



# Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*September 14, 2025*

***Hope Lutheran Church of Rossmoor***

[www.hoperossmoor.org](http://www.hoperossmoor.org)

925-709-4673 (Voicemail ONLY)

***The Rev. Andreas Pielhoop, Pastor***

**Prelude**

***Instrumental Music***

**Carlyn Obringer**

## **Welcome & Introduction**

**Pastor Andreas Pielhoop**

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

All: **Amen.**

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful and loving God,

All: **We are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ✝ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

All: **Amen.**



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

### Greeting

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house, and all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**All: Amen.**



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in night;  
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

### Prayer of the Day

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

P: Let us all pray together.

All: O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

### First Reading: Exodus 32:7-14

Kathy Odne

*While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.*

<sup>7</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup> they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " <sup>9</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup> Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation." <sup>11</sup> But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup> Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup> Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel,

your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” <sup>14</sup> And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

### **Psalm 51:1-10**

**Kathy Odne & Congregation**

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

<sup>2</sup> **Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup> For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup> **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup> Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother’s womb.

<sup>6</sup> **Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

<sup>7</sup> Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow. <sup>8</sup> **Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup> **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

### **Second Reading: 1Timothy 1:12-17**

**Kathy Odne**

*The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.*

<sup>12</sup> I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup> even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup> To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

### **The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 15th Chapter**

**Pastor Andreas Pielhoop**

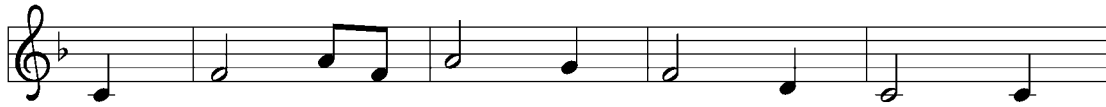
**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.*

<sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” <sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. <sup>8</sup> “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**P: The Gospel of Our Lord**

**All: Praise to You, O Christ.**



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

## Apostles' Creed

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

Each petition ends with: *God of grace,* Response: *Receive our prayer.*

## Offering

We invite you to place your **Offering** in the offering plate as it is passed.

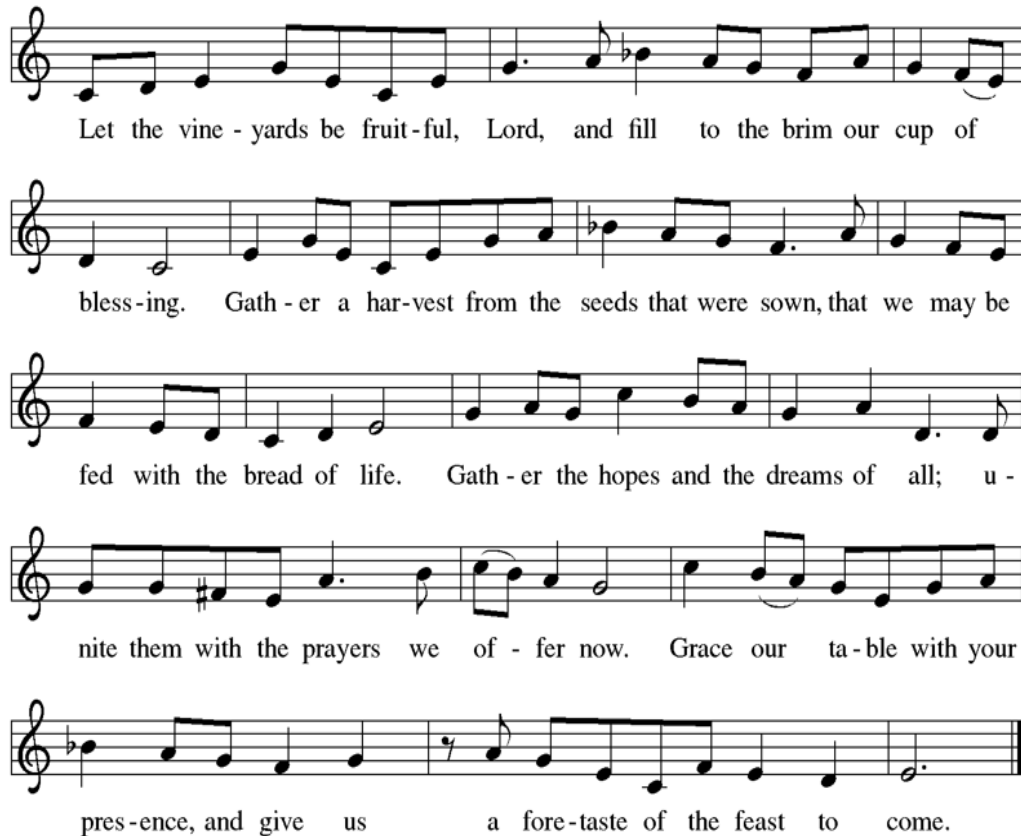
## Offering Prayer

**P:** As we lift up our offerings to the Lord, let us pray.

**All:** Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

### Offering Song



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## Holy Communion: Words of Institution

Pastor Andreas Pielhoop

**P:** For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**All:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

## The Lord's Prayer

**All:** 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.

*At Hope we practice Open Communion. We believe the invitation to the table comes from Jesus Christ himself. Therefore, you do not need to be a member of this or any other congregation to join in the meal. Gluten-free wafers are available. Please let the pastor know you prefer one when your turn comes. To preserve the solemnity as guests at Christ's table, please return silently to your seat and refrain from talking while others receive Holy Communion. There will be plenty of opportunity afterwards at our coffee hour.*

**Prayer after Communion**

P: Let us pray.

