

Welcome to  
**Sunriver Christian**  
**fellowship**

An Ecumenical Ministry Sponsored by the Episcopal and Lutheran Churches



The Holy Eucharist  
in Celebration of  
the Fifteenth Sunday  
After Pentecost

September 1, 2024  
10 a.m.

# Order of Service

The Rev. Mary Anne Gard, *Celebrant & Preacher*  
Rob Pearson & Mitzi Putney, *Keyboardists*; Don Udlock, *Song Leader*

Linda Smith *Lector*

**Bell Toll** *The ringing of the bells call us to worship and quiets our minds and voices.*

**Prelude** *A time to prepare for worship.* **For the Beauty of The Earth** arr. D. Wolford

## **Welcome & Announcements**

Rev. Mary Anne

Please stand as you are able.

## **Opening Words**

*Celebrant* Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

*All* **The brightness of God's light shines upon all nations. All are welcomed to the brightness of God's dawn.**

*Celebrant* God gathers us from far away and carries us. With radiant eyes, with rejoicing hearts, we receive the abundance God gives.

*All* **We respond in praise. With our gifts, with our very selves, we worship God.**

*Celebrant* To refashion the fabric of this world until it resembles the shape of your kingdom,

*All* **Jesus, now lead on.**

## **Opening Hymn**

**Praise to You, O God of Mercy** W&P #119, OneLicense.net A-740306

1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
2. From of old you loved and sought us! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
3. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly; thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
Truth and jus - tice you have taught us; thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly; thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -

D.C. al coda

mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

## **The Confession and Absolution**

*Celebrant* Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness: to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others and the life of the world.

*All* **May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.**

*Celebrant* Amen.

*All* **Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness: to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world.**

*Celebrant* May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

*All* **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Move among us, O God; and fill us with your spirit.

*All* **With your spirit of freedom sustain us.**

## **Collect**

*Celebrant* Some religious people were embarrassed - they did not know the company Jesus kept, and never knew what he would do next. Jesus said: How dare you wrap God up in good behavior, and tell the poor that they should be like you? How can you live at ease with riches and success, while those I love go hungry and are oppressed? It really is for such a time as this that I was given breath. His words were dangerous, not safe or tidy. (from the Celtic Daily Prayer book)

*All* **Amen.**

Please be seated.

## **The Scripture Lessons**

Linda Smith

*Lector* **A Reading from *Deuteronomy* 4:1-2, 6-9**

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children. *The Word of the Lord.*

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

A Moment for Meditation

**Psalm 15** Please read responsively.

- 1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
**who may abide upon your holy hill?**
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
**who speaks the truth from his heart.**
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
**he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.**
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
**but he honors those who fear the Lord.**
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
**and does not take back his word.**
- 6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
**nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.**
- 7 Whoever does these things \*  
**shall never be overthrown.**

*Lector* A reading from *James 1:17-27*

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world. *The Word of the Lord.*

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

A Moment for Meditation

*Lector* Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

**The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23***

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*Lector* When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands,

that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.” *The Gospel of the Lord.*

**People Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated.

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**Musical Reflection:**

**Because He Lives** W. & G. Gaither, arr. J Purifoy Pastor Rob

**Sermon**

Rev. Mary Anne

Please stand as you are able.

**Sermon Response Hymn**

**Thy Word** W&P #144, OneLicense.net

*Refrain*

1. Thy word is a lamp un - to my feet and a light un - to my path.

1. When I feel a - fraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right be - side me, and  
2. I will not for - get your love for me, and yet my heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.

noth - ing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me  
Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to your side, I will love you

Back to Refrain

to the end.  
to the end.

**The Iona Creed** (Iona Abbey Worship Book)

*Lector* Together let us affirm our faith.

*All* **We believe in God above us, Maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree. A man of sorrows, he died forsaken. He descended into the earth to the place of death. On the third day he rose from the tomb.**

**He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present, and his kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the Church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.**

Please be seated.

