



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023 AT 10:30 A.M.

The Church of the Redeemer: 162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4 office@theredeemer.ca • Tel: (416) 922 4948 • www.theredeemer.ca

#### WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER!

We are in the heart of downtown Toronto, and we gather to celebrate on the traditional lands of the Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Anishinaabe Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Our beautiful building connects us to the rich heritage of our city while also drawing us deeper into the roots of our Anglican tradition. Just as the streetscape around us has evolved over the years, our members have changed to reflect the growing, vibrant and progressive Christian community found at the Redeemer today. We come from a variety of faith traditions (and sometimes no faith tradition at all), and we like it that way. We are students, workers, retired, homeless, not limited by sexual orientation, gender identity or personal history. We are at the very beginning of our life with Jesus, and we are deeply steeped in a life complicated by faith. We open our doors to worship God and to learn about Jesus, and how all of this might just transform our lives.

If you would like to stay up to date with our news and events, please feel free to subscribe to our eNewsletter by going to <u>theredeemer.ca/newsletters</u>.

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Welcome Welcome to the margin. Here we Land Acknowledgement find brief Opening Hymn: #755 (Gather) "Today I Awake" commentary and explanations of our Please rise as you are able and sing worship as it unfolds. 1. To - day I a-wake and God is be - fore me. At 2. To - day I a - rise and Christis be side He me. Worship is an 3. To - day I af-firm the Spir-it with in me At encounter with God 4. To - day I en-iov the Trin-i - tv A round me. in community through which we begin to be opened. night, as I dreamt, he sum-moned the day; For transformed and walked through the dark light. Yes, to scat - ter new healed. wor - ship and work, in strug - gle and rest. The bove and be-neath, be - fore and be hind; The -God nev-er sleeps but pat - terns the ing With morn and beck - ons his ple То Christ is a - live. peo ing From Spir - it in-spires all life which is chang Mak - er, the Son, the Spir - it to geth er They of gold slith - ers or glo-ry in gray. hope and heal. re - sist and in vite. to \_ fear-ing to faith, from bro-ken to blest. called me life and call me their friend. to Text: John L. Bell (1949- ). Tune: SLITHERS OF GOLD, John L. Bell (1949- ) © 1989, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.

#### ✤ The Gathering of the Community

- *Priest:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
- People: And also with you.

#### **Glory to God**

#### The Collect of the Day

Priest: God of the earth, all creation awaits your gift of new life. Prepare our hearts to receive your Word so that it may grow within us and yield a hundredfold harvest; through Jesus Christ, the Sower.

People: Amen.

#### Proclamation of the Word

#### **First Reading**

Please be seated

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Genesis

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her,

'Two nations are in your womb,

and two peoples born of you shall be divided;

one shall be stronger than the other,

the elder shall serve the younger.'

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, 'Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!' (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, 'First sell me your birthright.' Esau said, 'I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?' Jacob said, 'Swear to me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Our worship begins with the Gathering. We come to this sacred place as individuals, and here we gather as a community in worship, in prayer, and in thankfulness to God.

Glory to God is a hymn of praise and adoration, typically acknowledging the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Pronounced "CALL-ect," the collect of the day is the prayer that calls us together in worship and praise.

The Book of Genesis tells the stories of the origins (or genesis) of creation and the people that God wants to live with. Today we are introduced to twin brothers, Jacob and Esau, who were born to Isaac and Rebekah in their old age. This was a culture where the oldest son was favoured both with property and blessing; here we see the first part of Jacob's plans to become the favoured son, even though Esau was older.

Reader:Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.Genesis 25:19-34All:Thanks be to God.A moment of silence is observed

Psalm 119.105-112 (George Black)

"sahm".

Pronounced

The Psalms are a collection both of songs of joy and of songs of sorrow that call out to God for help. Psalm 119 is the longest Psalm in the book with some of the most beautiful descriptions of the laws found in the Bible. In today's excerpt we see how these laws are not a set of rigid rules, but a way of walking in the world that gives light in the midst of confusion, and joy to the Psalmist.

Paul's letter to the Romans was written to Christians who lived in ancient Rome and who were trying to follow Jesus at the heart of the empire. In this passage Paul sets up a contrast: if you practice injustice it will lead to death and condemnation; if you do justice it will lead to life and peace.

