Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Year B September 5, 2021 INVITATION AND GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

We are all one in Christ, wherever we come from and whatever we look like. Give thanks to God for granting us eternal life.

*SCRIPTURE READING Colossians 3:1-11

* OPENING HYMN: #156.....I Love to Tell the Story (vs 1 & 3)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Today is a brand-new day! And with it comes God's unfailing love!

People: God is never absent from us. We are full of hope because God gives so freely.

Leader: We may be burdened with guilt, but forgiveness will come, just as sure as a new day when we accept God's love.

People: Our hearts are full of praise, forcing us to break forth into singing over God's great love!

* Let us pray (Congregation):

Most merciful God, who knows about our sin and who forgives us by your unfailing love: Come anew into our lives this day with your love that we may be encouraged to be faithful to you in thanksgiving for your love. We pray through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

* LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:

#170.....O How I Love Jesus

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Congregation)

Life can be such a burden, Lord, when we let our sin keep us from your love. Forgive us when we prolong our guilt by not accepting your mercy. Give us a desire to live in harmony with your love that we may experience the joy of salvation which comes with your love. In our Savior's name we pray. Amen.

* LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS: # 526..What a Friend We Have in Jesus

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God looks at us in our brokenness, And offers blessings to all who turn to the Lord. With the assurance of God's faithful love, Choose this day to be people of blessing.

*SCRIPTURE READING: Hosea 1:1-11

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD MADE FLESH: "God's Unfailing Love"

* RESPONSE TO THE WORD: #548In Christ There Is No East or West CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns` Let us pray: The Lord's Prayer

* PRAYER HYMN: # 2200 O Lord, Hear My Prayer

HOLY COMMUNION

* CLOSING HYMN: #666..... Shalom to You

* DISMISSAL BLESSING

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1st Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:1-11 (NKJV)

3 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.² Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

⁵ Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, ⁷ in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.

⁸But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, ¹⁰ and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him, ¹¹ where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.

2nd Scripture Reading: Hosea 1:1-11 (NKJV) 1 The word of the LORD that came to Hosea the son of Beeri, in the day of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.

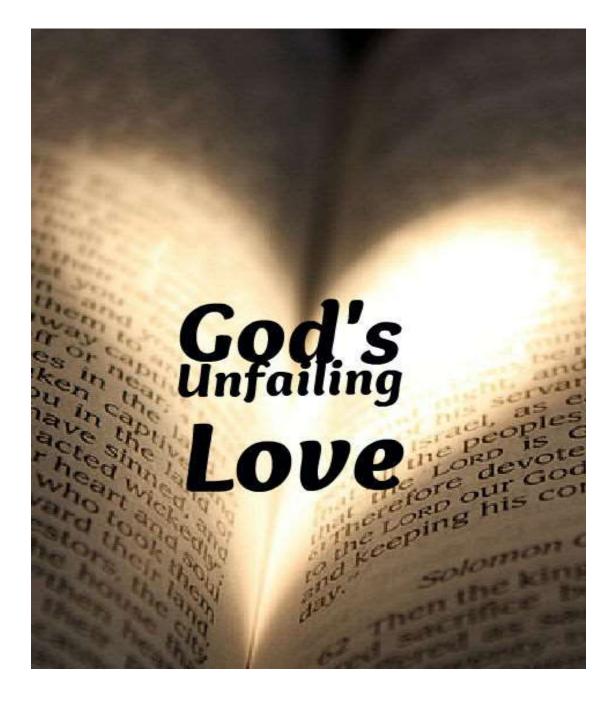
²When the LORD began to speak by Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea: "Go, take yourself a wife of harlotry and children of harlotry, for the land has committed great ^[a]harlotry by departing from the LORD."

³So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. ⁴Then the LORD said to him: "Call his name Jezreel, for in a little while I will avenge the bloodshed of Jezreel on the house of Jehu, and bring an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. ⁵ It shall come to pass in that day that I will break the bow of Israel in the Valley of Jezreel."

⁶ And she conceived again and bore a daughter. Then *God* said to him: "Call her name ^[b]Lo-Ruhamah, for I will no longer have mercy on the house of Israel, but I will utterly take them away. ⁷ Yet I will have mercy on the house of Judah, will save them by the LORD their God, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword or battle, by horses or horsemen."

⁸Now when she had weaned Lo-Ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. ⁹Then God said: "Call his name ^[d]Lo-Ammi, for you *are* not My people, and I will not be your *God*. ¹⁰ "Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them, 'You are [e] not My people,' there it shall be said to them, 'You are sons of the living God.' ¹¹ Then the children of Judah and the children of Israel shall be gathered together, and appoint for themselves one head; and they shall come up out of the land, for great *will be* the day of Jezreel!

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