



September 1, 2024 – Livestream
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brandon Wallace

SPOTLIGHT ON MINISTRIES

Eric Galloway

PRELUDE

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

arr. R. Schultz

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O Lord, open my lips.

People: And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Leader: The risen Christ is with us.

People: Praise the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN #577

God of Grace and God of Glory

***God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.***

***Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.***

***Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.***

***Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

James 1:17-27

¹⁷ Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights,

with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ In fulfillment of God's own purpose, God gave birth to us by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of God's creatures.

¹⁹ You must understand this, my beloved brothers and sisters: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger, ²⁰ for human anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹ Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³ For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴ for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵ But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶ If any think they are religious and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.

²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

H. Friedell
Summer Choir

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.

*GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

¹ Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ² they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³ (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴ and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵ So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' ⁶ He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;

⁷ in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines."

⁸ You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.'

¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.'

²¹ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²² adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Reflections

Brandon Wallace

HYMN #581

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

***Lord, whose love through humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,
consecrating to your purpose every gift that you impart.***

***Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
use the love your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.***

***As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to tireless striving your abundant life to share.***

***Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.***

PRAYER FOR THE WORLD

Rev. Phil Dorrell

INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON

Leader: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**People: Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will,
we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

OFFERTORY SOLO

How Lovely are Thy Dwellings
from Psalm 54

S. Liddle
Najwa Loh, soloist

How lovely are thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts!
My soul longeth, yea, fainteth for the courts of the Lord:
My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her a house, and the swallow a nest,
where she may lay her young, even Thine altars, O Lord of Hosts,
my King and my God.
O Lord God of Hosts, hear my prayer.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God,
than to dwell in the tents of wickedness,
for a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand.

*Doxology #94

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Rev. Phil Dorrell

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....
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....

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....
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.

*BREAKING THE BREAD

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

COMMUNION HYMNS

#618

Let Us Break Bread Together

***Let us break bread together on our knees, (on our knees)
let us break bread together on our knees. (on our knees)
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)***

***Let us drink wine together on our knees, (on our knees)
let us drink wine together on our knees. (on our knees)
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)***

***Let us praise God together on our knees, (on our knees)
let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees)
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)***

***Let us praise God together on our knees, (on our knees)
let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees)
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy if you please. (if you please)***

#2268

As We Gather at Your Table

***As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.***

***Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.***

***Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.***

PRAYER

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #2268

As We Gather at Your Table

***Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.***

The flowers on the altar are given for the glory of God and in recognition of Rev. Schilling playing the organ at the wedding of Don and Gail Nelson on September 6, 1970 at North United Methodist Church.

Upcoming Events:

Farmers Market Dates
September 5, and September 19, 4:00 — 6:00pm

Worship Without Walls
Sept. 8, only one service at 11:00am

Sunday School Kickoff
September 15 at 9:45am

Children's Choirs resume
September 15, following the 11:00am service

Talk on Christian Nationalism by Dr. Andrew L. Whitehead
September 15, 4:00pm

LGBTQ Dinner
September 17, 6pm at Garage Food Hall

**This week's worship
leaders:**

Rev. Phil Dorrell
UMC Clergy, retired
Brandon Wallace
Minister of Christian Education
John Hague, James Horton
& Allen McCormack
Audio Visual
Mark Gilgallon
Music Director
Heather Hinton
Organist

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