## Refrain You di - rect me, that I might keep your sta-tutes.

Your word is a lantern to my feet and a light upon my path. I have sworn and am determined to keep your righteous judgments. **Refrain** 

I am deeply troubled; preserve my life, O God, according to your word. Accept, O God, the willing tribute of my lips, and teach me your judgments. **Refrain** 

My life is always in my hand, yet I do not forget your law. The wicked have set a trap for me, but I have not strayed from your commandments. **Refrain** 

Your decrees are my inheritance for ever; truly, they are the joy of my heart. I have applied my heart to fulfil your statutes for ever and to the end. **Refrain** 

#### **Second Reading**

Reader: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader:Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.Romans 8:1-11All:Thanks be to God.A moment of silence is observed

Sequence Song: "Garden Song" (David Mallett) Please rise as you are able and sing

Inch by inch, row by row Gonna make this garden grow All it takes is a rake and a hoe And a piece of fertile ground And inch by inch and row by row Someone bless these seeds I sow Someone warm them from below 'Til the rains come tumblin' down

Pullin' weeds and pickin' stones Man is made of dreams and bones Feel the need to grow my own 'Cause the time is close at hand Grain for grain, sun and rain Find my way in nature's chain Tune my body and my brain To the music from the land

Plant your rows straight and long Temper them with prayer and song Mother Earth will make you strong If you give her love and care An old crow watching hungrily From his perch in yonder tree And in my garden I'm as free As that feathered thief up there

We turn and face the Gospel as it is processed to the midst of the gathered community. We do this as a sign of respect and to symbolize that its message is at the centre of our lives and its truth is always before our eyes.

#### The Gospel

Deacon: The Lord be with you.All: And also with you.Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had song (from the Latin "sequentiae" meaning "following") is a hymn that is sung following the second reading and before the reading of the Gospel.

The Sequence

Jesus told many short stories which challenged people to think more deeply about who they are and who God is. These stories are called parables and many use the agricultural imagery of animals and seeds familiar to his audience. The parable of the farmer sowing seed is unusual because Jesus explained the meaning of the story in some detail to his followers instead of letting them tease out the meaning for themselves.

no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!'

'Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

Deacon: All:	The Gospel of Christ. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
Homily:	Sylvia Keesmaat	Please be seated
The Pra	yers of the People	Please rise as you are able
Leader:	As we gather in prayer, we are reminded in the Genesis reading that Isaac prayed to the Lord that Rebekah would conceive. Sometimes prayer requires patience and sometimes the answer to prayer may not be the one we expect. Nevertheless, we pray in faith to the Lord.	
	You are invited to add your petitions and thanksgivings silently or aloud as we pause during each petition. Your response comes from the psalm we read today.	
Leader: <b>All:</b>	Your Word is a lantern to our feet And a light to our path	
Leader:	We pray for the church throughout the world. We pray that your word may be sown on good soil wherever two or three are gathered together. We remember persecuted churches where worship is restricted or forbidden. We pray also for persecuting churches where historic or current practices have diminished some people of God, people created in God's image. We give thanks for the work of General Synod, and the work that is set before us in the next three years. In our own parish, we pray for the leadership of the "Getting our House in Order" campaign. We pray that our response will be generous and filled with gratitude for the gifts this parish continues to offer to the wider church and this community.	

Homily is from the Greek word "homilio" which means "conversation". The purpose of the homily (also known as the sermon) is to gather the themes of the readings together and articulate what they meant for those about whom they were written and what they mean for us, today.

In the prayers of the people we offer to God our cares and concerns, our joys and hopes, praying for the church, the world, the sick, the suffering, and those whom we love but see no more. A long pause is observed. Please add your petitions silently or aloud.

#### Leader: Your Word is a lantern to our feet

#### All: And a light to our path

*Leader:* We pray for the world. We pray especially for nations and regions affected by conflict, famine, or the effects of a changing climate. We remember the refugee and the orphan.

We pray for political leaders throughout the world, that their motives will be driven, not by self-interest or power, but by service and selflessness. Equip them with the seeds of peace to be scattered throughout the world.

A long pause is observed. Please add your petitions silently or aloud.

- Leader: Your Word is a lantern to our feet All: And a light to our path
- *Leader:* We pray for our parish community and the wider community we serve. We pray for those experiencing insecurity with respect to employment, housing, or hunger.

We pray for those who are sick, suffering, in need of care or community.

We give thanks for our pastoral care teams and our Common Table staff and volunteers.

A long pause is observed. Please add your petitions silently or aloud.

Leader: Your Word is a lantern to our feet

#### All: And a light to our path

*Leader:* We give thanks for the life and witness of those who have died. Through their life and witness they have sown the seeds that this generation and the generations to come will harvest with gratitude.

May we be a comforting presence to those who mourn.

A long pause is observed. Please add your petitions silently or aloud.

Leader: Your Word is a lantern to our feet

#### All: And a light to our path

- *Leader:* Finally, we give thanks for the opportunity to rest, to travel, enjoy a street festival, wade in a splash pad, listen to the birds, see the stars, imagine a changing cloud formation. We are thankful for all the blessings you have provided, and pray that we may always use your gifts to the honour and glory of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.
- All: Amen.