**Prayers of the People**

*Lector* Let us be a church with porous borders that welcomes all in, and sends out healing to the world. In humility we ask:

*All* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Lector* Strengthen us with faithful ministers of your Word and sacraments so that we are prepared to shine your light in darkness. In quiet we ask:

*All* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Lector* Raise up world leaders who will guide nations with truth, justice and compassion, and stand up for those who can't speak for themselves. In empathy we ask:

*All* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Lector* Help us to be more sensitive to the needs of our earth and the courage to help her survive and thrive. In sunlight we ask:

*All* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Lector* For all the people who suffer and all those who grieve, and those who have asked us for prayers: Amy R., Judy S., Tina S., Oralee H., Joseph H., Robert M., Melissa J., Clair S., Dave & Katie R., Sheree, Richard K., Jan M., Karin B., Carol W., Shirley & Gary C., Andy E., Benjamin C., Carol D., Madelyn G., Thomas W., Sierra G., Scott J., Lauren B., Clyde B., Patty & Al K., Dave & Nancy V., Carol F., Jennie F., Erik E., Lynne E., Betsy M., Amber F., Olivia L., and Aedan V.

In hope we ask:

*All* **Lord, hear our prayer.**

*Lector* We remember those who have gone before us into the arms of eternal love. In gratitude we ask:

*All* **Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

### **The Peace**

*Celebrant* Not an easy peace, not a conditional peace, not a half-hearted peace, but the peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

### **Offering**

***People Need The Lord*** arr. P. McHugh & G. Nelson

Please stand as you are able.

### **Offertory Response**

### ***The Doxology***

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

### **The Holy Communion**

*Celebrant* Beloved, the table of Christ is now ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of our fellowship, symbol of the promise that we belong and are welcome.

So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have ever felt excluded and you who have always felt at home; you who have followed Jesus and you who have fallen short.

Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here...

*(a moment of silence)*

On the night of your arrest, Blessed Jesus, you took bread, and having given thanks, you broke it and gave it to your disciples, saying, "This is my body, given to you."

After supper, you took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to your disciples and said, "Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant. Do this as often as you drink in remembrance of me."

*All* **Loving God, through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. May we know your presence in the sharing of these gifts so that we may know your touch in all matter. We celebrate the life Jesus has shared through the centuries and shares with us now. Made one with Christ and one with each other, we offer these gifts, and with them, ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Amen**

*Celebrant* Hear us, O Christ, and breathe your Spirit upon us, and upon this bread and wine. May they become for us your body and blood, vibrant with your life, healing, renewing and making us whole. And as the bread, which we now eat, and this wine, which we now drink, is changed into us, may we be changed again into you, bone of your bones, heart of your heart, loving and caring in the world.

*Celebrant* As Jesus taught us, together we pray:

*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, forever and ever. *Amen.***

### **The Fraction**

*Celebrant* He who was buried but was raised from the dead is present to us in this bread and wine. The gifts of God for the people of God. Holy food for holy people.

Please be seated

### **Communion**

#### **The Distribution**

Please be seated until the usher indicates that it is time for your row to go forward.

All are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood.

If you prefer a blessing, come forward with your arms crossed in front of you.

If you wish to receive Communion at your seat, please notify an usher.

You may respond with "Amen" as you receive Communion.

### **Meditation after Communion** (Stephen Charleston - Choctaw Elder and retired Episcopal Bishop)

*Celebrant* I sincerely doubt I will ever start my own religion, but I have had some fun imagining what it would be like if I did. First off, instead of dietary laws where there were some foods you could not eat, in my religion I would encourage eating everything. Literally. Everything. Especially chocolate. Chocolate would actually be sacramental. And we would have a lot of special holidays, probably a couple of hundred or so. Of course, no work allowed on those special days. We would need a little gray area on "sin", so sloth would have to be reconsidered as not necessarily being such a bad thing. Our clergy would also be pastry chefs, so our religious services would include a nice buffet. Think of high tea if it was a religion. Finally, there would be no doctrine of hell, but if you are bad you will be put on hold by customer service. Same thing.

