FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN "Red Book" 74 vs. 1-4 Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty; And we lift our hearts before You as a Token of our love, Holy, holy, holy holy.

Gracious Father, Gracious Father, We're so blest to be Your Children, Gracious Father; And we lift our heads before You as a Token of our love, Gracious Father, Gracious Father.

Precious Jesus, Precious Jesus, We're so glad that You've redeemed Us, Precious Jesus; And we lift our hands before You as a Token of our love, Precious Jesus, Precious Jesus.

Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit, Come and fill our hearts a New, Holy Spirit; And we lift our voice before You as a Token of our love, Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, And we lift our hearts before You as a Token of our love, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

OPENING BLESSING

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

WE CONFESS

P: We gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Let us seek the grace and mercy of God saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Silence for reflection

C: Lord, we need Your mercy. In this hour, help us to see our sin and pain and pray for a fresh start. Help us to see the shortcomings in our lives and look to You for the answers to our problems. Give us a new vision of what life can be like. Teach us to hope, to love, to give and to have faith. Lord, we need Your mercy.

P: Our God has heard the cries and felt your pain and has had mercy on us. God has seen our need and provided for our salvation; seen our condition and provided the solution; seen our heart and given us a Savior. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our sin is no longer the weight that holds us down. We are free to live in victory, free from the sin of our self deceit and free from Satan's power. Praise God for goodness.

C: Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE "Red Book" 47

Freely, Freely

God forgave my sin in Jesus' name, I've been born again in Jesus' name; And in Jesus' name I come to you To share His love as He told me to. He said, "Freely, freely you have received: Freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe, Others will know that I live."

All pow'r is giv'n in Jesus' name, In earth and heav'n in Jesus' name And in Jesus' name I come to you To share His pow'r as He told me to. He said, "Freely, freely you have received: Freely, freely give. Go in my name, and because you believe, Others will know that I live."

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray....... Almighty and eternal God, you know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In your love and by your power help us in our confusion and, in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faith; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 35:4-7a

The Lord has good news and will act for those with an anxious heart

Say to those who have an anxious heart,

"Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God

will come with vengeance,

with the recompense of God.

He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then shall the lame man leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,

and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

SECOND LESSON: James 2:1-10, 14-18

Faith is dead if it is without works

My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing 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, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL: Mark 7:31-37

Jesus gives a man the ability to hear

Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

SERMON HYMN "Green Book" 474

Children of the Heavenly Father

Children of the heav'nly Father Safely in his bosom gather, Nestling bird or star in heaven Such a refuge ne'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish,

In his holy courts they flourish, From all evil things he spares them, In his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord his children sever; From all evil things he spares them, In his mighty arms he bears them.

Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh; His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.

SERMON

"Astonished Beyond Measure"

Paul Doellinger

APOSTLE'S CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

Born of the virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

The holy Christian Church,

The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,

And the life + everlasting. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth who keeps faith forever, grant us a living faith in Your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Though sin and Satan would stop our hearts and ears, open them so that we hear Your Word of life and salvation, take it to heart, acknowledge Your holy commands, speak plainly with joyful lips Your Word of truth to all the world and do the works of faith in daily life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, our King, we pray for those who rule and govern us and all who judge our laws. Grant justice in our land for rich and poor. Unite our country and communities in godly, common causes for our well-being. Keep safe those whose lives are in danger because of their service,

especially police, firefighters and the military. Wherever our rulers or our laws are contrary to Your will and truth, turn us from our errors. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

- P: Almighty God and Father, Your Son, our Shepherd, did all things well. We pray for His Gospel to be proclaimed with might and power. By Your Holy Spirit, season our daily speech with the truth of Your grace and mercy and the redemption won for us in Christ Jesus. So also bless those who serve as pastors and all who are ordained to proclaim Your Gospel and administer Your Sacraments, so that they may make known both Your unyielding Law and Your precious Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.
- P: Almighty God and Father, You say to all with anxious hearts, "Be strong; fear not!" You healed the sick and defeated death by Your resurrection. In Your good time and according to Your gracious will, heal the sick and comfort the suffering [especially ________]. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

- P: Almighty God and Father, the help of all who cry to You, be gracious to the poor, the unemployed, the underemployed and all who suffer hunger, want and need. Open the hearts of Your people so that wherever there is abundance, we might share the blessings You give to us as stewards. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: Hear our prayer.
- P: Father, into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

OFFERING OFFERTORY

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P: Welcome to the celebration! God who supplies our every need has given us this meal to share.
- C: Lord, we thank You for the bread of eternal life.
- P: We come to the table, acknowledging our shortcomings and our need to experience Your presence in bread and wine.
- C: Lord, we thank You for the bread of eternal life.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Red Book" 181 Rock of Ages......

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me Hide myself in Thee; Let the water and the blood, From Thy riven side which flowed, be of Sin the double cure, save me from its guilt and pow'r. Not the labor of my hands, can fulfill Thy law's demands; could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow, all for Sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hands I bring, simply To Thy cross I cling; naked, come to Thee for dress, Helpless look to Thee for grace; foul, I To the fountain fly, wash me. Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when my Eyes shall close in death, which I soar to worlds unknown, See Thee on Thy judgment throne, Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.

"Red Book" 106 It is Well.....

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul. It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul) It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, the trials should come, Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed his own blood for my soul.
It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious tho't:
My sin not in part, but the whole
Is nail'd to the cross and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul.
It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul.

And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, The clouds be roll'd back as a scroll, The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, "Even so," it is well with my soul. It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul) It is well, it is well with my soul.

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION