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CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL  
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

Song of Entrance: **“He is Exalted”**

Paris

*(See lyrics at the end of this document)*

PRESIDER: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

PRESIDER: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

Song of Praise **“Doxology”**

Tan

*(See lyrics at the end of this document)*

PRESIDER: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

PRESIDER: Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PRESIDER: Gracious Lord God, we thank you for extending the ministry of your Church 28 years ago to the Far West End of Richmond so that your light would shine brightly as the area developed. Thank you for all those who have dreamed, planted, built, and enriched your ministries. Bless us, we pray, as we celebrate this birthday, that we would continue to live the gospel with faithfulness and joy, in your holy Name we pray. **Amen.**

*THE FIRST LESSON – ROMANS 14:1-12*

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

READER: The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

*PSALM 114*

*Antiphon*

From "Be Still" by David Evans

♩ = 80

Be still, for the pre-sence of the Lord, the Ho - ly One is here.

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1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.

3 The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
Jordan turned and went back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
O Jordan, that you turned back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
you little hills like young sheep?

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

*Antiphon*

*THE GOSPEL – MATTHEW 18:21-35*

PRESIDER: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
Matthew.

PEOPLE: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he

began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

PRESIDER: The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### *THE MESSAGE*

### *THE CREED*

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*

PRAYER LEADER: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

PRAYER LEADER: For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: For our Bishops, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: For Short Pump and all the communities of Richmond, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: For \_\_\_\_\_, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and

captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

PEOPLE: **Lord, have mercy.**

PRAYER LEADER: In the communion of saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

PEOPLE: **To thee, O Lord our God.**

PRESIDER: Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

### *CONFESSION OF SIN*

OFFICIANT: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

ALL: **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.**

OFFICIANT: 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 PEACE*

PRESIDER: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

### *INVITATION TO PRESENT YOUR OFFERINGS*

Song of Offering: **“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”**

Scriven/Converse

*(See lyrics at the end of this document)*

### *THE HOLY COMMUNION*

PRESIDER: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: **And also with you.**

PRESIDER: Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

PEOPLE: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

PRESIDER: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, 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; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

- Christ has died.**
- Christ is risen.**
- Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

PRESIDER: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say . . .

ALL: **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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

PRESIDER: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

PEOPLE: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

#### *PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION*

PRESIDER: Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. **Amen.**

PRESIDER: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts, by faith, with thanksgiving.

Song of the Table: **“Blessed Assurance”**

Crosby/Knapp

*(See lyrics at the end of this document)*

PRESIDER: Let us pray.

ALL: **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

*THE BLESSING*

Song of Dismissal: **“Mighty to Save”**

Morgan/Fielding

*(See lyrics at the end of this document)*

PRESIDER: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

## **"He is Exalted"**

**He is exalted,  
The King is exalted on high.  
I will praise Him.  
He is exalted, forever exalted,  
And I will praise His name!  
He is the Lord;  
Forever His truth shall reign.  
Heaven and earth  
Rejoice in His holy name.  
He is exalted,  
The King is exalted on high!**

by Twila Paris

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## **"Doxology"**

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.  
Praise Father, and the Son,  
Praise Father, and the Son,  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

Arr. By Keith Tan; CCLI License No. 697852

## **"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"**

**What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear.  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit, o what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!**

**Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our Refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a solace there.**

Joseph M. Scriven/Charles C. Converse  
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## **"Blessed Assurance"**

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His spirit, washed in His blood.**

### **CHORUS**

**This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending, bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

**Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.**

Fanny J. Crosby/Phoebe P. Knapp  
PUBLIC DOMAIN

## **"Mighty to Save"**

**Everyone needs compassion; Love that's never failing  
Let mercy fall on me  
Everyone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Saviour  
The hope of nations.**

### **Chorus**

**Saviour, He can move the mountains  
My God is mighty to save; He is mighty to save.  
Forever, author of salvation,  
He rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave.**

**So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures  
Fill my life again  
I give my life to follow, everything I believe in  
Now I surrender**

### **Bridge**

**Shine your light and let the whole world see  
We're singing, For the glory of the risen King  
Jesus, Shine your light and let the whole world see  
We're singing, For the glory of the risen King.**

Words and Music by Reuben Morgan and Ben Fielding  
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