



# St. Jude's Episcopal Church

*Seeking and Worshipping God, Reaching out to Others*

September 5, 2021 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am Morning Prayer

Opening Hymn \_\_\_\_\_ *Thou, whose almighty word (v. 1, 2)*

1 Thou, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard,  
2 Thou who didst come to bring on thy re - deem - ing wing

and took their flight; hear us, we hum - bly pray, and, where the  
heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the

Gos - pel day sheds not its glo - rious ray, let there be light!  
in - ly blind, now to all hu - man - kind, let there be light!

Words: John Marriott (1780-1825), alt.

Music: *Moscow*, Felice de Giardini (1716-1796), harm. *The New Hymnal*, 1916, based on *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, and Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

Opening Sentence \_\_\_\_\_

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

Confession of Sin \_\_\_\_\_

*The Officiant says to the people,*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Officiant and People together,*

**Most merciful God,**

**we confess that 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 are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*The Priest says,*  
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Invitatory and Psalter \_\_\_\_\_

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips  
*People* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant and People,*  
**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as  
it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us  
adore him.

## Venite \_\_\_\_\_ *Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

- 1 Hallelujah!  
Praise the Lord, O my soul! \*  
    I will praise the Lord as long as I live;  
    I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- 2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \*  
    for there is no help in them.
- 3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
    and in that day their thoughts perish.
- 4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
    whose hope is in the Lord their God;
- 5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
    who keeps his promise for ever;
- 6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
    and food to those who hunger.
- 7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;  
    the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
    the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
- 8 The Lord loves the righteous;  
    the Lord cares for the stranger; \*  
    he sustains the orphan and widow,  
    but frustrates the way of the wicked.
- 9 The Lord shall reign for ever, \*  
    your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
    Hallelujah!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
    as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**The Lessons****The First Reading***Isaiah 35:4-7a*

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,  
    ‘Be strong, do not fear!  
Here is your God.  
    He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.  
    He will come and save you.’

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.  
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;  
the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle 10** \_\_\_\_\_ **The Second Song of Isaiah**  
*Isaiah 55:6-11*

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; \*  
call upon him when he draws near.  
Let the wicked forsake their ways \*  
and the evil ones their thoughts;  
And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, \*  
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, \*  
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, \*  
so are my ways higher than your ways,  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.  
For as rain and snow fall from the heavens \*  
and return not again, but water the earth,  
Bringing forth life and giving growth, \*  
seed for sowing and bread for eating,  
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; \*  
it will not return to me empty;  
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, \*  
and prosper in that for which I sent it.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**The Second Reading** \_\_\_\_\_ *James 2:1-10, 14-17*

A Reading from the Letter of James.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil

thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

## **Canticle G** \_\_\_\_\_ **A Song of Ezekiel**

*Ezekiel 36:24-28*

I will take you from among all nations; \*  
and gather you from all lands to bring you home.  
I will sprinkle clean water upon you; \*  
and purify you from false gods and uncleanness.  
A new heart I will give you \*  
and a new spirit put within you.  
I will take the stone heart from your chest \* and give you a heart of flesh.  
I will help you walk in my laws \*  
and cherish my commandments and do them.  
You shall be my people, \* and I will be your God.

## **Third Reading** \_\_\_\_\_ *Mark 7:24-37*

A Reading from the Gospel of Mark.

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears

were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            Thanks be to God.

**The Sermon** \_\_\_\_\_ The Rev. Tracie Little

**Song of Reflection** \_\_\_\_\_ *The Promised Land*, Kohlman

**The Apostles' Creed** \_\_\_\_\_

*Officiant and People say together,*  
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 to the dead.  
    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.

**The Prayers** \_\_\_\_\_

*Officiant*        The Lord be with you.  
*People*            **And also with you.**  
*Officiant*        Let us pray.

*Officiant and People,*  
    **Our Father in heaven,**  
        hallowed be your Name,  
        your kingdom come,  
        your will be done,  
            on earth as in heaven.  
    **Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

- V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
R. **And grant us your salvation.**  
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
R. **Let your people sing with joy.**  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**  
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
R. **Your saving health among all nations.**  
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

### The Collect of the Day \_\_\_\_\_

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### The Prayers of the People \_\_\_\_\_

Let us pray.

We are humbled by the good you can do through us when we give ourselves over to you. Keep us close to you that we may be unafraid to speak your truth. Make your church quick to listen for your voice as we move forward as doers of the word. We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; for those who support your mission of mercy in the world; those who teach; and those who take your word into their hearts.

Pray for the Church.

*Silence.*

We are living on a vast and diverse planet. Guide those who guide others, that they may genuinely be concerned about the welfare of their people. Open our ears to the cries of your people who suffer in dark corners of this world, and open our hands to reach out to them with generous spirits.

Pray for the world.

*Silence.*

We are burdened by illnesses, anxieties, addictions, and broken relationships. Cover us with your grace and compassion. Drive far from us the fear which keeps us from trusting your goodness.

We ask you to heal those who suffer, especially...

Pray for those who are suffering.

*Silence.*

We are grieved by the loss of those who have died, especially... Give us confidence in your promise of endless life with you, surrounded by your glory and accompanied by your saints and angels.

Pray for those who have died.

*Silence.*

We are astounded beyond measure by your creative powers. O God, and celebrate the mystery of all your creation. But most of all we celebrate the mystery of your love and care for us, for the gift of your Son, and the encouragement of your Holy Spirit.

## **The General Thanksgiving** \_\_\_\_\_

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,**

**We your unworthy servants give you humble thanks**

**For all your goodness and loving-kindness**

**To us and to all whom you have made.**

**We bless you for our creation, preservation,**

**And all the blessings of this life;**

**But above all for your immeasurable love**

**In the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;**

**For the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,**

**Not only with our lips, but in our lives,**

**By giving up our selves to your service,**

**And by walking before you**

**In holiness and righteousness all our days;**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord,**

**To whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**Be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son, that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our

desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

**The Blessing** \_\_\_\_\_

May you be an explorer,  
May you recover delight and wonder and curiosity  
About your faith,  
About God,  
And about the story with which  
You will continue to wrestle.  
And the blessing of God Almighty,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Announcements** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sending Out** \_\_\_\_\_

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[www.stjudesfenton.com](http://www.stjudesfenton.com)  
Facebook: St. Jude's Episcopal Church

Wednesdays, 8 am - Morning Prayer on Facebook

Sunday Worship:  
8 am - Morning Prayer on Facebook  
10:30 am - Communion Service in Church Building