

# 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

Proper 12

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## Gathering

### *Call to Worship*

O God, you have been with your people in times past.

**Guiding Moses, instructing the prophets, finding your voice in Jesus,  
you have been the secure presence for all the generations before this one.**

O God, you are with your people of this generation,

**giving them purpose, inspiration, and faith community to share.**

O God, you will be with your people in the generations that are to come:

**providing a message of hope and certainty amid the shifting forces,  
and a love that will not let people go in time or in eternity.**

Let us worship God.

### *Prayer of Approach*

**God of Love,**

**You speak to each of us differently, in ways only we can understand, demonstrating  
Your commitment to each one of us as a person, and to all of us as Your people:**

**Help us to hear and understand the ways You speak to us,**

**so that we can be comforted in times of trouble,  
encouraged in times of difficulty,  
joyfully singing Your praise at all times.**

**We as in the Name of the Holy Spirit, by whom You speak to us and invite us into Your  
Kingdom. Amen.**

### *Offertory Prayer*

Our offering does not change everything; it is like the yeast in the dough: it is the means by which change begins to take place.

**And so we offer our treasure, our talent, and our time to God, and patiently we wait for it to go to work for good.**

God will receive what we bring, and in God's good time, we will notice the difference.

**We trust that the blessing of God rests on these gifts. God's glory will be known through them.  
Amen.**

## Listening

### *Children's Time*

Reading: [Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52](#) (*The Message*)

Jesus tells five short parables in this passage, each one focusing on a different object. What do they have in common? How does that help us today?

### Questions

1. What objects are used in Jesus' story today?
2. How are these objects used?
3. How can you live this out in your life this week?

### *Sermon*

Reading: [Romans 8:31-39](#) (NRSV)

Our walk through Romans ends on this passage, which promises the nothing can separate us from the love of God. But do we really feel that all the time? How do we feel God loves us?

### Questions

1. What is your Love Language?
  2. How would you expect God to show They love you?
  3. How can you show others that you love them? Remember, not everyone speaks the same Love Language.
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## Serving

### *Sacrament of Communion*

### *Closing Hymn*

"I Could Sing of Your Love Forever"

Words and Music by Martin Smith, ©1994.

### *Benediction*

The Kingdom of Heaven is worth working for!

**The Kingdom will come, but only if we sow the good seed;**

**The Kingdom of Heaven will come, but only if we stop the evil that stifles;**

**The Kingdom of Heaven will come, but only if we recognize its worth, and work to bring it closer.**

**The Kingdom of Heaven will come, but only if we take ownership of its potential.**

The Kingdom of Heaven will come, God will reign supreme,  
and we will know and understand for the first and only time!

*Amen*