

# 17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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## WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S WORD

♪ **Organ Prelude** · Bobbi Hunter

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* ... Paul Manz

We light the Christ candle as a center point of reference for our relationships and our love for the world.

**Call to Worship** (responsively) · Lou Pennebaker

Leader: We're accepted as we are.  
Through God's power, all is reconciled;

**People: Cast aside your doubts and fears.  
Peace and love freely offered here;**

Leader: Let us join our hearts as one,

**People: Christ has broken down the wall that separates us.**

\* ♪ **Hymn of Praise** · *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*  
No. 376

**Prayer of Confession** (in unison)

**Reconciling God, we ask you to help us open to compassion, for we are a divided world, and the conflict is waging even within us in this moment. Empower us, and invite us to "do unto ourselves and others" in ways that build up your kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven. We pray this in the name of Jesus, the Center That Holds, and in the power of the Spirit That Transforms. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

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

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

\* ♪ **Gloria Patri**

No. 579

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## \* **Passing of The Peace (responsively)**

Leader: ...Wait

**People: Breathe.**

Leader: Let the anxiety take a break for just a moment.

**People: Breathe again.**

Leader: We are not alone.

**People: Christ is with us.**

Leader: ...The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## Greetings and Announcements

### WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

#### Prayer of Illumination

#### Scripture Reading · Shari Plunkett

Romans 15:4-13 (pg. 1766)

#### ♪ **Anthem** · Chancel Choir

*Reach Out and Touch* ... Charles F. Brown

Richard Dinwiddie, director; Sharon Dinwiddie, accompanist

(CCLI #20405356)

#### Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:6-9 (pg. 1077)

#### Ministry of the Word · The Rev. Renée Rico

**"The Polarization Within: Compassion"**

*2nd in the Series "Do Unto Others"*

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## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

- \* **♪ Hymn of Response** · *Help Us Accept Each Other*  
No. 358

**Acknowledgment and Blessing of Offerings**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

- \* **♪ Closing Hymn** · *Lord Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*  
No. 538

- \* **Benediction**

- \* **♪ Congregational Response** · Go Now in Peace

**♪ Organ Postlude** · Bobbi Hunter  
*Lift High the Cross* ... Donald Busarow