Please stand as you are able.

### **The Blessing**

*Celebrant* Live without fear: your creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always.

*All*

**Amen.**



## **Closing Hymn**

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

## **Dismissal**

All           **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

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Coffee is served today by Sally Heise.

**Celebrant next week:** The Rev. Roy Green, **Preacher next week:** Pastor Frank Brocker

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **GUEST BOOK**

We would love it if our guests would sign the guest book with your full mailing address. It is located in the lobby on the counter by the coffee bar.

### **STEWARDSHIP**

Stewardship is a gift of self. It's a lifestyle based on gratitude for all that God has given us and then generously sharing those gifts with the understanding that we are stewards of these.

### **SOCKS AND UNDERWEAR FOR THREE RIVERS SCHOOL**

UPCAP is collecting socks and underwear for students. Please place your donations in the box near the entry coat rack

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Community Chili Feed, Sunday September 29th, 2024 at 5pm here at SCF. Bring a neighbor. Please RSVP at [chili@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:chili@sunriverchristianfellowship.org) or contact Barb Purcell. All are welcome. Donations will be accepted. We have three Chili experts making three different chilis. Please join us.

### **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

The next Red Cross Blood Drive at SCF will be October 15th 10am - 4pm. Right now there is a dramatic shortage in the blood supply. If you are able to give it will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Vicki Udlock [vudlock@gmail.com](mailto:vudlock@gmail.com) to schedule a time slot. We are also in need of two volunteers to help that day.

### **WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SCF?**

Do you wonder what's happening at SCF, or when something is happening? You can find out by going on our website and looking at the calendar. Go to <https://sunriverchristianfellowship.org/> and click on CALENDAR at the top of the page. At the top of the calendar next to the month name, are two arrows. Click on those to go forward or backward to other months. You might be surprised at how much is happening!

### **UPCOMING MEMORIAL SERVICES**

Terry Thomas Celebration of Life on Saturday, September 14, at 3:00 p.m., at SCF.

Doug Gardiner Celebration of Life on Saturday, October 5, at 1:30 p.m. at SCF.

## **UPCOMING SERVICES**

September 8: The Rev. Roy Green, Celebrant; Pastor Frank Brocker, Preacher  
September 15: Pastor Mark Brocker  
September 22: The Rev. Chuck Christopher  
September 29: Pastor Rob Pearson

## **OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESSES**

The office is using our new email addresses. Please update them in your computer.  
Please send general emails to: [info@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:info@sunriverchristianfellowship.org).  
Please send emails specifically for Rob to: [rpearson@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:rpearson@sunriverchristianfellowship.org).  
Please send emails for Joan Lewis to: [officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org).

## **OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 25**

Please send articles to Joan Lewis: [officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org).

## **SCF MANAGING BOARD:**

The SCF Managing Board meets monthly, on the fourth Tuesday of the month, at SCF, 1:30 p.m. The next meeting is September 24. All are welcome to attend.

**Dr. Robert Pearson, Associate Pastor: Worship & Education ▪ 541-593-1183**  
**Joan Lewis: SCF Office Manager ▪ 541-593-1183 ▪ [officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org)**  
**Assisting Pastors: Frank Brocker, Mark Brocker, Chuck Christopher, Mary Anne Gard, Roy Green, Erika Spaet**  
**Ministers: *The Congregation***  
**Mailing Address: 18160 Cottonwood Road, PMB 266 · Sunriver, OR 97707-9317**  
**Office Phone: 541-593-1183 · E-mail: [info@sunriverchristianfellowship.org](mailto:info@sunriverchristianfellowship.org)**  
**Web: [www.sunriverchristianfellowship.org](http://www.sunriverchristianfellowship.org) · Facebook: [sunriverchristianfellowshipchurch](https://www.facebook.com/sunriverchristianfellowshipchurch)**