

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, July 13, 2025



Welcome to St. Simon's

I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. (John 10:10)

St. Simon's exists so that everyone can experience the abundant life Jesus came to bring. While there are many, many ways God's abundance comes to us, here at St. Simon's we understand our call to help each other and our neighbors...

- ... experience delight and joy as a way to connect with God.
- ...have basic needs met as a way to be safe.
- ...enjoy connection to community as a way to avoid loneliness.

If you are here today, you belong, no matter where you are on your journey of faith. St. Simon's is a joyful and hopeful congregation that invites everyone to this abundant life, doubts and questions included. Please feel free to participate as fully in the worship of God as you wish. Lift your voice in praise, respond to the prayers and readings, and come to the altar for communion or a blessing. Or, if you prefer, sit back quietly and allow God's Spirit to speak to you in the way that feels most comfortable.

Wherever you find yourself on the journey, there is a place for you here. May you encounter God in this community.

The Holy Eucharist

* Indicates the assembly stands, if able. All portions of the service in **Bold** are spoken by the assembly.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

We are here because Jesus has called us strangers and friends, locals and visitors, believers and doubters, the certain and the curious.

It is always a mixed company that Jesus gathers and invites to his table where, in bread and wine, he meets us and through him we, who are different, Are joined to each other.

So come, not because you understand, but because you are understood.

Come, not because of how you feel, but because God has food for you.

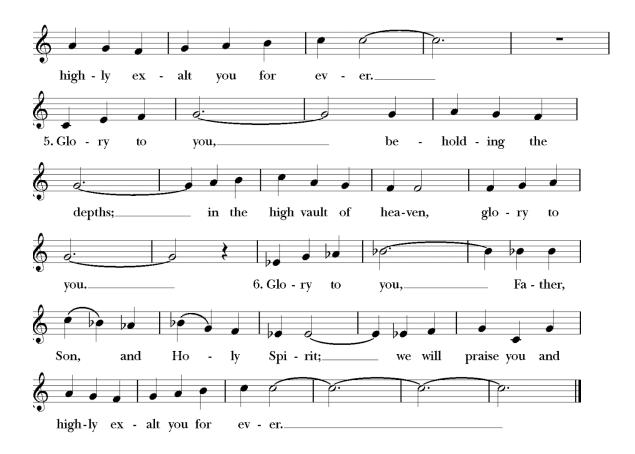
Come, Not because you deserve a place, but because Jesus invites you, just as you are.



Blessed be God: the Author, the Only-Begotten, and the Gift. And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

0 0 1. Glo - ry Lord to you, God of praise; wor - thy you are of the ages; ÞÓ 20 0 0 glo - ry 2. Glo - ry to to you._ you_ the ra - di-ance of your for ho - ly Name;_____ we will high - ly ex - alt you praise you and for ev er._ splen - dor of your 3. Glo - ry in the to you_ throne of your tem - ple; the ma - jes-ty, glo - ry on to 00. 20 4. Glo - ry seat - ed bet you. to you, br will praise you and the Cher bim;_ ween u we

The Gloria



The Word of God

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that we may know and understand what things we ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The Assembly is seated

The First Lesson

A reading from the book of Amos.

This is what the Lord God showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by;

the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,

'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'''

And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, `Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'

"Now therefore hear the word of the Lord.

Amos 7:7-17

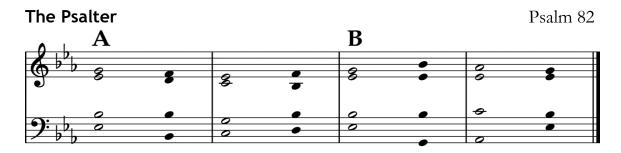
You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not preach against the house of Isaac.'

Therefore thus says the Lord:

Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city, and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword, and your land shall be parceled out by line;

you yourself shall die in an unclean land, and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.""

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.



