

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**PRELUDE:**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**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.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name.  
Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **PENTECOST KYRIE:**

**ALL: Blessed be God, the source of life,  
Creator of all, our hope and song.  
Blessed be God, the source of love,  
Holy Three and Holy One.**

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### **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

God of boundless grace,  
**you make no distinction among your people,  
but cleanse every heart by faith and gather all in Christ.  
Free us from every burden we place on one another,  
and guide your church to welcome, discern, and serve by your Spirit, through  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG: ELW 888 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

**1** O beautiful for spacious skies,  
for amber waves of grain,  
for purple mountain majesties  
above the fruited plain:  
America! America!  
God shed his grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with brotherhood  
from sea to shining sea.

**2** O beautiful for heroes proved  
in liberating strife,  
who more than self their country loved,  
and mercy more than life:  
America! America!

May God thy gold refine,  
till all success be nobleness,  
and ev'ry gain divine.

**3** O beautiful for patriot dream  
that sees beyond the years  
thine alabaster cities gleam,  
undimmed by human tears:  
America! America!  
God mend thine ev'ry flaw,  
confirm thy soul in self-control,  
thy liberty in law.

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859-1929

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: My God Is So Big (Sunday Tempe/Gilbert)

### Bridge

My God is so big so strong and so mighty  
There's nothing my God cannot do  
My God is so big so strong and so mighty  
There's nothing my God cannot do  
The mountains are His the valleys are His  
The stars are His handiwork too

My God is so big so strong and so mighty  
There's nothing my God cannot do

CCLI Song # 7218753  
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Sat 5pm Tempe: **NO** Children's Message  
Sunday Tempe & Gilbert: *Sing at all services*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 56:1-8

<sup>1</sup> Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come  
and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>2</sup> Happy is the mortal who does this, the one who holds it fast,  
who keeps the Sabbath, not profaning it, and refrains from doing any evil.

<sup>3</sup> Do not let the foreigner joined to the LORD say,  
"The LORD will surely separate me from his people,"  
and do not let the eunuch say,  
"I am just a dry tree."

<sup>4</sup> For thus says the LORD: To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths,  
who choose the things that please me  
and hold fast my covenant,

<sup>5</sup> I will give, in my house and within my walls,  
a monument and a name  
better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name  
that shall not be cut off.

<sup>6</sup> And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it  
and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup> these I will bring to my holy mountain  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar,  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **PENTECOST GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Come Holy Spirit**

### **Refrain**

Alleluia, come Holy Spirit, come,  
Alleluia, we're gathered around Your throne.  
Speak to Your people, ignite us with flame,  
Fill us with power to speak of Your name.  
Alleluia, our hearts are now Your home.

## Summer Series Preaching Text: Acts 15:1-21

<sup>1</sup> Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved." <sup>2</sup> And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. <sup>3</sup> So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the gentiles and brought great joy to all the brothers and sisters. <sup>4</sup> When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all that God had done with them. <sup>5</sup> But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, "It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses."

<sup>6</sup> The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter. <sup>7</sup> After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, "My brothers, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that I should be the one through whom the gentiles would hear the message of the good news and become believers. <sup>8</sup> And God, who knows the human heart, testified to them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us, <sup>9</sup> and in cleansing their hearts by faith he has made no distinction between them and us. <sup>10</sup> Now, therefore, why are you putting God to the test by placing on the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our ancestors nor we have been able to bear? <sup>11</sup> On the contrary, we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will."

<sup>12</sup> The whole assembly kept silence and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the gentiles. <sup>13</sup> After they finished speaking, James replied, "My brothers, listen to me. <sup>14</sup> Simeon has related how God first looked favorably on the gentiles, to take from among them a people for his name. <sup>15</sup> This agrees with the words of the prophets, as it is written,

<sup>16</sup> 'After this I will return,  
and I will rebuild the dwelling of David, which has fallen;  
from its ruins I will rebuild it,  
and I will set it up,

<sup>17</sup> so that all other peoples may seek the Lord—  
even all the gentiles over whom my name has been called.

Thus says the Lord, who has been making these things <sup>18</sup> known from long ago.'

<sup>19</sup> "Therefore I have reached the decision that we should not trouble those gentiles who are turning to God, <sup>20</sup> but we should write to them to abstain only from things polluted by idols and from sexual immorality and from whatever has been strangled and from blood. <sup>21</sup> For in every city, for generations past, Moses has had those who proclaim him, for he has been read aloud every Sabbath in the synagogues."

