



You are welcome here!
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing
in Faith, Hope, and Love**

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Worship Times
Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm



Pastor
Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



September 4, 2022
Thirteenth Sunday
after Pentecost

Gathering

✠INTRODUCTION

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

✠CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

C **Amen.**

P Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God of mercy and forgiveness,

C **we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

P Beloved of God: in the name of Jesus Christ ✠ your sins are forgiven and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

✠GATHERING HYMN – Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (ELW #802)

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✠GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

✠ **GLORY TO GOD – Now the Feast and Celebration (ELW #167)**

Refrain:

Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!

- 1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God. *Refrain*
- 2 Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain*
- 3 For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new. *Refrain*

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✠ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A Let us pray. Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

Word

✠ **FIRST LESSON – Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live,
²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

✠ **RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 1**

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

²**Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴**It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶**For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

✠ **SECOND LESSON – Philemon 1:1-21**

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me.

¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able, to welcome the Gospel.

✠ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – (ACS, Setting 11, p. 14)**

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris'n in - deed.

✠ GOSPEL – Luke 14:25-33

P The Holy Gospel, according to Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them,
²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

✠ SERMON

✠ HYMN OF THE DAY – Faith Begins By Letting Go (ACS #1004)

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✠ APOSTLES’ CREED (ELW p. 105)

P With the whole Church, let us confess our faith:

C 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

A As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

A We pray for the church around the world and for the mission of the gospel. Refresh the hearts of your people, deepen our understanding of every good thing we share, and strengthen our partnerships in the faith. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A For the well-being of the earth and all its creatures: for trees and forests, for all that will yield fruit this season, and for streams and other bodies of water. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A For the nations and those in authority: for the elected leaders of our towns, states, and country, and for international organizations. Grant wisdom to those who govern and raise up citizens who make decisions in the best interest of their neighbors.
God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A For all in need: for those who suffer from disease, who struggle with homelessness or food insecurity, for those whose family life is difficult, and for all in this community who need your care, especially those we name before you now, silently or aloud. . . .
God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A For this community of faith: for all our labors—begun, continued, and ended in you—that they glorify your holy name. Bless your people with the strength to live into their many vocations for the sake of the world. God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

A We give thanks for the saints who now rest from their labors. Give us faith, like them, to love you with all our hearts, and by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life.
God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

P Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

✠ PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

✠ OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, here and around the world. After the offering is gathered, the gifts are brought forward. Please stand, as you are able.

✠ OFFERING PRAYER

A Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

C **Amen.**

Meal

✠ GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

✠ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Setting 11, ACS p. 20)



San-to, san - to, san - to Dios de glo - ria y po - der,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God of pow - er and might,



cie - los y tie - rra pro - cla - man tu glo - ria.
 heav - en and earth . . . are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ben - di - to a - quel que vie - ne en el nom - bre de Dios.
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of our God.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

✠ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:...
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup...
to share with us the great and promised feast.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit...
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Join our prayers with those of your servants...
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ LORD'S PRAYER

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

C 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

P Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

✠ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

✠ COMMUNION HYMN – I Come with Joy (ELW #482)

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✠ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A God of the abundant table,
you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey.
Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy;
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

✠ BLESSING

P God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair,
bless you with truth and peace.

And may the holy Trinity, † one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

C Amen

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ SENDING HYMN – On What Has Now Been Sown (ELW #550)

✠ DISMISSAL

P Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

C Thanks be to God.

LUTHERAN HYMN FESTIVAL 2022 – Our congregation is invited to attend the Lutheran Hymn Festival at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas on September 18 at 4:30 p.m. The festival will be led by guest organist, Kantor Kevin Hildebrand, with support from brass, tympani, adult and children’s choirs. Under the theme, “*O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*” we will celebrate the 11th festival at the Meyerson. For ordering tickets, go to www.lutheranhymnfestival.org/tickets . Cost of the tickets are: \$20.00 each (*Orchestra Floor, Terrace, 3rd and 4th floor boxes*) and \$15.00 each (*Dress Circle, Grand Tier*). You will be able to select your exact seat location! All ticket subscribers must bring a printed ticket to the Meyerson. For help or more information, Contact Adam Hengeveld at 972-646-0905 or email at tickets@lutheranhymnfestival.org . This will be an inspiring and exciting event.

New Church Office Hours:

Monday: 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Tuesday: 1 p.m until 4 p.m.

Wednesday: 1 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Thursday: 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.

✠ **SERVING TODAY**

Presiding Minister:	The Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal
Music Director:	John Zacharias
Assisting Minister:	Renee Swanjord
Lay Reader:	Hattie Hammer
Communion Cup Holder:	Cassie Bennett
Usher:	Julie Bothun
Videographer:	Gene Davies
Altar Care:	Kris Davies

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