God stands in heaven's <u>court</u> to judge all other <u>gods</u>: "How long will you gods pervert the <u>truth</u> and side with the <u>wicked</u>?

Hand down justice to orphans and the <u>weak</u>, uphold the rights of the poor and op-<u>pressed</u>. Free the weak and <u>needy</u> from the grip of the <u>wicked</u>."

These gods know <u>nothing</u>, they wander in the dark while the world falls to <u>pieces</u>.

"I had thought of you as gods, born of the highest <u>heaven</u>, but you will die like any creature and fall like any <u>prince</u>."

The Second Lesson

Colossians 1:1-14

A reading from the letter to the Colossians.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the

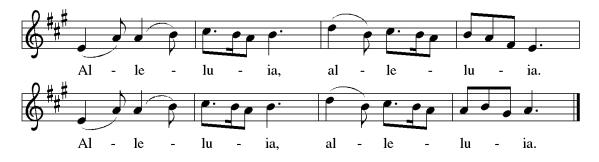
Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.

The Assembly stands as they are able to face the Gospeler.

*The Gospel Procession

All join in singing several times both before and after the gospel.



*The Holy Gospel

Luke 10:25-37

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, `Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon A period of silence is shared after the sermon.

Jenny Hulen

*The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Recognizing God is always present and active in the events of our world and our lives, let us welcome all we experience, consenting to God's action in whatever circumstance we find ourselves.

We open ourselves to the present moment and embrace what is *(Silence)*

We welcome fear and anxiety, inviting God's presence in them *(Silence)*

We welcome joy and delight, recognizing God's face there (Silence)

We welcome brokenness and vulnerability, resting in God's tenderness toward us and those we love. We especially hold Jan Becker, Mike Bruce, Deborah Filipek, Sharon Grieger, Sandra Janowski, Sunita Johnston, Bonnie Liess, Jerry Shields, and Maria Whelan in your light *(Silence)*

We welcome the memory of all those we love but see no more *(Silence)*

We hold our enemies in compassion *(Silence)*

We release our need to control and our fear of the unknown *(Silence)*

We surrender our judgments and expectations *(Silence)*

We let go of our desire for esteem and approval *(Silence)*

We consent to your action in us and in the world around us, offering ourselves to you and to each other. Through Christ our brother, with the aid of the Holy Spirit we pray. **Amen**

The Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

*God of all mercy, | we confess that we have sinned against you, | opposing your will in our lives. | We have denied your goodness in each other, | in ourselves, and in the world you have created. | We repent of the evil that enslaves us, | the evil we have done, | and the evil done on our behalf. | Forgive, restore, and strengthen us | through our Savior Jesus Christ, | that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

*The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you. And also with you.

The Ministers and Assembly stand to greet one another in the peace of Christ.

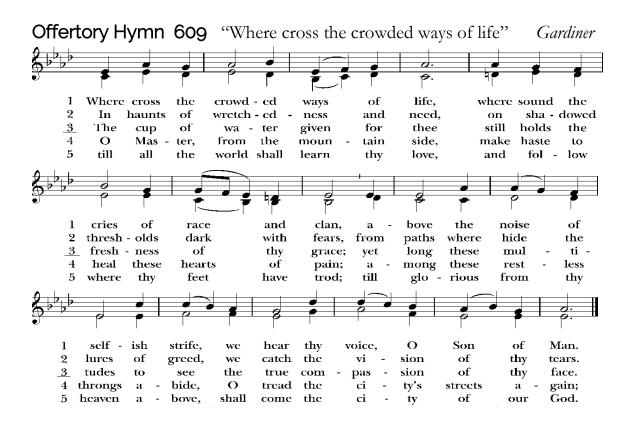
Blessing Birthdays and Anniversaries

All those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries of any kind are invited to add their name to the chat on Zoom or feed on Facebook

