# **15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

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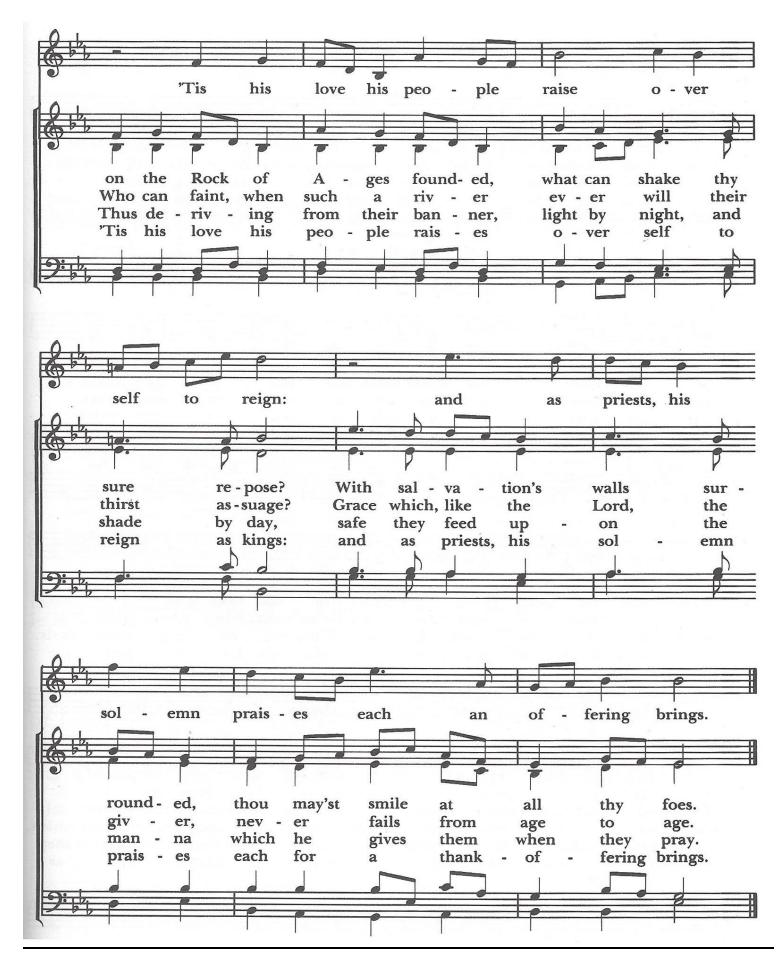
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#### **Processional Hymn** "Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken" (verses 1-3) Descant 4 Blest in - hab - it of Zi in the ants on, washed Glo - rious things of 1 thee are Zi spo - ken, on, ci -2 See! the streams of liv - ing from wa ters. spring ing 3 Round each ha - bi ta - tion hov - ering, the cloud and --see 4 Blest in - hab - it ants of Zi washed the in on, blood! deem - er's Whom their souls God; of our he whose word can not ter nal love, well sup - ply thy sons fire pear ap for a glo and . ry deem er's blood! Je sus, whom their souls ly makes them kings God. on, and priests to formed bro ken thee for his bode; own a daugh ters and all fear of want move. re cov ering, show ing that the . Lord is near. ly makes them on, kings and priests to God.

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# **The Gathering of the Community**

#### Celebrant

Welcome to this holy table, welcome to you, for we are Christ's body, Christ's work in the world. Welcome to you whose baptism makes you salt of the earth and light to the world. Rejoice and be glad. Praise God who gives us forgiveness and hope.

People Amen. Christ is our light, the joy of our salvation.

#### Celebrant

Praise and glory to Christ, God's new beginning for humanity making ritual water gospel wine, cleansing all our worship.

People Love and loyalty to Christ, who gives us the gospel. Praise to Christ who calls us to holiness.

# **Song of Praise**

#### Celebrant and People

Christ is the good shepherd who knows and cares for every one of the sheep in different folds. In Christ there is neither Jew nor Gentile; in Christ there is no discrimination of gender, class, or race. In Christ the poor are blessed, the simple receive truth hidden from the wise.

Alleluia! God of justice and compassion, you give us a work to do and a baptism of suffering and resurrection. From you comes power to give to others the care we have ourselves received so that we, and all who love our world, may live in harmony and trust.

