they were selecting the places of honor, he told the invited guests a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline in the place of honor, or perhaps someone more distinguished than you may have been invited by him. The one who invited both of you may come and tell you, 'Give this man your place.' Then you will begin, with shame, to take the lowest place.

"But when you are invited, go and recline in the lowest place, so that when the one who invited you comes, he will tell you, 'Friend, move up to a higher place.' Then you will have honor in the presence of all who are reclining at the table with you."Yes, everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

He also said to the one who had invited him, "When you make a dinner or a supper, do not invite your friends, or your brothers, or your relatives, or rich neighbors, so that perhaps they may also return the favor and pay you back.

"But when you make a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. Certainly, you will be repaid in the resurrection of the righteous."



We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him, all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake, he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day, he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

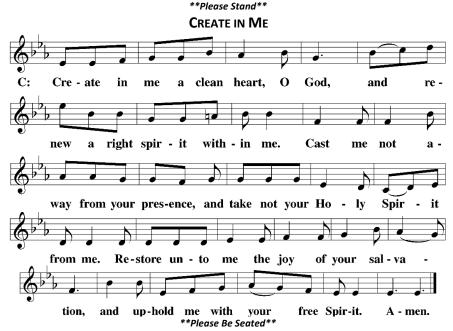
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please Be Seated

BUILT ON THE ROCK



Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867-1937, alt. Tune: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS (88 88 88 8) Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812-87. SERMON TEXT: SERMON THEME: LUKE 14: 1, 7 - 4
HUMBLED BY FAITH IN JESUS



OFFERING — In 2 Corinthians 9:7, Paul tells us: "Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver." This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

Please Stand

PRAYER FOR THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Eternal God and Father, we give you thanks for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, for fellowship with believers in our congregation and in our synod.

Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.

Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, O Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

Awaken us to the opportunities you give to proclaim your message of love to our family members and neighbors.

Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and sacrament, bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to clearly witness and to act boldly to those who live in Redmond and her surrounding cities. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.

Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

Silent prayer.

Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care, and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.

Special Prayers and Intercessions

Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.

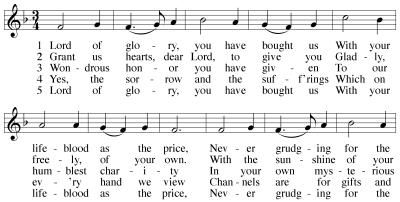
Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN #486

LORD OF GLORY, YOU HAVE BOUGHT US





Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–89, alt.

Tune: HYFRYDOL (87 87 D) Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-87.

THE SACRAMENT **Please Stand**

The Lord be with you.

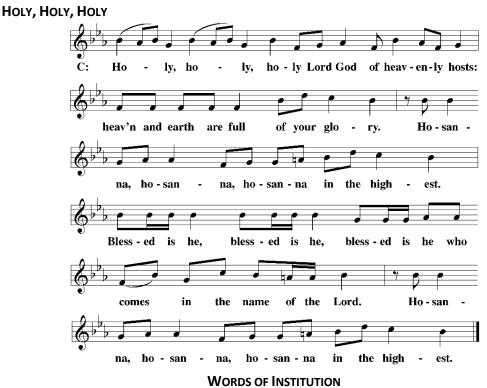
Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



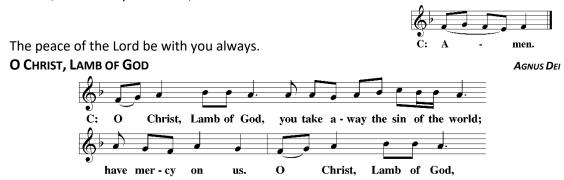
It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his

flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



SANCTUS



DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION - Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul's quidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: "For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.



O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

CLOSING PRAYER

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it, you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord, make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

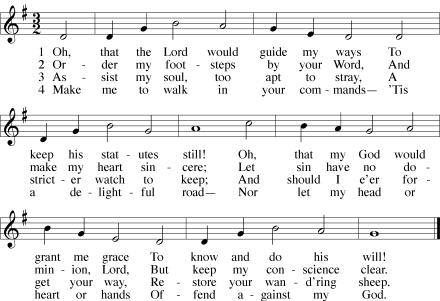
The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



Please Be Seated

CLOSING HYMN: #462

OH, THAT THE LORD WOULD GUILD MY WAYS



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, abr., alt.

Tune: EVAN (CM) William H. Havergal, 1793-1870, adapt.

WHAT WE BELIEVE:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God, the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work, receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment, and destroy this present world.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Evening with Luther": We are hosting Dr. Dwight Johnson (Retired Lt. Col. from the Air Force) from Colorado Springs as he performs a one-man play, "An Evening with Martin Luther." A free-will offering will be collected, with all proceeds supporting the Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG). We will have our potluck between our service and the play.

General Pastor Conference: From September 29 to October 2, Pastor Emmons will attend the annual Pastor Conference in Bloomington, MN. If you have any emergency concerns, you can reach him on his cell phone. For a more immediate response, please contact our Elder, Gene Baldwin, at 541-610-9978.

Michigan Women's Rally: Pastor Emmons has been invited to speak at the Women's Mission Conference in Frankenmuth, Michigan, about our experience as a mission congregation. He will be there from October 10 to 13. We will not hold communion on October 12; Elder Clark Pederson will lead the service.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: We will focus on Luke 14; please join us at 9:00 a.m. We hope this Bible study is enlightening for you! Feel free to bring your questions; you can come and go as needed; reading is always optional, and questions are always welcome.

Midweek Bible Study: We resume our midweek Bible study this Tuesday, September 16. Join us at 6:00 p.m. at Greg and Penny Port's house, 1923 NW Nickernut Ct, Redmond, to study the book of Micah. You can also join via Zoom. The Zoom link is provided, or you can email Pastor Emmons to request the link.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057 Password: GraceOT

Home Visits: Pastor Emmons will be making home visits and completing this summer's visits in September. If you have not been visited yet, please remind him. If there are better times for you, please schedule a visit with him. This is a good opportunity to discuss any personal issues or share ideas for our congregation.

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