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Engagement Opportunities

Offertory Text 73256 to give. In the body of the text type saintsimons



*Presentation of the Gifts



*The Great Thanksgiving

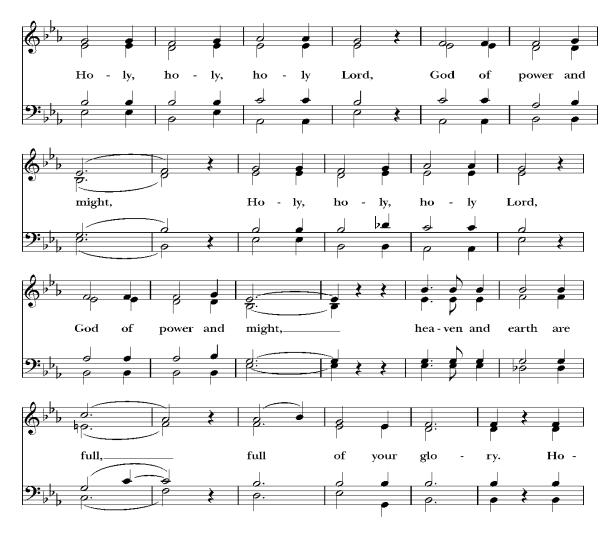
The Lord be with you And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise.

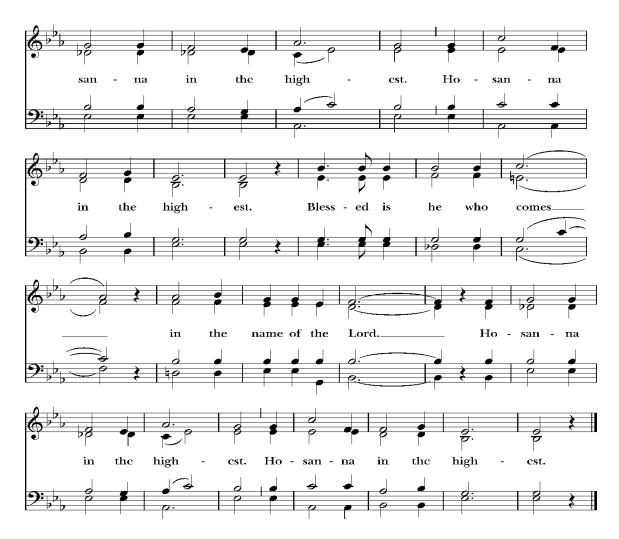
It is indeed right to give you thanks, Holy One, for you made us, and before us, you made the world we inhabit, and before the world, you made the eternal home in which, through Christ, we have a place.

All that is spectacular, all that is plain, have their origin in you; all that is lovely, all who are loving, point to you as their fulfillment. And grateful as we are for the world we know, we particularly praise you, whom eternity cannot contain, for coming to earth and entering time in Jesus.

For his life which informs our living, for his compassion which changes our hearts, for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities, for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering; his fearless dying, and his rising to life breathing forgiveness, we praise you and worship him.

Here too our gratitude rises for the promise of the Holy Spirit, who even yet, even now, confronts us with your claims and attracts us to your goodness. Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven,





Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it and said, "This is my body, broken for you."

Later he took a cup of wine and said, "This is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Take it, all of you, to remember me."

Merciful God, send now in kindness your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. Let that same Spirit rest on us, converting us from the patterns of this world, until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share.

By Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Holy God, throughout all the ages of ages.

AMEN.

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, | for ever and ever. | Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread.

Bread of the World in mercy broken.