#### The Peace

*Priest:* The peace of the Lord be always with you. *People:* And also with you.

When Jesus appeared to his disciples after the resurrection, his first words to them were "Peace be with you." We share the peace with our neighbour as a sign that we are reconciled with one another and with God. You can share the peace through a nod, a handshake, or by raising your hand in the peace symbol.

#### The Offering

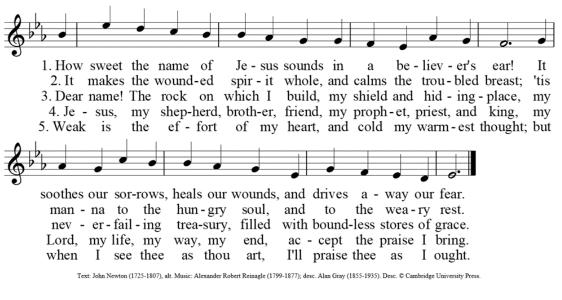
The offering is our opportunity to worship God by giving back out of the abundance from which we have received. It is not obligatory, but the opportunity is there for all who wish to express their love to God through the giving of monetary gifts.

The "Offertory Hymn" is sung when we offer our gifts to God as an expression of thanks for all that we have been given. Our financial gifts, as well as bread and wine are brought before the altar as a symbol that in offering what sustains us, we might be a blessing to others.

The Eucharist (Greek for "Thanksgiving") is a Christian ritual in which bread is eaten and wine is drunk as a way of showing devotion to Jesus Christ. Also known as "Communion" it is central to our faith and is practiced in most Christian churches in different forms. In the Eucharist we recall who Jesus Christ was, and the sacrifice he made for us on the cross.



Offertory Hymn: #620 (Common Praise) "How Sweet the Name ..." All Sing



#### The Celebration of the Eucharist

#### **Prayer Over the Gifts**

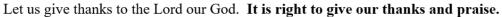
Priest: Father,

your word creates in us a yearning for your kingdom. Receive all we offer you this day, and keep us in your peace; for the sake of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: Amen.

#### The Great Thanksgiving





Priest: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; you are the source of light and life for all your creation, you made us in your own image, and call us to new life in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus: 228 (Gather)

All Sing



san-na in the high-est.

Priest: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.
For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.

The Sanctus (from the Latin word "holy") is an ancient hymn that is sung during the Eucharistic Prayer. It is adapted from Isaiah's vision of the greatness of God, and from Matthew, where the people called out "Hosanna!" when Jesus entered Jerusalem. The climax of this story is the celebration of the Eucharist itself with Jesus and his disciples, which is followed by Christ's suffering and betrayal. We pray using Jesus' own words and follow his command to eat and drink in memory of him. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted. 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, Father, according to his command,

#### All: we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.

*Priest:* and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

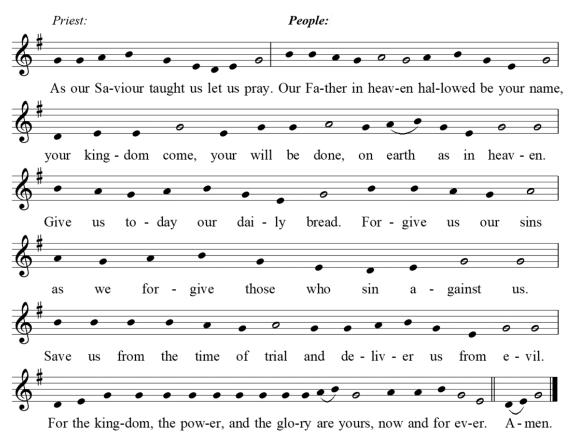
> We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, and head of the Church, and author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

#### People: Amen.

#### **The Lord's Prayer**



MUSIC: McNeil Robinson © 1979, Theodore Presser Co

The Lord's Prayer, found in both Matthew and Luke, is a prayer that captures the essence of our relationship with God and with one another. Given to us by Jesus himself, it is the most well-known prayer in the world, and at any given time is being prayed in countless languages and dialects around the globe.

#### The Breaking of the Bread

*Priest:* We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.All: We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

*Priest:* The gifts of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God: #745 (Common Praise)

All Sin



#### The Giving and Receiving of Communion

Priest: Dear friends, I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now.

For those of us participating at home, it is a strange experience to be invited to Communion – not through the physical bread and wine we can touch and taste – but a Spiritual Communion with the God who comes to meet us wherever we are.