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

<b>SERMON:</b>	
<i>"Belonging"</i> Pastor Andrea Cain <i>(Sunday Tempe)</i>	<i>"Is Grace still Amazing?"</i> Pastor Thaddeus Book <i>(Sat 5pm/Gilbert)</i>

## SONG OF THE DAY: Christ Our Wisdom

### Verse 1

Christ our wisdom we are humbled  
 When You hide Your ways from us  
 You have purposes unnumbered  
 Each one good and glorious  
 Help us trust when we grow weary  
 Free us from our anxious thoughts  
 Give us grace to see more clearly  
 You are God and we are not

### Verse 2

Christ our wisdom be our gladness  
 When we fail to understand  
 You ordain all joy and sadness  
 To fulfill Your perfect plan  
 Help us know You rule with power  
 Over every raging flood  
 In our most uncertain hour  
 You are God and we are loved

### Verse 3

Christ our wisdom we will follow  
 Though the way ahead is veiled  
 As we journey through the shadows  
 Grant us faith where sight has failed

Help us cling to Your commandments  
 Strengthened by Your faithful Word  
 We will never be abandoned  
 You are God and we are Yours

### Verse 4

Christ our wisdom we adore You  
 For the beauty of the cross  
 Once in foolishness we scorned You  
 But Your blood has ransomed us  
 Help us sing the endless mercies  
 Of Your humble heart to save  
 Christ our wisdom Christ our glory  
 You are God forever praised

### Tag

Help us sing the endless mercies  
 Of Your humble heart to save  
 Christ our wisdom Christ our glory  
 You are God forever praised

Bob Kauflin, Jonathan Althoff, Nathan Stiff  
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## APOSTLES' CREED:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

God of grace, Guide your church in truth and love; give leaders wisdom, humility, and courage to discern your will, so all people may hear the good news and rejoice in your welcome. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of unity, Peter, Paul, Barnabas, and James listened for your Spirit amid disagreement. Teach communities, congregations, and nations to seek peace without fear, to honor one another across difference, and to choose the path that builds up the common good. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, Lift the burdens of all who are weary, sick, grieving, anxious, or overlooked. Cleanse hearts by faith, strengthen caregivers, and surround all who suffer with your healing mercy, especially those we name before you now (especially...). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of mission, you opened the door of faith to the Gentiles and continue to widen your household of grace. Make this congregation a sign of your generous welcome; send us to serve neighbors near and far with humility, joy, and love.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of promise, with the saints of every time and place, keep us steadfast in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Gather us at last into the fullness of your kingdom, where all your people are one in praise.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

**PEACE:**

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*We share a word of peace with our neighbors.*

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:**

The grace of Christ calls us to lives of gratitude and generosity. In Jesus Christ we are given new life. Let us celebrate this life by giving generously to the work of God's redeeming love.

*The Hunger Jar is a love offering and is designated for Back to School supplies/socks/underwear.*

*You are invited to share your gifts in worship while others give electronically at [www.desertcross.org](http://www.desertcross.org) with the giving button, text giving, or by QR code. We give thanks for all the ways you support God's mission of outreach through Desert Cross that changes lives for the sake of the gospel*

## **OFFERING SONG: For the One**

### **Verse 1**

Let me be filled  
With kindness and compassion for the one  
The one for whom You loved and gave Your Son  
For humanity increase my love

### **Chorus**

Help me to love with open arms like You do  
A love that erases all the lines and sees the truth  
Oh that when they look in my eyes  
They would see You  
Even in just a smile

They would feel the Father's love

### **Verse 2**

Oh how You love us  
From the homeless to the famous and in-between  
You formed us You made us carefully  
'Cause in the end we're all Your children

Jenn Johnson, Paul McClure  
CCLI Song #7077180  
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## **OFFERING PRAYER:**

Loving God,  
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.  
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
so that all creation can taste your abundance.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION:**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE:**

Holy God,  
you alone are holy,  
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:  
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;  
within each cell; with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son:  
at the heart of human life;  
near to those who suffer;  
beside the sinner;  
among the poor;  
with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION:**

*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, this cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:*

