

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
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"...how often should
I forgive?
"Not SEVEN times,
but, I tell you,
SEVENTY-
SEVEN
times."

Matthew 18:21-22, NRSV

6 p.m. Sat., Sept. 12 & 8:15 a.m. Sun., Sept. 13, 2020



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(6 p.m. Sat., Sept. 12 & 8:15 a.m. Sun., Sept. 13, 2020)

Servants of God's House

Pastor: Rev. Kenny Hsu

Organists: 6 p.m. Sat., Joyce Seymour; 8:15 a.m. Sun., Mabel Huldeen

Ushers: Dallas Schulz Team

Missionaries: Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump, Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf,
Rev. Paul Flo, Rev. Charles Cortwright

Readers: 6 p.m. Sat., Marlis Hilden; 8:15 a.m. Sun. Dallas Schulz

WELCOME! We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

AS WE GATHER Forgiveness is filled with questions. How often must I forgive? Is there a limit to the grace of forgiveness? What is the connection between God's forgiveness to me and my forgiveness to others? The answer to these questions lies in Christ. As our heavenly Father has forgiven us, so do we forgive one another in His name. This forgiveness is clearly and beautifully shown in the example of Joseph, who was sold into slavery by his brothers and then forgave them because of God's mercy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Gracious Lord, You have rescued us from our bondage to sin and given us a new life and identity in Baptism. Grant us Your grace that we live in peace with all people and show to those around us the same forgiveness that You have shown to us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

DIVINE SERVICE THREE

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(The congregation is invited to respond with the words written in **bold**.)

The Ringing of the Bells

The Wave of Fellowship

Hymn of Invocation "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"

LSB 851

(stand as you are able for the last verse)

(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.)

The Invocation *Matthew 28:19b; (18:20)*

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *Hebrews 10:22*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth. *Psalm 124:8*

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Psalm 32:5*

(A moment of silence for reflection of God's word and self-examination)

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*

C: Amen.

The Kyrie "Lord, Have Mercy" (*Sung*) *Mark 10:47*

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Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Gloria in Excelsis- "Glory to God in the Highest" (*Sung*)

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P: Glory be to God on high,

C: and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee.

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Salutation and Collect of the Day (*Sung*)

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P: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C: And with thy Spirit.

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The First Reading

Genesis 50:15–21

(At the death of their father, Jacob, Joseph reassured his brothers that he forgave them and recognized the hand of God at work in their lives.)

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual

We praise God together in the words of the Gradual.

C: Fear the LORD, you His saints, for those who fear Him lack nothing! Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

The Epistle Lesson

Romans 14:1–12

(If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord.)

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord.

So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your

brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Stand as you are able)

The Alleluia *Matthew 6:14*

C: Alleluia. If you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. Alleluia.

(Please remain standing for the Gospel and the Creed)

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21–35

(How often must I forgive my brother? How often has God forgiven you?)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord. (*Sung*)

²¹ Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³ "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.

²⁴ When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵ And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.

²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.

²⁸ But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants

who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place.

³² Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ. (*Sung*)

The Apostles' Creed

(Please be seated)

Hymn of the Day "I Lay My Sins on Jesus"

LSB 606

Sermon "Tired of brooding? Try forgiving!" Matthew 18:21–35

Offering of God's People to their Beloved Savior

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

St. Paul's members have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings.

To our guest: Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

Please pass your **Welcome Card** to an usher or acolyte.

Genesis 8:20— Noah built an altar to the Lord and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

Offertory Hymn "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

LSB 649

(stand as you are able)

The Offertory (Sung) *Psalm 51:10-12*

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Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

The Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, grant that we not judge without mercy but forgive without limit, that we who have known the fullness of Your mercy in Christ also manifest a compassionate heart against those who sin against us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, grant to Your Church Your Spirit and power, that we be supplied with faithful pastors and church workers to serve us in Your name, and that we hear and heed the voice of Your Word and walk in holiness of life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, grant to those who lead us in this nation and in all the nations wisdom and integrity, that they pursue what is good and right and just according to Your Word and commands, and serve the common good. Deliver us from terror and threat, and give Your peace to the nations. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, grant to the sick and all who suffer any affliction of body, mind, or soul the blessing of Your mercy, with forgiveness according to Your will, and Your presence and comfort to sustain them through the day of trouble. Hear us especially on behalf of those for whom our intercession has been requested, Bill Winckler, Jack

Smith, Deb and Darwin Blanford, and Diane and Barry Hueschen, Bob and Linda Greene, Megan Hansen and those we name in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, grant to the homeless, the widowed, the orphaned, and the unemployed Your strength to bear up under the weight of their trials and Your guidance to bring them to the places where their needs may be answered. Open our hearts to care for them and support them in their need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including; Lowell Chellew, Kara Holland, Jacob Popken, Nathan Rodenburg, Matthew Benson, Mikealann Tenuta, Loes Abbe, Cora Black, Mason Granstrom, Liam Mahaney, Bryan Siefker, Duane Benson, Reta Lantis, Brandi Larson, Connie Spahn, Isaac Swearingen, Noah Swearingen, and Fauna Tuttle. Lord in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

School Children Sing: St. Paul's school children sing "Great Are You Lord"

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction *Numbers 6:24-26*

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P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

C: Amen, Amen, Amen. *(Sung)*

The Closing Hymn "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

LSB 845

Silent Prayer

Postlude

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Tired of brooding? Try forgiving!

Date: 09/13/2020

Text: Matthew 18:21–35

Verse for Meditation

Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?”

Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.”

Matthew 18:21-22

Points to Ponder

1. What is a person’s deepest need? What is a person’s greatest achievement?

2. We are unforgiving

3. For Jesus’ sake, God releases us from our debt to him.

4. In our new relationship with God, He empowers us to forgive others.

5. “Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who

_____.”