



September 5, 2021 - Livestream  
15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

Heather Hinton

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Amy Sell

PRELUDE

*Sicilienne*

G. Fauré  
Rebecca Arrensen, flute

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Insiders and outcasts, friends and foes, disciples and disputers in the name of Jesus,

**People: welcome to the house of peace.**

Leader: Searchers and strangers, skeptics and sinners, dreamers and doubters in the name of Jesus,

**People: welcome to the home of grace.**

Leader: Come and receive healing and hope in the name of Jesus.

**People: Alleluia! Amen!**

OPENING HYMN #616

*Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast*

***Come, sinners, to the Gospel feast, let every soul be Jesus' guest.***

***Ye need not one be left behind, for God hath bid all humankind.***

***Do not begin to make excuse; ah! do not you his grace refuse;  
your worldly cares and pleasures leave, and take what Jesus hath to give.***

***Come and partake the Gospel feast, be saved from sin, in Jesus rest;  
O taste the goodness of our God, and eat his flesh and drink his blood.***

***See him set forth before your eyes; behold the bleeding sacrifice;  
his offered love make haste to embrace, and freely now be saved by grace.***

***Ye who believe his record true shall sup with him and he with you;  
come to the feast, be saved from sin, for Jesus waits to take you in.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rosie Jordan

FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

<sup>1</sup>A good reputation is better than much wealth; high esteem is better than silver and gold.

<sup>2</sup>The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord made them both.

<sup>8</sup>Those who sow injustice will harvest evil; the rod of their fury will come to an end.

<sup>9</sup>Happy are generous people, because they give some of their food to the poor.

<sup>22</sup>Don't steal from the poor, because they are poor. Don't oppress the needy in the gate.

<sup>23</sup>The Lord will take up their case and press the life out of those who oppress them.

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; for when humbly, in thy name,  
 Two or three are met together, Thou art in the midst of them:  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now thy garment's hem.  
 As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,  
 Then with thanks to God Creator break the bread and bless the cup,  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! So knit thou our friendship up.  
 All our meals and all our living make us sacraments of thee,  
 That by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

## Psalm 125

Amy Sell

Leader: Those who trust in the Lord are as secure as Mount Zion;

**People: they will not be defeated but will endure forever.**

Leader: Just as the mountains surround Jerusalem,

**People: so the Lord surrounds us, both now and forever.**

Leader: The wicked will not rule the land of the godly,

**People: for then the godly might be tempted to do wrong.**

Leader: O Lord, do good to those who are good,

**People: whose hearts are in tune with you.**

Leader: But those who turn to crooked ways God will banish with the evildoers.

**People: Peace be upon Israel!**

## GOSPEL LESSON

## Mark 7:24-37

<sup>24</sup>From there he 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, <sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syro-phoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>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.' <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

## SERMON

*The Power of Persuasion*

Sunil Kotian

## HYMN #262

*Heal Me, Hands of Jesus*

***Heal me, hands of Jesus, and search out all my pain;  
 restore my hope, remove my fear, and bring me peace again.***

***Cleanse me, blood of Jesus, take bitterness away;  
 let me forgive as one forgiven and bring me peace today.***

*Know me, mind of Jesus, and show me all my sin;  
dispel the memories of guilt and bring me peace within.*

*Fill me, joy of Jesus; anxiety shall cease,  
and heaven's serenity be mine, for Jesus brings me peace!*

PRAYER FOR LABOR DAY

Darren Cushman Wood

INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Leader: The God who shows no partiality invites all who trust in Christ to the feast of grace.

Let us be emptied of sin so the Spirit can fill us with love:

**People: Merciful God, we have failed to live in your love.**

**You call us to speak truth, but we have remained silent.**

**You call us to do justice, but we have done nothing.**

**You call us to heal, but we have hurt one another.**

**You call us to embrace, but we have judged one another.**

**Forgive us and free us to be your people,**

**united by your Spirit in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: Hear the Good News: Everyone who believes in Christ Jesus receives forgiveness of sin through his name.

**People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Darren Cushman Wood

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God  
All praise and honor is yours, Great God,  
for you fashioned the world with beauty and framed it with wisdom.  
You labored to free us from the hands of the oppressors  
and crafted for us a covenant of peace and prosperity.  
When we became like our oppressors,  
you sent the prophets to renew the work of righteousness.  
Your work of restoration was complete in Jesus Christ.  
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,

to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind,

to set at liberty those who are oppressed,  
and to announce that the time had come  
when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always,  
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

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, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and cup.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other,  
and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory,  
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

#### THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### RECEIVING THE BLESSING

*As persons are sharing the bread and cup in the sanctuary, extend your hands to receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit. If you would like to receive communion from today’s service please contact the church to schedule for a pastor to bring it to your home this week, [nricketts@northchurchindy.com](mailto:nricketts@northchurchindy.com)*

#### HYMN OF DEDICATION #634

*Now Let Us from This Table Rise*

***Now let us from this table rise renewed in body, mind, and soul;  
with Christ we die and live again, his selfless love has made us whole.***

***With minds alert, upheld by grace to spread the word in speech and deed,  
we follow in the steps of Christ, at one with all in hope and need.***

***To fill each human house with love, it is the sacrament of care;  
the work that Christ began to do we humbly pledge ourselves to share.***

***Then grant us courage, Father God, to choose again the pilgrim way,  
and help us to accept with joy the challenge of tomorrow's day.***

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*Postlude in D*

H. Willan

*The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and  
in grateful appreciation for the talents of our organist, Heather Hinton.*

This week's worship leaders:

Darren Cushman Wood, *Senior Pastor*  
Sunil Kotian, *Pastor of Mission & Outreach*  
Amy Sell, *Minister of Discipleship & Formation*  
Rosie Jordan, *Liturgist*  
John Hague, James Horton & Jack Haefling, *Audio Visual*  
Becky Arrensen, *Flute*  
Regina Walker, *Soloist (8:30)*  
Mark Gilgallon, *Director of Music*  
Heather Hinton, *Organist*

This week's sign-ups:

Family Olympics  
Friday, September 10, 5-8pm  
Email [asell@northchurchindy.com](mailto:asell@northchurchindy.com)

Volunteer at Bread and Bowl  
Email [skotian@northchurchindy.com](mailto:skotian@northchurchindy.com)

Volunteer at Farmers Market  
Email [skotian@northchurchindy.com](mailto:skotian@northchurchindy.com)

"Major Issues for the Minor Prophets" Bible Study  
Wednesdays 6:30pm zoom, begins September 15,  
Email [jharrington@northchurchindy.com](mailto:jharrington@northchurchindy.com)