

The Divine Service
The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2020



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.

Call to Worship / Check In

Words of Welcome/Theme of the Day

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

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

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-examination.

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, confident of His grace and forgiveness to all who are penitent.

People: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.**
Amen.

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints through the gift of forgiveness, let us manifest our unity by extending the hand of peace. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Processional Hymn "From All That Dwell Below the Skies" LSB 816



1 From all that dwell be - low the - skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
 2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -
 Δ 3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be, All praise, e - ter - nal



praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Son, to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by
 Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and
 Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore For - ev - er and for -



ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Greeting

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray. 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.

People: **Amen.**

Old Testament

Genesis 50:15-21

Pastor: 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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 14:1-12

Pastor: 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.¹⁰ Why 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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus 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. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And 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. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But 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.' ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When 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. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

"I lay My Sins on Jesus"

LSB 606



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;



He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.
He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.
His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.
He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.
Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

Sermon

Forgive

Pastor Scott Henze

Prayer of the Church

Petitions end, "Lord in your mercy" Congregation responds, "Hear Our Prayer"

Rite of Confirmation

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always, to the very end of the age."

You have been baptized and you have been taught the faith according to our Lord's command. The fulfillment of His command we now celebrate with thankful hearts, rejoicing to confess the faith into which you were baptized and which you yourselves will now confess before the Church.

Jesus said: "Whoever confesses Me before others, I will also confess him before My Father in heaven. But he that denies Me before others, I will deny him before My Father in heaven."

Rejoice in the peace of God and joyfully give answer to what, in the name of the Lord, as a minister of His Church, I now shall ask you.

Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts which God gave you in your Baptism?

Confirmands and Congregation: Yes, I do.

Pastor: Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

Confirmands and Congregation: Yes, I do.

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

Confirmands and Congregation: Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?

Confirmands and Congregation: Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Confirmands and Congregation: Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Confirmation of Instruction

The Solemn Vow of the Parent

Solemn Vow of the Congregation

Pastor: The promises made by these young people and parents are difficult to fulfill. They need God's help and our prayers and encouragement. Since the best encouragement is a good example, let us pray together...

All: Give us strength, O God, to set a good example for these Confirmands by using God's Word daily in our homes, worshipping regularly in church, and receiving Holy Communion frequently. Give us the power to live a more God-pleasing life, and may we, with these young men and women, grow more and more as disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Personal Commitment and Blessing of the Confirmands

The Prayer for the Confirmands

Gathering of Gifts

Offertory Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

People: **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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Announcements

Benediction

Recessional Verse "Now Thank We All Our God" LBS 895



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,
2 Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa-ther now be giv-en,



Who won-drous things has done, In whom His world re-joice-s;
With ev-er joy-ful hearts And bless-ed peace to cheer us
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high-est heav-en,



Who from our moth-ers' arms Has blest us on our way
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per-plexed
The one e-ter-nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a-dore;



With count-less gifts of love And still is ours to-day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev-er-more.

Dismissal

Pastor: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as...

People: Disciples making disciples.

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Thank you for worshiping with us today. We hope and pray you had a chance to see Christ in a very personal and real way. If you have a prayer request or would like to talk to the pastor or one of our Stephen Ministers contact the church office at 954-384-9096 or by email at office@stpaulweston.org.

UPCOMING FALL EVENTS

Mark your calendars!

Presidents Equip Conference -September 24-26; This virtual conference enables you to choose from a wide variety of speakers and breakout sessions from the Florida – Georgia District of the LCMS. Register Today!

Discovering Life With God - Saturday, October 3 at 9:00 AM. This class is a great introduction to what Lutherans believe and teach. It is open to all and serves as a path to membership here at St. Paul.

Blessing of the Animals - Sunday, October 4, 4:00 PM here at St. Paul spread out on the front lawn area. Bring your pet for this special blessing in honor of St. Francis Day. Pet Parade, music, raffles and more!

First Communion Instruction - Saturday, October 10 at 9:00 AM. This one day class for children entering 5th grade or youth turning 10 years old or those who missed the training last year. Students and at least one parent are required to attend together.

15th Annual St. Paul Golf Tournament -Saturday, October 24 at Eagle Trace Golf Club in Coral Springs. Sign-up today!

Trunk or Treat - Friday, October 30; 6:00 PM –7:30 PM
Decorate your car, bring some treats and come on out to the St. Paul parking lot! Food, Fellowship and fun at a safe distance!

Call the church office at 954-384-9096 for more information.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Marlene Michael, Preschool Director

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.