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

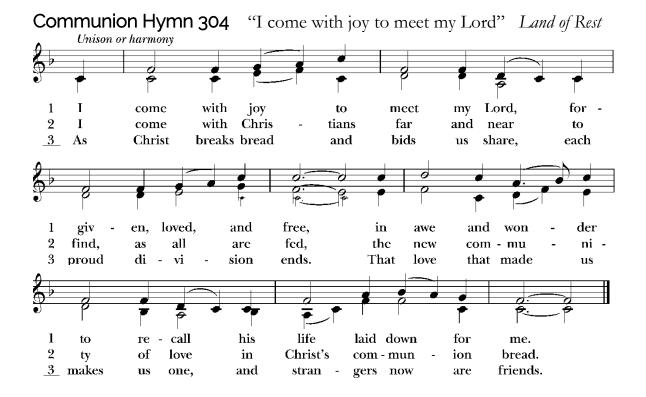
A period of silence is kept.

Behold what you are. May we become what we receive.

The Presider and those worshipping online consume the host together with these words: **The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.**

Everyone has a place at God's table and all are invited to share in communion. You may stand or kneel at the rail. Wine is offered in individual cups around the outside of the tray. Grape juice is offered in the middle. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please tell the priest. If you would like to participate but do not wish to receive the bread and wine, simply cross your arms across your chest and the priest will give you a blessing instead.

Both the common cup (chalice) and individual cups are offered. Join the line for the chalice on the left (pulpit) side or the line on the right (screen) side to receive the individual cups. Grape juice is available in the individual cups.



*Post Communion Prayer

*Let us pray.

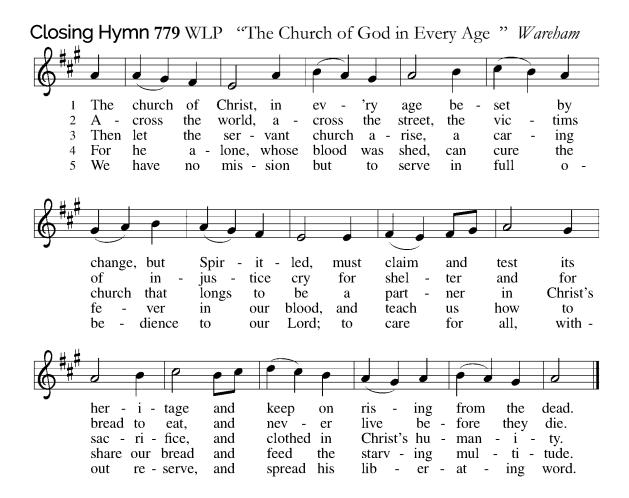
Eternal God, heavenly Father, |you have graciously accepted us as living members |of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, |and you have fed us with spiritual food |in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. |Send us now into the world in peace, |and grant us strength and courage | to love and serve you |with gladness and singleness of heart; | through Christ our Lord. Amen.

When members of the community are unable to attend the service, representatives of the people are sent with bread and wine to extend our communion with them.

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

*The Blessing

May the wind of the Spirit startle your senses and blow through your life; may the fire of the Spirit scorch your complacency and light your way. And may the blessing of the Holy One— Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer rest with you now and forever more. **Amen.**



Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

LIVE-STREAM NOTICE

A reminder, this public service will be live-streamed and your image or the image of any children or vulnerable adults in your care may appear in the video. By your entry and presence in this service, you agree on behalf of yourself and any children or vulnerable adults attending with you to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded, and also agree to our use of such images in any and all media.

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St. Simon's Episcopal Church 717 W. Kirchhoff Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

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Parish Office Hours ~ Monday—Thursday ~ 9:00am—3:00pm

The Rt. Rev. Paula Clark, Bishop of the Diocese of Chicago

The Rev. Jennifer Hulen, Rector Jo Gantzer, Associate for Parish Ministry

Today's Service Leaders

Presider & Preacher	The Rev. Jenny Hulen
Crucifer	Sara Lewandowski
Chalice Minister	Jo Gantzer
Readers	Mark Leimbeck
	John Pope
Intercessor	Deborah Dresser
Ushers	Paricia Grund Cleo Nykol
Altar Guild	Bari Flores
Porter	Alan Medsker
Organist	Joyce Robinson
Technical Production Team	Brian Kuczynski