

# THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 27, 2023

9:30 a.m.

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*“Parables are the most subversive literary forms, whose goal is to undermine the world in which they are spoken.” John Dominic Crossan*

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## WE GATHER AROUND GOD’S WORD

ORGAN PRELUDE Bobbi Hunter  
*The King of Love My Shepherd Is...* Raymond Haan

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively) Lou Pennebaker

Leader: Those who do the will of God are Christ’s mother and sisters and brothers.

**People: There are no outcasts in the family of God.**

Leader: For all of you are one in Christ Jesus our Lord,

**People: There are no dividing walls of hostility in the kingdom of God.**

Leader: For there will be a great multitude that no one can count,

**People: From every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages,**

Leader: Of all ages and abilities, every one of us made in God’s image.

**People: We are loved. We belong. We are the whole people of God.**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE No. 430  
*Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Merciful God, when we think of all the people Jesus ate with, we discover that they weren’t much different from us. Sometimes they were afraid of the unknown.**

**Sometimes they felt they needed to appear powerful and in control. Other times, they just needed to be told they were loved and cherished. They weren’t much different than us. Sometimes they messed up and needed to be forgiven. Sometimes they fell down and needed to be picked up.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison) .... Continued

**Other times they hurt others and had no idea the pain they caused another. What we know today is that your table is wide enough and big enough to accommodate all of us – just as we are!**

**Help us to show the same love and grace to others as we seek to follow the way of Jesus.**

**Loving one another. Forgiving each other. Enjoying everyone! Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

\* GLORIA PATRI No. 579

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Bob Kraut  
Luke 15:1-10 pg. 1623

SOLO Leland Morine  
*Alleluia...* Ferdinand Hummel  
Mollie Wakeman, accompanist

THE WORD INTERPRETED

*“The Lost Ones Gather” a skit by Jeffrey D. Higgins*

*Don Pollard, the lost son*

*Linda Pollard, the lost sheep*

*Lou Pennebaker, the lost coin*

MINISTRY OF THE WORD Rev. Renée Rico

**“Lost Things”**

*Short Stories by Jesus, Part 1*

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

A CONTEMPORARY READING Linda Pollard  
"The Lost Sheep Psalm" *Edward Hays*

\* HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 172  
*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

\* CLOSING HYMN No. 420  
*God of Grace and God of Glory*

\* BENEDICTION

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Inside Cover of Hymnal  
*Go Now in Peace...* Don Besig

ORGAN POSTLUDE Bobbi Hunter  
*God of Grace...* Paul Manz