There are no special words or prayers for this. All the Church has ever thought necessary is genuine true desire, lively faith, and genuine love. Come honestly before God the way you know how. You may wish to pray quietly this prayer to help you:

One: Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock. You wait for me and only I can let you in. I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill me with your presence. Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood, that I may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.

#### The Communion



All in the church are invited to come forward to receive communion. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please indicate this to the priest.

If you would like to receive a blessing rather than communion, please cross your arms as shown in the picture and the clergy will be pleased to offer you a blessing.

Communion Hymn: #701 (Gather) "God it Was" All Sing 1. God who A - bra - ham, "Pack it was said your to "Save 2. God who said it was to Mo ses, my -3. God who said Jo seph, "Down it was to \_ your 4. Christ it was who said to Mat thew, "Leave your -5. In this crowd of com - mon peo \_ ple, once un trav - el on!' God bags and it was who said to ple, sea!" God who said peo part the it was to \_ wife!" tools and take your God it was who said to books fol - low me!" Christ who said and it was to known, whom we re vere, God calls us to share his d. Sar ah, "Smile and you'll bear son!" soon а Mir - i - am, "Sing free!" and dance show to you're life!" Mar -"In your womb I'll start my у, "Lis -ten first, make the tea!" Mar then tha, Start - ing start here. pur pose now and ing Trav - 'ling moth-ers Wan - d'ring folk and ged а -Shep - herd - saints rin - ists Do and tam bou -ing \_ Car - pen - ter and coun try maid-en Leav ing Civ \_ il vants Chang and house - keep-ers, ing ser \_ call-ing, So brate his So we cel e \_ we d' when they thought they'd done. This is how God calls his what he knew they could. This is how God calls his calls his town and trade and skills. This is how God plac - es cost. This is Christ calls dis at how а prize and praise his choice, As we pray that through this Los - ing all of One. ple, be cause peo Do - ing should. what they peo ple, he knew through Mov - ing wills. peo ple, them what he ci ples, Find - ing those he knew were lost. will God act and raise his voice. com - pa - ny Text: John L. Bell (1949-). Tune: JESUS CALLS US, adapt. from a Gaelic Air by John L. Bell (1949-) © 1989, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Motet comes from the Latin "motectum" meaning movement and refers to the movement of the various voices in this form of vocal composition.

This closing prayer is called the "Doxology", which comes from the Greek word "doxalogia" meaning "words of glory." We say this prayer to proclaim that worshipping God together has made a difference in our lives. Motet: "Locus Iste" (Anton Bruckner)

Locus iste a Deo factus est, inaestimabile sacramentum, irreprehensibilis est.

**Prayer after Communion** 

This place was made by God, a priceless sacrament; it is without reproach.

Please rise as you are able

Priest: Living God,
in this sacrament we have shared in your eternal kingdom.
May we who taste this mystery
forever serve you in faith, hope, and love.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
All: Amen.

The Doxology

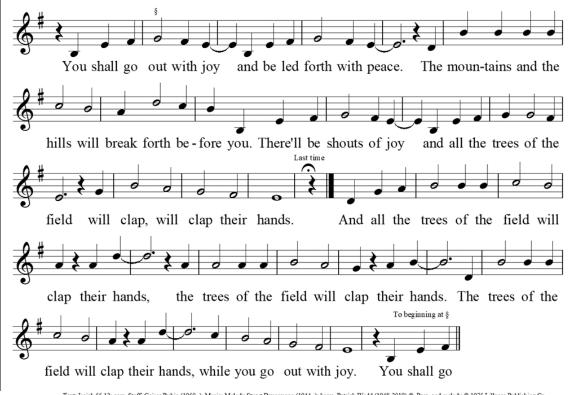
# Priest: Glory to God, All: whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Announcements

Please be seated

Departing Hymn: #662 (Common Praise) "You Shall Go Out With Joy"

Please rise as you are able and sing



Text: Isaiah 55.12; para. Steffi Geiser Rubin (1950- ). Music: Melody Stuart Dauermann (1944- ); harm. Patrick Wedd (1948-2019) ©. Para. and melody © 1975 Lillenas Publishing Co. (Administered by The Copyright Company, Nashville, TN). All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission.

#### The Dismissal

## Deacon: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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### WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday, July 23 (Proper 16A)

**9** AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

10:30 AM – Holy Eucharist (in the Church and through YouTube)

7 PM – Taizé (in the Church and through YouTube)

**8 PM** – Compline (on Zoom only)

#### Sunday, July 30 (Proper 17A)

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

10:30 AM – Holy Eucharist (in the Church and through YouTube)

7 PM – Taizé (in the Church and through YouTube)

8 PM – Compline (on Zoom only)

In the dismissal we affirm that we are now strengthened and nurtured to be sent out into the many circumstances of our lives to be agents of God's grace.