



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Trinity Lutheran Church + McPherson, Kansas

17 September 2023

10:15 AM

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In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we

are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

JESUS GATHERS US

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✠ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin..

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Steadfast and faithful God,

You have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen

GREETING

The rich presence of God, the beginning and end of all good and abundant blessings, be with you now and always.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

continued

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
 glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
Final refrain
 This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the
 Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

JESUS SPEAKS TO US

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

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After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives..

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

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This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL READING

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God..

The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 18:21-35

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The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“God, When Human Bonds are Broken”

ELW 603

CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

Following each prayer petition the response will be:

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

JESUS FEEDS US

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Worshippers are invited to greet one another with a gesture of peace.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN

“Come to the Table”



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

continued

OFFERING PRAYER

God of power, God of plenty,

All things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars, beneath the sea, within each cell, with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water, by night and day, across the wilderness, out of exile, into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life, near to those who suffer, beside the sinner, among the poor, with us now.

We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: *Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: *This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people, for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering, within this meal, among your people, throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Jesus Christ,, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray together as our Lord taught us.

in bulletin

The Lord's Prayer is sung according to the music printed in the back part of the bulletin

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live!

Amen. Thanks be to God!

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o - pen to the seed of your word.

continued



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der - stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift of faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

JESUS SENDS US

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Go My Children With My Blessing”

ELW 543

DISMISSAL

God is here!

Spread the word!

Go in peace. Grow in love!

Thanks be to God!

SENDING MUSIC



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THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-low-ed be your
 name, your king-dom come, your will be done on
 earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our
 dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we for-give
 those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the
 time of trial and de-liv-er us from e-vil, for the
 king-dom, the pow'r and the glo-ry are yours,
 now and for ev-er.

"The Lord's Prayer" setting by GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.
 Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.
 In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-ev-er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry, here you touched him, saw his glo-ry.
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you, here my ten-der com-fort stilled you.
 Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

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 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
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