# Forgiveness

Leader	We come seeking forgiveness for all we have failed to be and do as members of Christ's body.
Silence	
Leader <b>People</b>	In God there is forgiveness. Loving and all-seeing God, forgive us where we have failed to support one another and to be what we claim to be. Forgive us where we have failed to serve you; and where our thoughts and actions have been contrary to yours we ask your pardon.
Celebrant	God forgives us; be at peace.
Silence	
Celebrant	Rejoice and be glad, for Christ is resurrection, reconciliation for all the human race.
People	We shall all be one in Christ, one in our life together. Praise to God who has created us, praise to God who has accepted us, praise to God who sends us into the world.

# The Collect of the Day

CelebrantThe Lord be with you.PeopleAnd also with you.CelebrantLet us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* 

#### The Lessons

The congregation sits.

#### Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 50:15-21

*Lector* A reading from the book of Genesis.

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Lector	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 103:1-13

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul, \* and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, \* and forget not all his benefits.
- 3 He forgives all your sins \* and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 He redeems your life from the grave \* and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- 5 He satisfies you with good things, \* and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 The LORD executes righteousness \* and judgment for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses \* and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \* slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, \* nor will he keep his anger forever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \* nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \* so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, \* so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 As a father cares for his children, \* so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

#### The Epistle Romans 14:1-12

*Lector* A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment 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. 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. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord, and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If 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. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Lector	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

#### The Gospel Matthew 18:21-35

GospelerThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

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

GospelerThe Gospel of the Lord.PeoplePraise to you, Lord Christ.

# **The Sermon**

# The Affirmation of Faith (all stand)

*Leader* Let us affirm our faith by saying together:

#### Leader and People

You, O God are supreme and holy. You create our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us. You are God.

You O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure. You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be your gospel in the world. You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.

You are our God. We worship you.

# The Prayers of the People

#### Leader

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, giving thanks for God's goodness.

Heavenly Creator, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore in confidence and trust we pray for the Church. In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Dioceses of Mumias, Kenya, Yola, Nigeria and York, England. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. Cyprian's, San Francisco; Holy Cross, Castro Valley and St. Stephen's, Orinda.

Leader <b>People</b>	God of all, enliven the Church for its mission <i>that we may be salt of the earth and light to the world</i> .
Leader <b>People</b>	Breathe fresh air into your people. Give us power to reveal Christ in word and action.
Leader	We pray for the world.
Leader <b>People</b>	Creator of all, lead us and every people into ways of justice and peace. <i>That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.</i>
Leader <b>People</b>	Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it. <i>Teach us to care creatively for its resources.</i>

Leader	We pray for the community.
Leader <b>People</b>	God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others <i>that all may act with integrity and courage</i> .
Leader <b>People</b>	We give thanks for all whose lives are linked with ours. <i>May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.</i>
Leader	We pray for those in need.
Leader <b>People</b>	God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. <i>May they know the power of your healing love</i> .
Leader <b>People</b>	Make us willing agents of your compassion. Strengthen us as we share in making people whole.
Leader	We remember those who have died and those who mourn.
Leader <b>People</b>	We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in the faith of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone. <i>Gracious God, into your hands we commend them.</i>
Leader <b>People</b>	Give comfort to those who mourn. Bring them peace in their time of loss.
Leader <b>People</b>	We praise you for all your saints who have entered your eternal glory. <i>May their example inspire and encourage us.</i>
Leader	We pray for ourselves and our ministries. In the St. Anselm's Cycle of Prayer we pray for our Outreach Commission.
Celebrant	I invite your prayers of petition and thanksgiving at this time, either silently or aloud.

Participants are invited to offer their own prayers at this time.

*Celebrant* Lord, you have called us to serve you.

#### People

Grant that we may walk in your presence: your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# **The Peace**

Celebrant	Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace
People	who breaks down the walls that divide.
Celebrant	The peace of God be always with you.
People	Praise to Christ who unites us in prayer.

#### Announcements

At this time, the Celebrant may make announcements.

#### **Prayers for Individuals**

Participants now pray for those who have notified the church in advance of their birthdays and/or anniversaries.

