



9<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

**Prelude**

*Before Thy Throne We Kneel*

**Gathering**—It is God’s good pleasure to share with us God’s kingdom and treasures that are everlasting. We gather this day to worship our God who shares blessing upon blessing and calls us to do the same. May our worship this day ready us to do the work of God’s kingdom.

**A Time of Prayer**— Abundant God, we wait for you with longing, hope, and anticipation. May your kingdom be realized in this community...May your love be our propeller in the world and our beacon to direct us home. Fill us with the bread of life and nourish our spirits to be your good news in the world.+

**The Lord's Prayer** (unison)—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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**We Hear God’s Word**

*Luke 12:32-40 (NRSV)*

32 ‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

35 ‘Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; 36 be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open

the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. <sup>39</sup> ‘But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

## Meditation

*Treasure Hunt*

## We Gather at the Table

**Set Your Place at the Table**—Whatever you have on hand to celebrate communion will work just fine, because this ancient ritual is not about what we use for this meal or where we partake of it. Instead, it is about the act of remembrance. So, gather around the table, prepare your place, and remember that Christ is in our midst.

## Hymn

*As We Gather At Your Table, #695*

**Our Invitation**—Christ invites us, “Follow me.” Christ invites us, “Eat this bread, drink this wine.” All who long to be filled are already invited to Christ’s table.

**Our Confession**—Gracious God, you have created a world of abundance and flourishing. Every resource, every gift, every product originates from the generosity of your creation and the creativity you have bestowed upon us. Forgive us for misuse and overuse of your gifts. Reveal our miserly attitudes toward the plentiful trove of resources you have entrusted to our care. Sow generosity in us, reveal abundance to us, and enable flourishing through us. Amen.+

**Assurance of Grace**— Every good and perfect gift comes from above. Grace is such a gift; mercy is another. Transformation and new life descend freely from the Most High to all who would receive it. Receive the assurance of God’s grace and compassion as precious treasure made available to all.+

**The Words of Institution**— On the night in which he gave himself up for us,

he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” And so, we remember...we offer ourselves...we proclaim God’s love...

**Blessing Our Meal**—God of resurrection hope, pour out your Spirit upon this table and all gathered around it. As you transform this bread and cup into visible signs of your grace, transform our lives, that we might receive your healing and your mercy and experience life renewed. Amen.

**We Share the Bread and the Cup** – As you eat the bread, remember, “This is the body of Christ broken for you.” Take and eat. As you drink the cup, remember, “This is the blood of Christ shed for you and the forgiveness of sins.” Take and drink.

**We Give Thanks**—Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior’s presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ’s body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.=

### **We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving**

**Invitation**— Luke 12:34 informs us, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Let our hearts direct the use of our resources, our time, and our talents. May our generosity meet God’s abundance in attending to the needs and hopes of our community.+

**August Benevolence**—Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM)

You can mail your offerings to our office or give online at [www.zionuccindy.net/donate](http://www.zionuccindy.net/donate)

**Doxology**

**We Give Thanks**— Generous One, receive the gifts we bring as we return a portion of your treasure to the use of your kingdom. May your will be manifested and your creation restored through sharing these offerings.  
Amen.+

**Hymn**

*Crown Him with Many Crowns, #317*

**Benediction**— Live in the abundance of God's treasure, spreading the love and peace of Christ in the world to the glory of God. Amen.+

**Postlude**

*Song of Triumph*