

**16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
GATHER IN GOD’S NAME**

(\*=**please stand if you are able**)

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez**

**OPENING PRAYER**

L: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

**P: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God.**

**HYMN OF THE MONTH**

**“IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS”**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

God knows us completely. God knows our hearts and discerns our thoughts. Let us then confess what we carry within us that does not honor God or God’s path of righteousness

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God, although we honor you with our words and worship, our hearts are often far from you. We are quick to judge, quick to exclude, quick to put others down instead of building them up. Forgive us, God. Help us amend our ways. Help us embrace the inclusive love you graciously offer us and expect us to offer others. Amen.**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

**ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**“THE GLORY OF THE LORD”**

When the glory of the Lord fills this holy temple, He will lift us high.

And on angels’ wings we’ll rise to the pure and holy, when His Spirit fills this place.

When His glory, when His glory, when His glory fills this place.

When His glory, when His glory, when His glory fills this place.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Open us, Eternal God, to your Word read and proclaimed. Help us not to turn from your truth or avoid and distract ourselves from your message. Help us be receptive to the wisdom you offer in this worship moment.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

ISAIAH 35:1-7a

The desert and the dry land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom like the crocus. They will burst into bloom, and rejoice with joy and singing. They will receive the glory of Lebanon, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the Lord’s glory, the splendor of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and support the unsteady knees. Say to those who are panicking: “Be strong! Don’t fear! Here’s your God, coming with vengeance; with divine retribution God will come to save you.” Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be cleared. Then the lame will leap like the deer, and the tongue of the speechless will sing. Waters will spring up in the desert, and streams in the wilderness. The burning sand will become a pool, and the thirsty ground, fountains of water. The jackals’ habitat, a pasture; grass will become reeds and rushes.

L: This is the word of God. **P: Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM:**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

JAMES 1:17-27

Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all. He chose to give us birth by his true word, and here is the result: we are like the first crop from the harvest of everything he created. Know this, my dear brothers and sisters: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to grow angry. This is because an angry person doesn’t produce God’s righteousness. Therefore, with humility, set aside all moral filth and the growth of wickedness, and welcome the word planted deep inside you—the very word that is able to save you. You must be doers of the word and not only hearers who mislead themselves. Those who hear but don’t do the word are like those who look at their faces in a mirror. They look at themselves, walk away, and immediately forget what they were like. But there are those who study the perfect law, the law of freedom, and continue to do it. They don’t listen and then forget, but they put it into practice in their lives. They will be blessed in whatever they do. If those who claim devotion to God don’t control what they say, they mislead themselves. Their devotion is

worthless. True devotion, the kind that is pure and faultless before God the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their difficulties and to keep the world from contaminating us.

L: This is the word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

“EVERY GOOD GIFT, EVERY PERFECT GIFT...”

Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez

**HYMN GTG# 332**

**EHP 381**

**“THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD”**

**“LA MANO DE DIOS”**

***THE EUCHARIST***

**\*INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**\*BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**HYMN (SEE INSERT)**

**“TIME NOW TO GATHER”**

**COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

We have more to offer than we recognize or realize. God has given us abundant gifts. Let us faithfully respond to our generous God, by presenting our tithes and offering

***RESPOND IN GRACE***

**“GOD IS HERE TODAY”**

God is here today;

as certain as the air I breathe,

as certain as the morning sun that rises,

as certain when I sing you’ll hear my song.

**\* DOXOLOGY**

**“¡GLORIA! ¡GLORIA!”**

¡Gloria! ¡Gloria! a Jesús Salvador nuestro.

¡Canta, tierra! Canta su gran amor.

¡Gloria! ¡Gloria! Ángeles santos del cielo,

A su nombre den eternal loor.

Cuenta cómo él descendió del cielo

A nacer y en vida sufrir dolor.

¡Gloria! ¡Gloria! Ángeles santos del cielo

A su nombre den eternal loor.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Holy God, how often we take for granted all that we have. How often we fail to recognize how blessed we are. Take these gifts we give in response to your generosity and use them to further Christ’s mission and ministry in a hurting world. Amen.

**\*LORD’S PRAYER**

**HYMN GTG #300**

**EHP #223**

**“WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT”**

**“SOMOS UNO EN ESPÍRITU”**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BENEDICTION**

God is Good! All the time! All the Time! God is Good!

May we leave this house of worship today, following God’s Spirit into the world, calling us to an inclusive, barrier-breaking love. May the grace, hope, peace and love of God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with you now and always. Amen.

**THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

**People: And also with you**

**AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of mercy, The earth groans as our climate continues to warm and change. We are weary of disaster. We are tense with concern. We feel helpless as we watch each evening's news. Hear us, O God, as we share ourselves, our prayers, our hopes with you. Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence as we lift these petitions to you today.

We pray for students newly returned to school. We pray for their curiosity, imagination and intellect to bloom. We pray that they persevere through every new challenge, that they take advantage of their education, that they work hard to develop their emerging skills. We pray also for parents and teachers navigating the transition out of summer and into this new academic year. Bless these, we pray, with your wisdom and grace.