**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 and ever. Amen.**

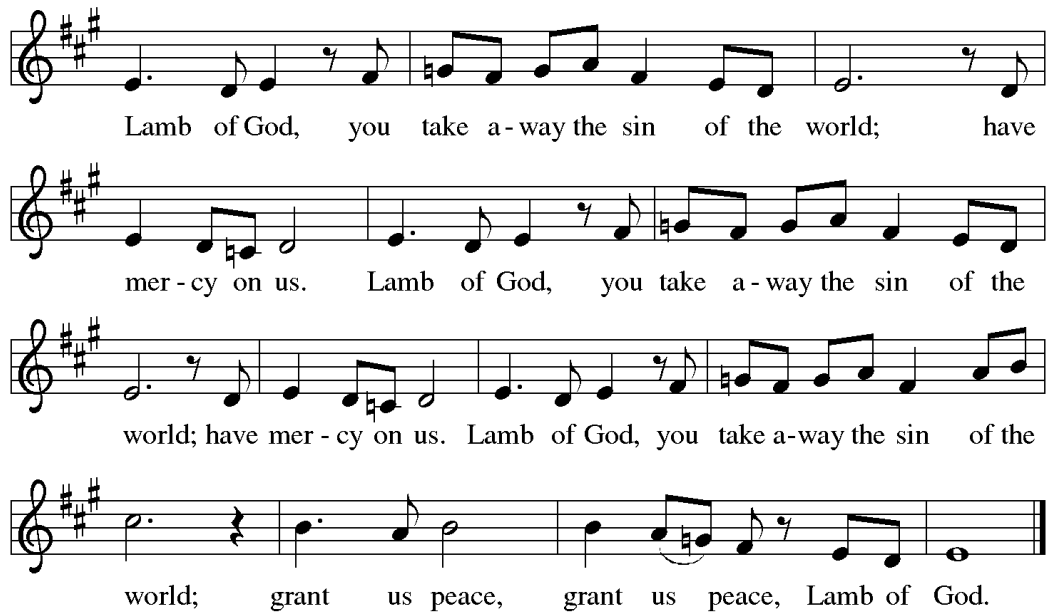
**INVITATION TO COMMUNION:**

This is Christ's table. There is a place for you.  
All are welcome.

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION:**

*Come forward to receive the bread and a cup of wine/juice. Alert an usher for communion in your seat. All are welcome.*

## LAMB OF GOD: ELW p.191 - Lamb of God (Setting 8)



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## DISTRIBUTION SONG 1: ELW 887 This Is My Song

**1** This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
but other hearts in other lands are beating  
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

**2** My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,  
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.  
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,  
and skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine.

So hear my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

**3** This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,  
your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.  
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,  
and hearts united learn to live as one.  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations;  
myself I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts. 1-2; Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, st. 3  
Text sts. 1-2 © 1934, 1962 Lorenz Publishing Company. Text st. 3 © 1964 Lorenz  
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## DISTRIBUTION SONG 2: Remembrance (The Communion Song)

### Verse 1

Oh how could it be  
That my God would welcome me  
Into this mystery  
Say take this bread take this wine  
Now the simple made divine

For any to receive

### Pre-Chorus

By Your mercy we come to Your table  
By Your grace You are making us faithful

**Chorus**

Lord we remember You  
And remembrance leads us to worship  
And as we worship You  
Our worship leads to communion  
We respond to Your invitation  
(We respond to Your invitation)  
We remember You

**Verse 2**

See His body His blood  
Know that He has overcome  
Ev'ry trial we will face  
And none too lost to be saved

None too broken or ashamed  
All are welcome in this place

**Bridge**

Dying You destroyed our death  
Rising You restored our life  
Lord Jesus come in glory  
Lord Jesus come in glory  
Lord Jesus come in glory  
Lord Jesus come in glory

Matt Maher, Matt Redman  
CCLI Song #5484616  
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**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER:**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

Compassionate God,  
through the gifts of bread and wine  
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.  
Strengthen us that through this holy meal,  
We may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### **BENEDICTION:**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✚  
one God, bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING SONG: ELW 710 Let Streams of Living Justice**

**1** Let streams of living justice  
flow down upon the earth;  
give freedom's light to captives,  
let all the poor have worth.  
The hungry's hands are pleading,  
the workers claim their rights,  
the mourners long for laughter,  
the blinded seek for sight.  
Make liberty a beacon,  
strike down the iron pow'r;  
abolish ancient vengeance:  
proclaim your people's hour.

**2** For healing of the nations,  
for peace that will not end,  
for love that makes us lovers,  
God grant us grace to mend.  
Weave our varied gifts together;  
knit our lives as they are spun;  
on your loom of time enroll us

till our thread of life is run.  
O great weaver of our fabric,  
bind church and world in one;  
dye our texture with your radiance,  
light our colors with your sun.

**3** Your city's built to music;  
we are the stones you seek;  
your harmony is language;  
we are the words you speak.  
Our faith we find in service,  
our hope in others' dreams,  
our love in hand of neighbor;  
our homeland brightly gleams.  
Inscribe our hearts with justice;  
your way—the path untried;  
your truth—the heart of stranger;  
your life—the Crucified.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934  
Text © 1989 William Whitla.

### **DISMISSAL:**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE:**

**Thank you  
for supporting the Desert Cross mission.  
Here are the ways you can donate today:**

**ONLINE GIVING:**



Get your smart phone  
and scan the QR-code  
with your phone camera

**SECURE TEXT GIVING:**

Text "GIVE" to  
833-636-1502

**USPS:**

8600 S. McClintock Drive  
Tempe, AZ 85284

**Flower Donation:**

*The flowers on the altar in Tempe this weekend are given by Paul & Cheryl Schmidtke in celebration of their anniversary.*