

Prayer for Spiritual Formation

Leader:

A Prayer of Compassion, by Mother Teresa

“Lord, open our eyes, that we may see you in our brothers and sisters.
Lord, open our ears, that we may hear the cries of the hungry, the cold,
the frightened, the oppressed.

Lord, open our hearts, that we may love each other as you love us.

Renew in us your spirit.

Lord, free us and make us one.”

(Please observe a moment of Silence)

ALL: AMEN

BENEDICTION

Scattering Proclamation *(created by Reverend Nicole Collins)*

Leader: Gracious Lord Jesus, may our faith truly move mountains!

Help us to do so as we now scatter... In the name of the Father, † Son
& Holy Spirit

ALL AMEN *(Please make the sign of the Cross)*

† *Thank you for worshiping with us!* †

Reverend Nicole Collins † Pastor & Founder

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DISCIPLESHIP CENTER

The Grace Hub

† Sunday Morning Worship †
August 30th 2015

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**PRELUDE MUSIC
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

GATHERING WE CONFESS

(Composed by Reverend Nicole Collins)

(Please stand if able)

Leader: Today's Psalm sings of praise and promises from a grateful soul to live obediently to God's Will—¹²⁹“Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them. ¹³⁰The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.”

Please observe a moment of silence for reflection

ALL: Yes Lord, we agree—¹³¹*“With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments. ¹³²Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom toward those who love your name. ¹³³Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me. ¹³⁴Redeem me from human oppression, that I may keep your precepts.*

¹³⁵*Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.”*

Leader: Gracious and loving God, continue to unfold Your Gospel imperative within our ever-growing, transforming hearts.

ALL: Cleanse us with Your Living Word, that we may carry the Gospel with boldness and righteousness to proclaim Your peace and truth throughout the nations.

Please observe a moment of silence for reflection

Leader: Upon your confession & reflection, as a humble servant of the Living Word; I announce, in the witness of God—that you are forgiven of your transgressions. Live into this repentance through renewal. In

the Name of the Father, † Son & the Holy Spirit! Amen

(Please make the sign of the Cross) †

Scripture Lessons for the Morning *(please be seated)*

A Reading from Deuteronomy

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that

the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. ⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? ⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children—

Leader: *The Word of the Lord* ALL: Thanks Be to God

A Reading from St. Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Leader: *The Word of the Lord* ALL: Thanks Be to God

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

ALL: *Glory to You, O Lord*

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

¹⁷When he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸He said to them, “Then do you also fail to understand? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, ¹⁹since it enters, not the heart but the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰And he said, “It is what comes out of a person that defiles. ²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

**Leader: *The Word of the Lord* ALL: *Praise to You, O Christ*
Sermon by Pastor Nicole**

PEACE † PRAYER CIRCLE † HYMN OF THE DAY

HOLY COMMUNION

Please take this opportunity to reflect in your heart how this Means of Grace—Christ actual presence feeds and restores your soul. As St. Paul would say: Listen with your heart wide open. Then, TASTE, SEE & DELIGHT that the Lord is Good!

LORD’S PRAYER: Please recite what version is comfortable for you. (Please be seated)

The Disciple’s Creed (Based on a young Zimbabwe pastor)

ALL: I’m a part of the fellowship of the unashamed. The die has been cast. I have stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I’m a disciple of His and I won’t look back, let up, slow down, back away, or be still. My past is redeemed. My present makes sense. My future is secure. I’m done and finished with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tamed visions, mundane talking, cheap living, and dwarfed goals. I live by faith, lean on His presence, walk by patience, lift by prayer, and labor by Holy Spirit power. My face is set. My gait is fast. My goal is heaven. My road may be narrow, my way rough, my companions few, but my guide is reliable and my mission is clear. I will not be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice or hesitate in the presence of the adversary. I will not negotiate at the table of the enemy. I won’t give up, shut up, or let up until I have stayed up, stored up, prayed up, paid up, and preached up for the cause of Christ.

I am a disciple of Jesus. I must give until I drop, preach until all know, and work until He comes. And when He does come for His own, He’ll have no problems recognizing me. My colors will be clear!