

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla

Worship Service for the 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Sept. 21, 2025

Pre-Service Music: *Day by Day* - Anna Laura Page

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *Quiet Thoughts* - R. Kevin Boesiger

Introit #670: *From the Rising of the Sun* Ps. 113 Chancel Choir

Responsive Call to Worship/Prayer of the Day

Remember, O people, the needs of the poor and the suffering of the downtrodden, and hold to account all who are in high positions,

for God our Savior desires everyone to know the truth that they are loved.

God will raise the poor from the dust and make them sit with princes.

So let us offer supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings for everyone,

for the Lord is high above all nations, yet nothing is below God's notice.

There is one God; and in Christ Jesus one mediator between God and humankind, who gave himself a ransom for all. Praise the Lord!

Prayer of the Day

Great God, maker and reconciler of the earth and all that dwells here, champion of the poor, who humbles the proud, draw all people into new unity with you. May we know to whom we belong and act faithfully to care for what you have entrusted to us. Help us all, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name. Amen.

Opening Hymn #299 *Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim*

(stand)

Call to Confession

Jesus Christ gave himself as a ransom for all who fall short of the goodness of God.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us turn to God and make our confession.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we are too concerned with our own peace. We seek the comfort of silence, and ignore the cries of the oppressed. We are inwardly focused, missing your call to serve the world in justice and love. Forgive us, O God. Equip us to fulfill your will for a world in which all know dignity and all are treated with equity, as your beloved children.

Declaration of Pardon

God our Judge is also our Savior.

The good news is sure: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Glory to God #583

Anthem: *Trust in the Lord* Allen Pote

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and in community.

God of grace. **Receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer, who taught us to pray;

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

Hymn #792: *There is a Balm in Gilead* (seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day:

Old Testament Lesson: Amos 8:4 – 7

Epistle Lesson: 1 Timothy 2:1 – 7

Gospel Lesson: Luke 16:1 – 13

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *Shrewd Manager* Susan Murray

Affirmation of Faith:

Prayer for Listening and Speaking—First Presbyterian, Rolla

In all the relationships of our church life, community life, and personal life may we follow the teachings of Jesus. May we endeavor to speak the truth in love and be guided by scripture in our thoughts, decisions, and actions. May we respect and listen deeply to one another, keep confidences, and avoid gossip and triangulation. May we pray for and with one another, building each other up, realizing every soul is precious to God. Amen.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: (please be seated)

Offering #708: *We Give Thee But Thine Own* v. 1 & 2

Prayer of Dedication: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

Sending Hymn #547: Go, My Children, with My Blessing
(stand)

Charge and Benediction: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

(remain standing)

May the love of God be the passion in your heart.
The joy of God your strength when times are hard .
The presence of God a peace that overflows.
The Word of God the seed that you might sow.

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

Postlude: *Joy in My Soul* - Mark Hayes

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