

20TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME | PROPER 15
AUGUST 16, 2026

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

**Please stand if able*

Preparing for Worship: God's mercy reaches beyond every boundary, bringing healing, reconciliation, and hope where they are needed most. May our hearts be opened to receive God's grace with humility and to extend that same compassion and welcome to all whom God calls into the family of faith.

Prelude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Accompanist

Welcome and Greetings in Jesus' Name

***Opening Hymn #** "Mighty to Save" **Worship Team**

***Opening Prayer (Stand):**

Song of Faith # 96 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" *FAITHFULNESS*
WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

Scripture Reader: Pat Carpenter

The First Reading **Genesis 45:1-15**

The Second Reading **Romans 11:1-2a,29-32**

Gospel Reader: Deacon Janelle Hood

***The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ** **Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28**

***Responsorial # 250** "And Can It Be" *SAGINA*

***Greeting our Family and Neighbors (Stand)**

The Children's Sermon (No Children's Church – Restarts in September)

Announcements, Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer: 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.

Presentation of Tithes, Gifts, and Donations – Paul wrote to Timothy: "We are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for ourselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that we may take hold of this life that really is life" (1 Tim. 6:18-19). Let us share the tithe and offerings from the labors of our lives generously.

Tithes and Offertory Prayer and Special Music

A Prayer of Illumination: Holy God of Israel, covenant-keeper, you restore what is lost, heal what is wounded, and gather in people who have been rejected. Give us the faith to speak as steadfastly as did the Canaanite woman, that the outcast may be welcomed and all people may be blessed by your love. **Amen.**

The Message: "What Did Jesus Say? Being Properly Offended"
The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

"If Jesus is not offending you, then you are not reading him correctly,"
Rev. J.D. Greear, Lead Pastor at The Summit Church, Raleigh-Durham, NC

WE RESPOND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH AND SERVICE

Invitation to Faith and Fellowship – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God's forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to be a follower of Jesus in the waters of baptism or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

***Hymn (Stand) # 388** "Make Us One" *MAKE US ONE*

***Spoken Benediction**

Postlude Janice Hedberg-Boyce, Church Accompanist
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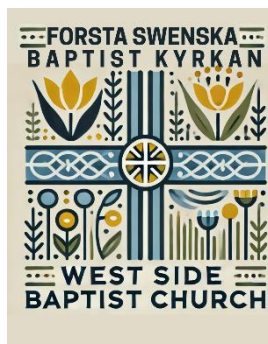
HOW TO BECOME A FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWER OF JESUS

GOOD NEWS! God loves you and wants to rescue all people from the consequences of evil. The Bible teaches the way to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ:

1. **ADMIT** – Admit to God you have done wrong things (sinned) that have hurt God and others. Apologize to God, turn away from harmful behavior, and start doing good things (See Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; 1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19).
2. **BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR YOU AND GOD HAS RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD** – Accept and trust that Jesus is God's one and only Son who died on the cross in your place and give God the credit for raising Jesus from the dead (See Romans 5:8; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31a; John 3:16; 1 Peter 3:18; John 14:6).
3. **CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR LORD** – Make a religious commitment to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus by trusting Him to be your Rescuer, Redeemer (Savior), and Ultimate Leader (Lord). (See Romans 10:9 and 10; Romans 10:13; Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23)
4. **DEDICATE YOUR LIFE TO THE JESUS WAY** - Tell your family and friends about your new trust in Jesus Christ by coming to the front of the Sanctuary at the end of a worship service to publicly share your decision to be a follower of Jesus (Christian).

HOW TO JOIN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH - COME FORWARD – Any person professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and accepting the Baptist principles, practices, and the covenant of this church, may join this Christian church. Persons interested in affiliating should speak with the Pastor or come forward at a congregation meeting. A person may join by Believer's Baptism, Letter of Transfer from a previous Christian church with prior baptism, or a Satisfactory Statement of Christian Faith.

OUR MISSION – We love God, and we love People, by sharing the Good News of God's forgiving, renewing love in Jesus Christ by word and deed to improve the lives of neighbors. West Side Baptist Church is an independent, autonomous Christian church partnering for mission support with like-minded people of faith in our City, County, State, Nation, and World.



Now may the
GOD OF PEACE,
who brought up
from the dead the
**GREAT
SHEPHERD
OF THE SHEEP ...**
Jesus our Lord,
equip you in every
good thing
to do His will.

HEBREWS 13:20-21, NASB

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