



THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 ✠ 8:00 AM AND 10:15 AM

50 PRINCE OF PEACE

LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We're thrilled that you are here and we want you to feel at home.

- * Restrooms are near the door that you came in today.
- * The service is printed in this worship folder. Join in as your comfortable. Ask anyone if you're lost - they'll be glad to help!
- * We're glad you brought your kids! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If your little one is restless, feel free to spend a minute in the entryway, you should still be able to hear through speakers.
- * If you could use some hearing assistance, please ask the usher in the entryway, we have headsets available.

Please introduce yourself to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil. They would love to meet you and serve you however they can!



The Church Jesus Wants

Jesus Christ bought the Church with his blood. It is His Church and we want to know what kind of church God wants. What are its priorities? What does it all do?

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – A Church That's Quick to Forgive

“Pay it forward.” That phrase means that when someone does something for you, instead of paying that person back directly, you pass along kindness to another person instead. Doing something kind for someone else is a way of thanking the person who originally did something kind for you. Today God applies that concept to forgiveness. God forgave our countless sins. He was willing to pay an incomprehensible price—the death of his Son. Obviously, we will never have occasion do the same for God. We will never have to forgive God because everything he does for us shows perfect love and care. God never wrongs us. But others may do us wrong. Others may cause us pain. And when we are quick to forgive, it is one way we thank God for being so quick to forgive us. This is what God wants in his Church—people who, like him, are quick to forgive.

THE DIVINE SERVICE

 *The congregation speaks and sings the words in **BOLD type**.*
Hymns not printed in this service folder are found in the blue hymnals in each pew. 

Hymn | 623 O Bless the Lord, My Soul

Invocation

Please stand at the minister's direction if you are able

In the name of the Father and of the Son **✝** and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Matthew 28:19

Confession and Absolution

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:8

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:9

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

silence for reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **✝** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Glory to God in the Highest'. It consists of ten staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Glo-ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther. We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.'

Glo-ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther. We

wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your

glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on

us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on
earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the
Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,
with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, you graciously forgive us all our sins and abundantly provide for all our needs of body and soul. Give us confidence in your mercy, and teach us also to be merciful to our neighbor, that we willingly forgive all people, and judging only ourselves, lead blessed lives to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated.

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

Because the Lord had shown Joseph such grace and love, Joseph is compelled to forgive his brothers. He wept as he freed them, and himself, from the pain of the past with forgiveness.

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" ¹⁶So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷"This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

¹⁸His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103 | *selected verses spoken responsively*

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

He does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:29-5:2

Forgiven and sealed in Christ, we become imitators of Christ, living out the kindness and compassion of Christ toward one another.

²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Get rid of all

bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

³²Be kind and compassionate to one

another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

¹Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children ²and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation

Colossians 3:13

Alleluia. Bear with each other and forgive one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

²²Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³"Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶"At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

²⁹"His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.'

³⁰"But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³²"Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' ³⁴In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵"This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day | 587 Come Down, O Love Divine

Sermon Matthew 18:21-35 Match His Compassion

Please stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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. Amen.**

Be seated.

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God, as once You kept Joseph from evil and brought good from his suffering in Egypt, deliver us by Your grace so that we may learn patience in trials. Teach us to be slow to judge, quick to forgive, and steadfast in love for You and for one another. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, You have shown great compassion to us; teach us to show such compassion to others, that we may welcome the stranger, love our neighbor in need, and be attentive to those new to the faith or vulnerable to temptation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Lord, lead us to pursue reconciliation, that we may stand before You forgiven and united in faith. Give us unity of doctrine, and help us to walk together in harmony of life. Prepare us to receive Your own Son's body and blood with faith, and bring to fruition in our lives the precious gift of

grace we receive in this communion. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed Father, You know our weakness of body and soul. Give to the troubled in mind Your peace, to the suffering relief, to the sick healing, to the grieving comfort and deliver the dying into everlasting life. Hear us especially for those named now in our hearts... Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Special intercessions may be spoken here.

Almighty and everlasting God, deliver us from temptation and the powers of evil, that we may be faithful unto death and receive from Your hand the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore. **Amen.**

Offering



Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.

There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give in that way.

*To donate online, either scan the QR code on the left or text **princeofpeace** (no spaces) to (833) 693-7056. You'll receive a link in response. Follow the link to the Prince of Peace secure giving page.*

THE SACRAMENT

Stand

The Lord be with you.
And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -

na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
 na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Remember us in Your kingdom as we pray...

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.

The Words of Our Lord Jesus

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ☩ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God

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



Be seated

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS

Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this.

Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how.

*Please speak to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. **Thank you for your understanding!***

Hymn | 733 Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

Hymn | 562 Jesus Paid It All

After the distribution, the minister speaks this blessing:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Your ✝ sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Please stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
His mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Psalms 118:1

1 Corinthians 11:26

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn | 930 Go, My Children, With My Blessing



Personal Prayer and Reflection

Take a moment to reflect on something from the message, readings or hymns during the Divine Service today. Or pray again the Prayer of the Day on page 4.

Announcements

After the announcements, please greet those sitting near you and introduce yourself to anyone who you haven't met. Then feel free to leave the chapel when you wish. Have a blessed week!

Thank you to our Lord

...for Neil Woller and his gifts used to accompany God's Service with music this morning, those serving to produce a livestream, men of our BSW for serving at worship, our acolytes, those who prepared the altar and Holy Communion

Set aside all wrath; make the wound disappear." You think, of course, that by vengeance you are punishing the one who harmed you. Whereas in fact, you yourself have installed anger within yourself as a torturer, and thus you rip apart your own innards. Have you been treated very unjustly and been deprived of much because of someone else?

Have you been slandered and damaged in very serious matters, and so you want to see your brother punished? Even here it is useful to forgive him. For if you desire to avenge him yourself and attack him—either with your words or with your actions or through a curse—not only will God not take action against him (since you yourself have assumed the responsibility of punishing him) but also He will punish you for fighting against God.

Leave things to God. He will take care of things much better than you yourself can. To you he simply gave the commandment to pray for the person who has grieved you. [...]

We have been ordered to have only one enemy— the devil. Only with him should you never be reconciled. Towards your brother, however, never have a heavy heart.

And even if something petty happens, let it pass; do not let it last longer than a day. "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath" (Eph. 4:26).

"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us" (Mt. 6:12).

- ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, 4th century