



17th Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Holy, Holy, Holy

Gathering—Today, we gather with Christians around the world at Christ's table on this World Communion Sunday. We come longing for our hunger and our thirst to be satisfied. We come asking that our faith and our trust be renewed. We come seeking hope for this world. Let us worship our God of expansive love and grace.

A Time of Prayer— Meet us here with all our questions and insecurities. Challenge our knowledge and certainties. Transform our beliefs and perceptions. Influence our commitments and actions.+

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.

Choir

For the Beauty of the Earth

We Hear God's Word

Luke 17:5-10 (CEB)

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

⁶ The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷ “Would any of you say to your servant, who had just come in from the field after plowing or tending sheep, ‘Come! Sit down for dinner’? ⁸ Wouldn’t you say instead, ‘Fix my dinner. Put on the clothes of a table servant and wait on me while I eat and drink. After that, you can eat and drink’? ⁹ You won’t thank the servant because the servant did what you asked, will you? ¹⁰ In the same way, when you have done everything required of you, you should say, ‘We servants deserve no special praise. We have only done our duty.’”

Meditation

Like a Mustard Seed

Hymn

God of Grace and God of Glory, #569

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.

Our Invitation— With Christians around the world, come to the festival of love. We come with thanksgiving and praise. With believers from every continent on earth, come to the festival of grace. We come with thanksgiving and praise. With the whole body of Christ, come to the festival of life. We come with thanksgiving and praise.~

Our Confession—We don't always get what you mean, Storytelling Jesus. We want to be better followers, so we exclaim, "Increase our faith!" Your response exposes our flawed approach, well-intentioned though it may be. Forgive us for transacting our faith for your favor. Amen.+

Assurance of Grace—God's abundance is illogical and immeasurable. Though we may not understand it, we are yet worthy of basking in the undeserved goodness of God. Praise be!+

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, you reveal to us your grace in many ways—in tiny mustard seeds, in bread, and in wine. May this table we gather around this day make visible your forgiveness and mercy. May it strengthen us to do your work in this world. Send the power of your holy spirit to bless this meal and all around this world who gather at your table this day. 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— If tiny mustard seeds can produce unruly and enormous plants that contagiously spread and impact their landscapes, so too can our cents, seconds, and cells, which we are now invited to graciously share.+

October Benevolence—Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM)

You can mail your offerings to our office or give online at
www.zionuccindy.net/donate

Doxology

We Give Thanks—We thank you for these gifts of money, time, and selves that we cheerfully give to you, Multiplying God. Expand and bless every single one in service to you and the work you’ve called us to do. Amen.+

Hymn

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms, #496

Benediction—With faith and trust, go forth to do the work of God. With Jesus by your side and the winds of the Holy Spirit guiding you, bear hope in this world. Called to disciple, serve and enrich the world around you. Amen.

Postlude

Exultate Deo