



God's love, Our service.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Sunday, September 13, 2020 15th Sunday after Pentecost

INTRODUCTION

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.

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.**

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,
Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world.

Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 834

GREETING page 138

KYRIE page 138

HYMN OF PRAISE page 140

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

WORD



First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

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.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your

slaves.”¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today.²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Psalm: Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

[¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God’s holy name.
² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God’s benefits**
³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;
⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**
⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle’s.
⁶ **O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
⁷ You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.
]
⁸ **LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**
⁹ you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.
¹⁰ **You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**
¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.
¹² **As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**
¹³ As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

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.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.

³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 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, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? 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 give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION page 142

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

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

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who

wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'

²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."



CHILDRENS SERMON Pastor Kris

SERMON Pastor Kris

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 608

APOSTLE'S CREED

**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 INTERCESSION

God of grace and glory, we praise you for your servant Erica Bryer who makes the good news known in Japan. Raise up, we pray, in every country, heralds of the gospel, so that the world may know the immeasurable riches of your love, and be drawn to worship you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, pov-

erty, and war. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you (*especially John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, whom we commemorate today*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

NOISY OFFERING/OFFERING

OFFERING SONG *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* LBW #184

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.

Prepare us for your heavenly banquet,

nourish us with this rich food and drink,

and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, Holy p. 144

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION & INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet table
where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

COMMUNION SONG page 146

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,
the body and blood of Christ.

Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

BLESSING

Mothering God,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth
and life.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 665

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.



PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.780.6408 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

St. Mark's members:

Ginny Schwartzbeck,
Shane Paulson,
Pete Cagle,
Jeanette Cain,
Ron & Ann Gardner,
Darrell Strampe,
Janet Schmidt,
Susan Roberts,
Phyllis Dettmer,
Jerry Kay Lage,
Madison Young

Family & friends:

Steve Nelson, cousin of Louise Easterberg,
McKenna, Granddaughter of the Johnsons,
Family of Olathe Mayor, Mike Copeland,
Lena Shelton, friend of the Schmideskamps,
Crissy, cousin of Tom Bryer ,
Caroline, aunt of Nancy Bryer ,
Marie Carlin, friend of Barbara Strampe,
Neil Wray, Son of Lynn and Tom,
Brian Lynn, cousin of Amy Hackler,
Jeff Needham, friend of St. Mark's, Peggy Hinkle,
Step-Mother of Kathy Hinkle,
Stephanie Herndon, friend of Kathy Hinkle,
Wally Tschopp, Brother of Barbara Strampe,
Judy Wagner, Sister-in-law of Paula Quade,
Tim Eiter, Father of Todd Eiter,
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols, Jackie
Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,
Shirley, neighbor of Mary Weeg ,
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,
Ken Liesche, Brother of 'Sam' Ham, Don Ham,
Brother of Hollie Ham,
Kelly Franks, Daughter of Hollie and 'Sam' Ham ,
Janice Ham, Sister-in-law of Hollie Ham,
Aeris, Great Niece of Tom Bryer,
Sammy Schreiman, friend of Kathy Hinkle,
Catherine Dial, relative of Anne Gardner,

Karen Bannister, friend of Jane Scherrer,
"Our little friend",
Catherine Tietjen, Mary Mindrup's sister ,
Rob Boulter, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Good-
heart,
Joan Nelson, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,
Dean Taake, Joyce Johnson's brother,
Gibby, friend of Erica Bryer,
Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister,
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,
Bob Hinkle, Kathy Hinkle's dad,
Judy Wendt, Jeannine Matthew's
sister-in-law,
Paul Heath, Don Anderson's cousin, Donna
Poppe, friend of St. Marks, Rosemary Williams
and her sons Wayne & Wade Beck,
Brooke Harris, friend of Gretchen Goodheart
Stewart,
Dan Ostergaard - friend of the Goodhearts,
Frank Heckadon, Linda Goodheart's brother-in-
law,
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,
Gary Pellogrom, friend of the Goodheart's,
Jackson Werth, friend of the Bott/Bollinger Fami-
lies,
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,
Ivan, brother of Jane Stresewski,
All People affected by natural disasters

Those in the Military:

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thomp-
son,
Logan Peck, nephew of Karen and Stan Thomp-
son,
Zack Moran-Prichard, grandson of Hollie and
Sam Ham