#### **Birthday Requests:**

**Prayer for Birthdays:** O Lord, watch over your children as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Anniversary Requests:**

**Prayer for Anniversaries:** O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true Godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### **The Holy Communion**

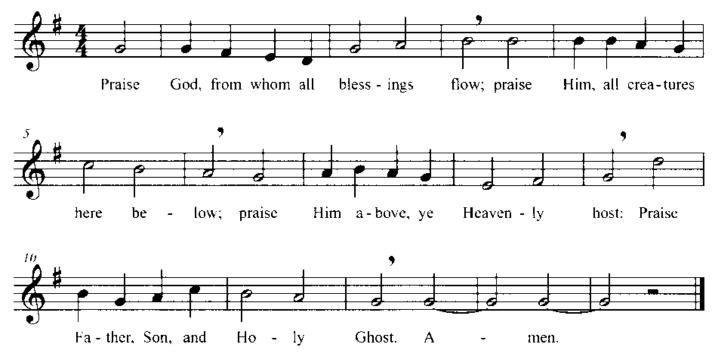
# **The Offertory**

*Celebrant* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

(Ephesians 5:2)

# The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant and People sing the Doxology



Celebrant	Christ is risen!
<b>People</b>	<i>He is risen indeed</i> .
Celebrant <b>People</b>	Lift your hearts to heaven where Christ in glory reigns.
Celebrant	Let us give thanks to God.
<b>People</b>	<i>It is right to offer thanks and praise.</i>

#### Celebrant

It is the joy of our salvation, God of the universe, to give you thanks through Jesus Christ.

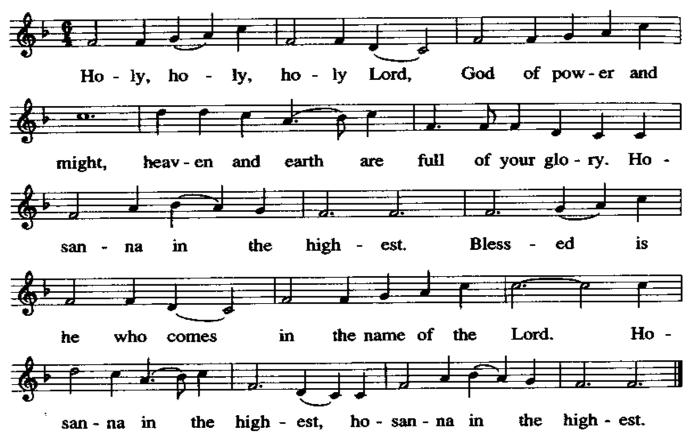
You said, "Let there be light"; there was light. Your light shines on in our darkness. For you the earth has brought forth life in all its forms.

You have created us to hear your Word, to do your will and to be fulfilled in your love. It is right to thank you.

You sent your Son to be for us the way we need to follow and the truth we need to know. His star, mysterious and inviting, calls us to worship the Christ who is born. For he is Emmanuel, God revealed in human form for all the human race; to him we offer our homage and our gifts. You sent your Son to give his life to release us from our sin. His cross has taken our guilt away.

You send your Holy Spirit to strengthen and to guide, to warn and to revive your Church. Therefore, with all your witnesses who surround us on every side, countless as the heaven's stars, we praise you for our creation and our calling, with loving and with joyful hearts:

**Celebrant and People** 



#### Celebrant

Blessed are you, most holy, in your Son, who washed his disciple's feet. "I am among you," he said, "as one who serves."

On that night before he died he took bread and gave you thanks. He broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup, and gave you thanks. He gave it to them and said: Drink this. It is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you, shed for all, to forgive sin; do this to remember me.

Therefore with this bread and wine we recall your goodness to us.

PeopleGod of the past and present,<br/>we your people remember your Son.<br/>We thank you for his cross and rising again,<br/>we take courage from his ascension;<br/>we look for his coming in glory<br/>and in him we give ourselves to you.

#### Celebrant

Send your Holy Spirit, that we who receive Christ's body may indeed be the body of Christ, and we who share his cup draw strength from the one true vine.

# People Called to follow Christ, help us to reconcile and unite. Called to suffer, give us hope in our calling.

Celebrant

For you, the heavenly one, make all things new; you are the beginning and the end, the last and the first.

