

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26th, 2026

"We are rooted in God's love, united in connecting people to Jesus"

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME and INVOCATION

OPENING PRAISE: "How Great Thou Art" (801)

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

P: Beloved in the Lord, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God!

SONG OF PRAISE: "You are My All in All" (Screens)

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KYRIE PRAYER (Spoken)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: 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.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you!

P: Let us pray together:

C: Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Our Old Testament reading is **Deuteronomy 7:6–9**. Moses reminds Israel that God chose them in love and remains faithful to His covenant and promises.

The Epistle reading for today is **Romans 8:28–39**. The Apostle Paul proclaims that God works through all things for the good of His people and that nothing can separate us from His love in Christ Jesus.

Today's Gospel is from **Matthew 13:44–52**. Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to priceless treasure, a costly pearl, and a great catch of fish, showing its surpassing worth and final fulfillment.

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

L: These are the Words of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH

Nicene Creed (Screens)

SERMON HYMN: "When Peace, like a River" (763)

SERMON

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Congregational response to each petition is: "Hear our prayer"

AFFIRMATION OF HOPE

P: To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, in Your holy Church forever and ever. Amen!

C (Loudly): CHRIST HAS COME! CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST SHALL COME AGAIN!

THE BENEDICTION

C: Amen!

CLOSING HYMN: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer" (918)

Pastor: We have gathered this morning to worship the Lord, to be renewed and strengthened in God's love and the forgiveness of sins. As we go, let us remember who we are and what we do:

C: "We are rooted in God's love, united in connecting people to Jesus."

Pastor: You are dearly loved and treasured by God, planted and growing in God's love. As God's beloved children, go in peace! Love one another! Be a blessing! Share the faith! Serve the Lord with gladness!

C: Thanks be to God!

Service Acknowledgments

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