**All: O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Blessing** (Please stand as you are able)

P: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✝ bless you now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

*Peace I Leave With You*

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth,  
give I unto you; Not as the world giveth, give I unto you.  
Let not your heart be troubled; Neither let it be afraid.  
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Amen.*

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

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**Announcements**

**Pastoral Needs** – For any pastoral need, you can call or text Pastor Andreas Pielhoop at 415-577-5461 or via email at [pielhoop77@earthlink.net](mailto:pielhoop77@earthlink.net).

**Meet with Pastor Andreas** – Pastor Andreas will have office hours on September 18 from 1pm-3pm in Card Room 1 upstairs at Stanley Dollar Clubhouse. You can make an appointment but walk-ins are welcome too.

**Birthday Blessings** go out to **Nancy Siebenand & Ced Ferrett** who celebrate their birthdays on Sept 18; **Marv Schick** who celebrates his birthday on Sept 20

Thank you to **the Hope Choir** for providing special music for today's worship!

**60 Year Jubilee Love Offering** - Hope's ministry has served and prospered in Rossmoor for sixty years. Let's keep it going strong. In recognition of our past and looking to the future, we have an opportunity to celebrate our 60th anniversary, preserve our music program, and ensure the success of our financial management partnership with St. Matthew with a love offering on September 7 and 14. Jubilee envelopes will be available at the welcome table.

**Interested in becoming a new member?** We will receive new members during our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary service on Oct 19. Please contact Pr. Andreas (415-577-5461; [pielhoop77@earthlink.net](mailto:pielhoop77@earthlink.net))

**Our Hope Church Council** meets both in-person and via Zoom on Wednesday, September 17, at 1pm at the Stanley Dollar Clubhouse in the Garden Room (downstairs). This will be a hybrid meeting.

**Bible Study with Pastor Andreas** – On Tuesday, September 16, we will meet at 2:00pm in the Bunker Room at Creekside and will read the prophets of the Old Testament (Jeremiah on Sept 16). All are welcome.

Our **Tenor-Bass (TTBB) Choir** will rehearse on Sunday, September 28, at 9:15am. Come join us!

**Fourth Wednesday Lunch Group** – On Wednesday, September 24, we will gather for food and fellowship in Jesus’ name at the Creekside Grill in Rossmoor at 11:30 a.m. Call Inge Knight at 217-819-8926 by September 22 so she can make a reservation.

**The Christ In Our Home Devotional Booklets** for Oct-Nov-Dec are available at the greeting table if you would like one. Large print version is available. Limit one per household please.

**Anchor Newsletter** – if you are not currently receiving Hope’s Anchor newsletter and would like to, please give Robin your email address so you can be added to the distribution list.

**Helpers & Worship Assistants for:**

<b>Today – September 14</b>	<b>Next Sunday – September 21</b>
<b>Presider</b> Pastor Andreas	<b>Presider</b> Pastor Andreas
<b>Altar</b> Priscilla, Sara, Camilla	<b>Altar</b> Jean, Priscilla
<b>Greeters</b> Ann Gillette Nancy Siebenand, Robin	<b>Greeters</b> Ingrid Wood, Deanna Thomas, Robin
<b>Lay Reader</b> Kathy Odne	<b>Lay Reader</b> Jacqui Ewing
<b>Communion Assistants</b> Sara Wood, Robin	<b>Communion Assistants</b> Lois Nelson, Nancy Conrad
<b>Ushers</b> Nancy Siebenand, John Odne	<b>Ushers</b> Todd Thaning, Ingrid Wood
<b>Livestream</b> Jaxon	<b>Livestream</b> Chase
<b>Special Music</b> Hope Choir	<b>Special Music</b> Musical Heart Strings

**Readings for next Sunday, Sept 21:** Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

**Fellowship** – Immediately following worship, please join us for a time of sharing coffee, goodies and great fellowship. Thank you to those helping with the set-up and clean-up. We ask one person from each table to bring their tray up to the counter at 12:15pm. This helps the clean-up tremendously. You are welcome to stay, socialize and drink coffee beyond that but we must have the clean-up completed by 1pm.

**Rides to Church** – Our volunteer drivers to worship are Sally Lionetti, Camilla Durham, Nancy Conrad (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays only). If you need a ride to church, please contact them for the possibility of a ride.

**Our Worship Service is available to live-stream and view online each week on our website.** The link to the live-stream worship service is <https://bit.ly/3v6JTXm> The bulletin is available on the Hope website under the tab “Worship”. Select “Worship Bulletin” and click on the desired week.

**Your Offering** – If you would like to mail us your offering (including QCDs), please send it to: Hope Lutheran Church, 399 Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek CA 94598 (This is Hope’s mailing address, not our worship location).

**Please remember in prayer:** Doris Hendrickson, Inge Knight, Paula Tagliareni, June Payne, Evelyn Olson, Tyler Smolens (Deanna Thomas’ grandson), Larry Deibler, Steve & Kathy Peterson, Julane Sampson, Eloise Gahl, Janine Coakley (Charlene Lenk’s daughter), Joan Birke (Carole Weyand’s friend), John Weyand & Ann Dimino (Carole Weyand’s children), Haley Thaning (Todd’s daughter)



*"We have this Hope of Christ's promises as an Anchor for our lives"*  
Hebrews 6:19