We pray for our nation during this volatile election season. May our leaders be led by your wisdom; may they clearly discern your will and seek to follow it. May we not wage war with words and demeaning rhetoric, entrenching us into further divisiveness, but find ways to speak our truth in love, remembering that all are a part of the Beloved Community.

We pray for the suffering across our globe. We pray for peace in the Middle East and for the Ukrainian people to enjoy the freedom and dignity they deserve. We pray for all those who are forced to endure violence, destruction and abuse. Save us, God, from sectarian thinking that leads us to believe others' problems are not our own. Remind us of our interdependence, that the suffering of some, is the suffering of us all.

Mighty and merciful God, we claim your promise of restoration for all who suffer. We glorify you for your constant presence, help and hope. May your world and all who live in it be renewed through the power of the risen Christ and those committed to being Christ's hands and feet in a hurting world.

United as a family of faith and as the Body of Christ we lift these prayers up to you, God. Finally, hear us pray the prayer Christ taught us, saying, "Our Father..."

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024**



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***"A multicultural congregation worshipping together  
where Jesus Christ is Lord; where men, women, and  
children share in leadership; and where the strength  
of our fellowship builds bridges to the community."***

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For offerings please scan the QR code below



## **EVENTS HAPPENING IN 2024**

**In person hybrid worship** is at 11AM back in the Fellowship Hall

Zoom link is as follows:

By Computer

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 870 270 865

One tap mobile

+16465588656

**Drumming Program** for September will be on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at 6PM.

**Hybrid English Bible Study** will be Thursday September 12<sup>th</sup> at 11AM in the fellowship or feel free to join us through zoom.

Zoom Link bible study

By computer

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 376 838 854

One tap mobile

+16465588656,Spanish

**Spanish Bible Study** will return on Wednesday September 11<sup>th</sup>

**Coffee Hour** following worship today.

**Next Session Meeting** Monday September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7PM

**Mission Team Meeting** September 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM at the Patio in Briarcliff

**Next Worship Team Meeting** Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM.

**Pastor Jeniffer will be away** September 22<sup>nd</sup>- September 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Conversation about Holy Cow Assessment** with consultant Michelle Snyder on Monday October 7, 2024 at 7PM via zoom. Please write it down on your calendars.

**Please Share your tithes and offerings** using the QR code below



### **Prayers and Praise**

Please prayer for our Nation

Please pray for everyone in leadership

Please pray for children/ families

Please pray for the Otu family

Please pray for the Supina/Ruess family

Please pray for the Sevilla family

Please pray for people struggling with cancer for healing

Please pray for people struggling with mental health

Please pray for leaders, people in a position of authority

Please pray for the Denzer Family

Please pray for Heather Blenkinsopp

Please pray for the Carretta family

Please pray for the Yumart family

Pleaser pray for the Sippel family

Please pray for the Quinoy family

Please pray for Joy and Teresa Zeiden

Please pray for Boateng family

Please pray for Kiara Taylor's family

Please pray for Bruce and family

Please pray for Nancy Marin

Please pray for Bob

Please pray for Curtis

Please pray for the Bonapace family

Please pray for peace in the world

Please pray for Warren's family

Please pray for Diana Behan and family.

## **Praise Songs and Hymns**

### **IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS**

Come let us worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Come let us worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Give Him the honor. Give Him the praise.

Come let us worship the Lord; Let's give Him the praise.

Worship Him. Worship Him.

Give my God the glory. Give my God the praise.

Worship Him. Worship Him.

Come let us worship the Lord; Let's give Him the praise.

### **THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD / LA MANO DE DIOS**

The right hand of God  
is writing in our land,  
writing with power and with love;  
our conflicts and our fears,  
our triumphs and our tears,  
are recorded by the right hand of God.

The right hand of God  
is pointing in our land,  
pointing the way we must go;  
so clouded is the way,  
so easily we stray,  
but we're guided by the right hand of God.

La mano de Dios en nuestro mundo está  
Actuando con gracia y con poder  
La Iglesia debe ver el gran acontecer  
de la poderosa mano de Dios

La mano de Dios en nuestro mundo está  
Derribando estructuras de opresión.  
He aquí la destrucción de toda explotación  
por la poderosa mano de Dios.

### **TIME NOW TO GATHER**

Time now to gather, time now to feel  
Christ's holy presence gracing this meal.  
Grain from the harvest, fruit of the vine;  
Simple the supper, sacred the sign.

Time to remember Christ who was sent.  
Time to say, "Thank you" for all he meant,  
Come to this table, Come, without fear.  
God will forgive you, welcome you here.

**WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT / SOMOS UNO EN ESPÍRITU**

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;  
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:

Refrain:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love,  
by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;  
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: (Refrain)

Somos uno en espíritu y en el Señor,  
Somos uno en espíritu y en el Señor,  
Y rogamos que un día se complete la unión.

Estribillo:

Y que somos cristianos lo sabrán, lo sabrán,  
Porque unidos estamos en amor.

Marcharemos tomados de la mano en amor,  
Marcharemos tomados de la mano en amor.  
Anunciando que en esta tierra vive y obra Dios. (Estribillo)