

## FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Forgive Your Brother from the Heart

September 12 & 13, 2020

5:00pm & 8:00am

### 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.

### WELCOME

The counsel of the LORD stands forever,  
the plans of His heart to all generations. Psalm 33:11

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### OPENING HYMN #851 "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"

Lord of glory, You have bought us With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice;  
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand  
To the unthankful and the evil With Your own unsparing hand.

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Gladly, freely of Your own.  
With the sunshine of Your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone  
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by You, at length believe  
That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.

Wondrous honor You have given To our humblest charity  
In Your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it all to Me."  
Can it be, O gracious Master, That You deign for alms to sue,  
Saying by Your poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?

Lord of glory, You have bought us With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust You boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on You;  
but, oh, best of all Your graces, With Your love our love renew.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

### CONFESSION & 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.

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 own fault; and now I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: 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.

### HYMN OF PRAISE #818 "In Thee Is Gladness"

In Thee is gladness Amid all sadness, Jesus sunshine of my heart.  
By Thee are given The gifts of heaven, Thou the true Redeemer art.

Our souls Thou wakest, Our bonds Thou breakest;

Who trust Thee surely Has built securely;

He stands forever: Alleluia!

Our hearts are pining To see Thy shining,

Dying or living To Thee are cleaving;

Naught can us sever: Alleluia!

Since He is ours, We fear no powers, Not of earth nor sin nor death.  
He sees and blesses In worst distresses; He can change them with a breath.

Wherefore the story Tell of His glory With hearts and voices;

All heav'n rejoices In Him forever: Alleluia!

We shout for gladness, Triumph o'er sadness,

Love Him and praise Him And still shall raise Him

Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

## SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. 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.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

## 10:30 ONLY "GENERATIONS UNITED IN MISSION" COMMISSIONING

✠ WORD ✠



**OLD TESTAMENT 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.) <sup>15</sup>When 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."<sup>16</sup>So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: <sup>17</sup>'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. <sup>18</sup>His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>As 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. <sup>21</sup>So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *Romans 14:1–12* (If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord.) As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. <sup>2</sup>One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Let 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. <sup>4</sup>Who 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. <sup>5</sup>One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. <sup>6</sup>The 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. <sup>7</sup>For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. <sup>8</sup>For if 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. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. <sup>10</sup>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; <sup>11</sup>for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." <sup>12</sup>So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S SONG "Forgive Me , God, for Things I Do" Shields, Anderson Tune: Dundee

Forgive me, God, for things I do that are not kind and good;  
Forgive me, God, and help me now to do the things I should.

I thank you, God, for Christ, Your Son, who gave His life for me  
That I might have forgiveness now and from my sin be free.

When others are unkind to me then help, me God, to see  
How I can keep on loving them as you keep loving me.

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 18:21–35* (How often must I forgive my brother? How often has God forgiven you?)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

**People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times. <sup>23</sup>"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup> So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'<sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> 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.'<sup>29</sup> So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'<sup>30</sup> He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> 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. <sup>32</sup> Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup> And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup> So 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.**

### **SERMON HYMN #535 "How Wide the Love of Christ"**

How wide the love of Christ! It knows not class or race  
But holds our one humanity Within its broad embrace.

How long the love of Christ! Its patience will not cease  
Until this broken world is bound In everlasting peace.

How high the love of Christ! Beyond all thought it soars,  
And yet upon our passing lives Unmeasured mercy pours.

How deep the love of Christ, Descending to a cross!  
He bears within His wounded hands All human pain and loss.

All praise to You, O Christ, For love whose depth and height,  
Whose length and breadth fill time and space With endless life and light!

### **SERMON "The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant"**

(Rise)

### **NICENE CREED**

**People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**OFFERING** *Offering plates will be placed in the narthex and elevator room for gathering at the end of the service.*

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: 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,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: 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,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, grant to those who lead us in this nation and in all the nations wisdom and integrity, especially our law enforcement officers, our governor, our congress and our president, 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,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, grant peace and comfort to those who mourn and remember Loved ones, especially Marilyn as she remembers Trish. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, we thank you for all blessings, and we join with the Ficken family celebrating John's birthday. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: 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 for: Don, Jan, Louis, Dawn, Charles, Carol, Debbie, Mary, Dennis, Diane, Dorothy, June, Jerry, Cindy, Shirley, Sarah, Gladys, Shirley, Sarah, and those we name in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: 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,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, grant to us grace that none of us approach your Table with unrepented sin, and help us to receive with faith and for our benefit the richest gifts of your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, grant to us grateful hearts that with our voices we offer you the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and with our tithes and offerings show forth our confidence in your loving care and our desire to support the work of your Church. Bless our Capital Campaign: "Generations United in Mission", that your kingdom grows in our midst and that you would bless our church, school and community. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

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

**People: Amen.**

### **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 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.

### **✠ SACRAMENT ✠**

### **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

### **THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

### **AGNUS DEI #550**

### **"Lamb of God"**

Your only Son, no sin to hide, But You have sent Him from Your side  
To walk upon this guilty sod, And to become the Lamb of God.

### **Refrain**

**O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!**

**O wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.**

Your Gift of love they crucified, They laughed and scorned Him as He died:  
The humble King they named a fraud, And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

### **Refrain**

I was so lost, I should have died, But You have brought me to Your side  
To be led by Your staff and rod, And to be called a lamb of God. **Refrain**  
(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Wait for the ushers to direct you to come forward. Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

**HYMN #744 “Amazing Grace”**

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see!

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be, As long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;  
His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And mortal life shall cease,  
Amazing grace shall then prevail In heaven’s joy and peace.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,  
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise Than when we’d first begun.

**HYMN #606 “I Lay My Sins on Jesus”**

I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless Lamb of God;  
He bears them all and frees us From accursed load.  
I bring my guilt to Jesus To wash my crimson stains  
Clean in His blood most precious Till not a spot remains.

I lay my wants on Jesus; All fullness dwells in Him;  
He heals all my diseases; My soul He does redeem.  
I lay my griefs on Jesus, My burdens and my cares;  
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.

I rest my soul on Jesus, This weary soul of mine;  
His right hand me embraces; I on His breast recline.  
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;  
Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

**Pastor:** Let us pray. Gracious Lord, for the sake of your holy name, forgive us, your children, whom you have redeemed through the precious blood of your dear Son. Deal graciously with us, your servants, not according to our weakness and guilt but according to your love and goodness. Grant to us forgiveness, peace, and the gift of a clear conscience; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

**Pastor:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING HYMN #923 “Almighty Father, Bless the Word”**

Almighty Father, bless the Word

Which through your grace we now have heard.

Oh, may the precious seed take root, Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!

We praise you for the means of grace As homeward now our steps we trace.  
Grant, Lord, that we who worshipped here May all at last in heav’n appear.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above ye heav’nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Preacher

Liturgist

Director of Parish Music

Pastor Noah Kegley

Pastor Harold Bender

Michelle Prince