

Worship for September 5
15th Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

With what shall we come before the Holy One, and bow ourselves before God on high?

What does the Holy One require of us, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God?

Micah 6: 6 – 8

OPENING MUSIC – Prelude in E-flat, J.S. Bach
Michael Parker, piano

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
we confess that 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 and soul
and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy,
forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.

Book of Common Worship

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

HYMN – *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*, Hymn 610, verses 1,2,3,5

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION – Video from Cindy Lee

SCRIPTURE READING – James 2: 1 – 17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? ⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

SERMON – *Walking the Talk*

Rev. Scott Lawson

**ANTHEM – Blessed Assurance, arr. Mark Hayes
Michael Parker, piano**

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Offering boxes are available at the back of the sanctuary. Gifts may also be made online at starmountpres.org.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In our relationships with one another, we are called to have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2: 6-11

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN - *For Everyone Born*, Hymn 769, verses 1,3,4,5

BENEDICTION