# People Praise, glory and love be yours, this and every day, from us and all people, here and everywhere. Amen.

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant:* As Christ teaches us we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

# **Breaking of the Bread**

The Celebrant breaks the bread. A period of silence is kept.

CelebrantChrist's body was broken for us on the cross.PeopleChrist is the bread of life.

The Celebrant lifts the cup and says

CelebrantHis blood was shed for our forgiveness.PeopleChrist is risen from the dead.

# **Post Communion Prayer**

Celebrant	Blessed be God who calls us together.
<b>People</b>	<i>Praise to God who makes us one people.</i>
Celebrant	Blessed be God who has forgiven our sins.
<b>People</b>	<i>Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.</i>
Celebrant	Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.
<b>People</b>	<i>Praise to God who is revealed as love.</i>
Celebrant	Blessed be God who alone has called us.
<b>People</b>	<i>Therefore we offer all that we are and all that we shall become.</i>
Celebrant <b>People</b>	Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise. Amen. Accept our thanks for all you have done. Our hands were empty, and you filled them.

# The Blessing

People	Amen.
	now and always.
	the Spirit's outpouring be with you,
	Christ's peace be with you,
Celebrant	God's Blessing be with you,

# Dismissal

Celebrant	Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.
People	Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

# ONE OF THE WAYS THAT COVID-19 HAS AFFECTED ST. ANSELM'S

In reviewing the second quarter financials, the Vestry found that our plate offering is \$13,485 below budget yearto-date, which is 72% below the estimate for 2020. Each year, as we plan a budget, we set a figure based on the giving in previous years. Plate offering is a substantial factor in St. Anselm's being able to meet its financial obligations.

The shortfall is to be expected this year, as no one can come to church. But there is a way of donating during the service. With a Venmo account, you can transfer funds directly to the church via your smart phone. If you would like instructions on how to do so, please email Cathy Witkay at cathy.w@stanselms.ws. Alternatively, you can always donate by sending a check to the church. The mailing address is: 682 Michael Lane, Lafayette, CA 94549 Thank you!

# COVID-19 TESTING IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Contra Costa County offers an appointment for COVID-19 testing to any resident who believes they need one, regardless of insurance, ability to pay or whether they have symptoms or not.

Residents can make an appointment to visit one of eight sites throughout the county. The county is operating five drive-through sites located in Antioch, Concord, Martinez, Pittsburg, San Pablo and San Ramon. Patients must visit these sites in their vehicles, as testing is done in the car. Appointments can be made by calling 1-844-421-0804. For appointments at county-run sites, a screener will take the information necessary to begin the process. Callers will then get a call back from a health professional during which an appointment will be scheduled. There is no up-front cost for testing. County residents do not need medical insurance to get tested. However, if you have health insurance, your insurance will be billed.

Additionally there are three state-run sites in Brentwood, Pinole and Walnut Creek, that are accepting walk-in patients by appointment only.

While you don't need symptoms to get tested, symptoms that may warrant a test include cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, fatigue, muscle ache, sore throat, headache, vomiting, nausea, diarrhea, recent loss of taste or smell, or confusion, particularly in older adults.

#### **EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

If you would like to have an emergency contact registered with St. Anselm's, please contact Cathy Witkay in the office with their information and we will keep it on file.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

• 2020 Work Party: November 14th

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Exodus 16:2-15, Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45, Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16. If you would like to receive the readings on a weekly basis, please contact Cathy Witkay in the office.

#### Pat Nottingham Don & Janet Helmholz Andrew Yao & Linda Yao-Chin

#### WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF VIRTUAL MEETINGS:

<u>September 16<sup>th</sup></u> -- <u>Morning Prayer</u> will be led by Deacon Naomi via Zoom at 9 a.m. To be invited, email Deacon Naomi at orchidsnrch@yahoo.com.

<u>September 21<sup>st</sup> – Sacred Ground</u> will be facilitated by Anne Brown from 10:30 a.m. to noon. To be invited, email Anne at annechalfantbrown@gmail.com or Cathy Witkay at cathy.w@stanselms.ws.

<u>September 22<sup>nd</sup></u> – <u>Sacred Ground</u> will be facilitated by Marian Mulkey from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. To be invited, email Marian at marianmulkey@comcast.net or Cathy Witkay at cathy.w@stanselms.ws.