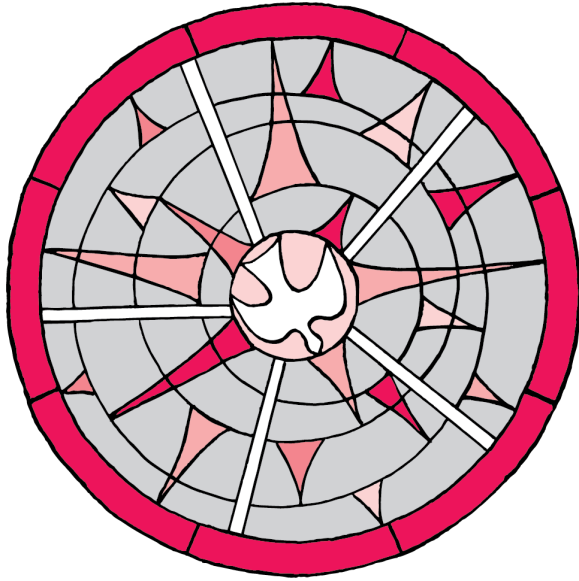




Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "Be Thou My Vision"

arr. Joel Raney

Gathering

WELCOME & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Acolyte: May the Holy Spirit unite us in worship, point us toward Jesus Christ, and inspire us to love mercy, do justice, and walk humbly with God. Come, let us worship God.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: That I am not my own, but belong — body and soul, in life and in death — to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

Liturgist: He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

All: Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Heidelberg Catechism – Q&A 1

* **All Singing: 264 "Lift High the Cross"**
Singing verses 1, 2, 6 and 7

* GOD'S GREETING

* GOD'S PEOPLE GREETING ONE ANOTHER

* **All Singing:** **269** **“All Are Welcome”**
Singing verses 1, 3, 4, and 5

CHILDREN’S BLESSING

Children: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Reconciliation

Liturgist: What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

All: **Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.**

Heidelberg Catechism – Q&A 2

Silent Confession and Reflection

All Singing: **682** **“Before the Throne of God Above”**

Liturgist: Then who is this mediator — true God and at the same time a true and righteous human?

All: **Our Lord Jesus Christ, who was given to us to completely deliver us and make us right with God.**

Liturgist: What is true faith?

All: **True faith is not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true all that God has revealed to us in Scripture; it is also a wholehearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others but to me also, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation.**

Liturgist: These are gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ’s merit.

Heidelberg Catechism – Q&A 18 & 21

All: **Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why then should we do good works?**

Liturgist: Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, is also restoring us by his Spirit into his image, so that with our whole lives we may show that we are thankful to God for his benefits,

All: **so that he may be praised through us, so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits, and so that by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.**

Heidelberg Catechism – Q&A 86

* **All Singing:** **863** **“Take My Life and Let It Be”**

Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Minister: Rule us by your Word and Spirit in such a way that more and more we submit to you.

All: **Preserve your church and make it grow.**

Minister: Destroy the devil’s work; destroy every force which revolts against you and every conspiracy against your holy Word.

All: **Do this until your kingdom fully comes, when you will be all in all.**

Heidelberg Catechism – Q&A 123

Scripture: Matthew 18:15-20

Minister: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "The Implications of *Hesed*"

* **All Singing: 869 "Here I Am, Lord"**

Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist: With joy, let us now offer our gifts, in music, heart, and resource, as a sign of our deep devotion and covenant faithfulness.

OFFERING

1. General Fund
2. Unity Christian Academy

OFFERTORY "Dignity"

Joseph M. Martin

* **All Singing: 965 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sending

A WORD OF BLESSING

* BENEDICTION

* **All Singing: 938 "My Friends May You Grow in Grace"**

Postlude: "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

arr. Bob Walters

Worship Leaders

Organist / Pianist: Dora Diephouse
Pianist: Anne Triezenberg-Sims
Percussion: Clay Carlson
Minister: Roger Nelson

Acolyte: Levi Bosscher
Liturgist: Jim Achterhoff
Prayer: Luke Van't Land

Hymns are from *Lift Up Your Hearts* (Faith Alive Christian Resources, 2013)
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