



THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST | SEPTEMBER 6, 2026, AT 8 AM

THE WORD OF GOD

*Please keep a prayerful quiet as we prepare for worship.
The People's responses are printed in bold.*

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Acclamation

This is the day our God has made. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Opening Sentences

"Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish. Everything will live where the river goes. On the banks, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. The water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing." —Ezekiel 47:9, 12

Song of Praise *said in unison by all* Cantic of Creation, II: The Earth and Its Creatures

Let the earth glorify God,
sing praise and give honor for ever.
Glorify God, O mountains and hills, and all that grows upon the earth,
sing praise and give honor for ever.
Glorify God, O springs of water, seas, and streams,
O whales and all that move in the waters.
All birds of the air, glorify God,
sing praise and give honor for ever.
Glorify God, O beasts of the wild,
and all you flocks and herds.
O people everywhere, glorify God,
sing praise and give honor for ever.

Collect of the Day

God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the powerful who oppress and dominate Creation, so you never forsake your creatures who live in harmony with nature's order; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Labor Day

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading *seated* Exodus 12:1-14

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 149 *said responsively by whole verse*

Alleluia! Sing to God a new song; *
sing praise in the congregation of the faithful.

Let the people of Israel rejoice in their Maker; *
let the children of Zion be joyful in their Monarch.

Let them praise God's Name in the dance; *
let them sing praise with timbrel and harp.

For God takes pleasure in the people *
and adorns the poor with victory.

Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; *
let them be joyful on their beds.

Let the praises of God be in their throat *
and a two-edged sword in their hand,

To wreak vengeance on the nations *
and punishment on the peoples;

To bind their rulers in chains *
and their nobles with links of iron;

To inflict on them the judgment decreed; *
this is glory for all God's faithful people. Alleluia!

Second Reading Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel *standing as you are able* Matthew 18:15-20

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon The Rev. Joshua Daniel, Ph.D.

Please be seated at the invitation of the preacher. A period of silence will be observed after the sermon.

The Nicene Creed *standing as you are able*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Intercessor Creator God, at Pentecost you gave life to the church by breathing onto the disciples that same Spirit which swept across the waters at the dawn of creation. Keep us ever mindful that the church is a work of your hands, and grant us wisdom and courage to advocate for the just and proper use of the resources you have entrusted to its care.

Maker of heaven and earth, receive our prayer; **and grant us your salvation.**

We ask your blessing on our community and this nation. Make us ready to join in the care and conservation of your creation; prosper the work of those pursuing climate repair; and stir up in our leaders a desire to accomplish these things for the benefit of all.

Maker of heaven and earth, receive our prayer; **and grant us your salvation.**

Draw near to all people and places around the world that are in turmoil. Where war and violence destroy lives and violate your creation, we cry out for peace and reconciliation; and where greed and harmful practices pollute habitats and damage ecosystems, we yearn for relief and restoration.

Maker of heaven and earth, receive our prayer; **and grant us your salvation.**

Be mindful of all those in our city and the wider region who work in agriculture. We pray especially for farmers, day laborers, and those who transport our food. At this time of harvest, we ask that you provide for a bountiful return and keep safe all those entrusted with in-gathering.

Maker of heaven and earth, receive our prayer; **and grant us your salvation.**

In your mercy protect all those who are sick, unhoused, lonely, or suffering any kind of grief or trouble. We pray especially for . . . and for those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts . . . Sustain us in the living of our baptismal promise to respect the dignity of every person as beloved members of your creation.

Maker of heaven and earth, receive our prayer; **and grant us your salvation.**

We thank you for the many blessings you have given us: For the gift of this day and for all times and seasons; for family, friends, and neighbors; for pets, plants, and all living things; and for food, shelter, and access to care. We are especially grateful for . . . and for the gifts we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts . . .

Maker of heaven and earth, receive our prayer; **and grant us your salvation.**

Author of eternal life, hold in your tender embrace all who have died, especially . . . and those dear to us whom we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts . . . Give to the departed eternal rest, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Maker of heaven and earth, receive our prayer; **and grant us your salvation.**

Receive these prayers, O God Our Creator, and respond as may be best for us, guiding us in your path all the days of our lives; to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution *standing or kneeling as you are able*

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

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

Peace *standing as you are able*

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

All greet one another in the name of Jesus Christ, and are seated for the announcements.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

At the Offertory

The Holy Spirit inspires us to give generously, to extend Christ's mission in this place and the wider world. Please visit <http://tinyurl.com/GivetoSCEC> to make your offering, or you can text to give using your phone. Text SCEC and AMOUNT to 73256 (QR code in Connections) and you will receive a text with instructions.

Please stand as you are able as the offering is brought forward and blessed.

The Great Thanksgiving

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them unto God.

Let us give thanks to our Sovereign God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us stewards of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, God, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus and Benedictus

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

And so, Gracious God, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

God of our ancestors; God of Sarah, Hagar, Hannah, and Ruth; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Almighty God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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.

Breaking of the Bread

The bread is broken and silence observed.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Invitation to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome at Christ's table.

Communion

Christ welcomes all to communion. ■ Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine, guiding the chalice to your lips. ■ If you do not want to sip the wine, it is also appropriate to dip your wafer gently into the wine, or to receive the bread only. ■ Respond to communion by saying "Amen." ■ If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. ■ Gluten-free wafers are available at each communion station. ■ Baptism is offered several times a year; speak to a priest to learn more.

Prayer after Communion *standing as you are able*

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, creator of light and giver of life, to you be glory and praise for ever. In Jesus your light has shone out; and you have given your Holy Spirit as a mighty stream of life-giving water to refresh and renew the face of the earth. Let your light shine in us that we may be beacons of justice and bearers of hope. Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sending Forth of Eucharistic Ministers *when scheduled*

In the name of St. Columba's we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that N. may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. **We who are many are one body, as we all share one bread, one cup.**

Blessing

The People respond **Amen.**

Dismissal

The People respond **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER
Ezekiel 47:9, 12

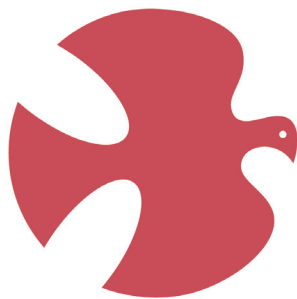
Liturgical Note

During the month of September, St. Columba's joins with ecumenical partners around the world in observing the Season of Creation. The theme for 2026 is "Living Water," which you can see reflected in the opening sentences. Our prayers of the people and the eucharistic prayer also center themes of God's beautiful creation. Read more at seasonofcreation.org.

Land Acknowledgement

We meet today on the traditional land of the first people of Nacotchtank, who were custodians of the land for thousands of years, caring for and nurturing it. We give thanks for their stewardship and lament the ways the Nacotchtank were removed from their ancestral home. We pray for all who live on this land and pay our respects to the native leaders past, present, and emerging. We also remember and lament that this plot of land was given to St. Columba's Episcopal Church by an enslaver and that the wealth created by the labor of enslaved persons helped to build this sanctuary.

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ST. COLUMBA'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Columba's Episcopal Church is an inclusive Christian community of all ages that welcomes one and all, encourages spiritual curiosity, celebrates children and youth, and embraces the world in the spirit of God's justice and love.

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