

Today's Scripture Readings

Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵ 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." ¹⁶ So 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. ¹⁸ His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰ 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. ²¹ So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Romans 14:1-12

¹ As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ² One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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. ⁷ For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸ 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. ⁹ For 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; ¹¹ for it is written, As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

¹² So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Matthew 18:21-35

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

All Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®.

In Our Prayers this Week—

- *September mission of the month, Anchor of Hope.*
- *Our confirmands who began classes last week.*
- *Expectant mothers and their children.*
- *Jayne Cotter, receiving radiation and chemo treatments.*
- *Jessica Dolezal, receiving treatment for recurrence of cancer.*
- *Phil Bloedel, receiving hospice care at home.*
- *Wendell Smith, son-in-law of Jim Schmitz, battling cancer.*
- *Joan Eippert, receiving treatment for cancer.*
- *Marion, Terry Ourada's mother, sick with cancer.*
- *Sarah Grisar, daughter-in-law of Dave and Bunnie Grisar, continuing battle with cancer.*
- *Daryl Grimm, brother of Bunnie Grisar, for successful procedure and chemo treatment.*
- *Pam Wordell.*
- *Peace among nations.*
- *The victims and families of all violence and disaster throughout our country and world.*
- *Please also keep in prayer*
—*our Seminarian Luke Konkell;*
—*John Wille our district president, who is undergoing aggressive treatment for cancer;*
—*Matthew Harrison our synodical president, for the LCMS;*
—*for the members, officers and auxiliaries of Emmanuel, for salutary use of the blessed sacrament of the Lord's body and blood;*
—*our circuit congregation, St. Paul in Sheboygan Falls and Revs. Kyle Backhaus & Rob Schrader;*
—*our Missionary Rev. Tyler McMiller and his family in Italy and Southern Europe; and*
—*our shut-in Members, Phil & Donna Bloedel, Bob & Alice Denhardt and Ed Friede.*

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

“And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?”

Matthew 18:33

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WE WELCOME all who gather with us around the Altar and Pulpit to hear the Word of God.

IF YOU ARE VISITING this morning, we are happy that you could join us today. *Please sign our guest book in the narthex.*

IF YOU DESIRE TO COMMUNE, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine and are members in good standing of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

YOUNG CHILDREN are always welcome in our service. Jesus said, *“Let the little children come to me...”* Activity bags are available in the narthex.

NEED ASSISTANCE with anything? Please speak to the pastor or the usher.

RESTROOMS are available in the back of the church or in the education wing.

We pray that you feel welcome in our congregation, that you are blessed by the service, and that you will come again.

Forgiving as the Lord Forgives Us

In settling His accounts with us, our Lord acts not with anger, but with compassion. He does not imprison us as we deserve, but He forgives all our debts and releases us (Matt. 18:23–27). Therefore, our Lord bids each of us to have *“mercy on your fellow servant,”* and *“forgive your brother from your heart”* (Matt 18:33, 35). By the Lord’s forgiveness of our sins, we are free to forgive those who sin against us, because He has been handed over to the jailers in our stead, and He has paid our entire debt with His lifeblood. Whether we live or die, we *“are the Lord’s”* (Rom. 14:8). Since we all will *“stand before the judgment seat of God,”* we are not to despise our brother (Rom. 14:10), but gladly forgive him. By the grace of God, our brother also *“will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand”* (Rom. 14:4). Though we daily sin against each other, the Lord intends *“to bring it about that many people should be kept alive”* (Gen. 50:20). Jesus speaks kindly by His Gospel and promises: *“I will provide for you and your little ones”* (Gen 50:21).

T H E F A M I L Y A L T A R

- ❶ Verse of the Week — Matthew 20:16** *“So the last will be first, and the first last.”*
- ❷ Hymn of the Week — LSB #555** *“Salvation Unto Us Has Come”*
- ❸ Collect of the Week — Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**
- ❹ Daily Bible Readings — M:** Neh. 1:1—2:10; 1 Tim. 1:1-20 **T:** Neh. 2:11-20, 4:1-6; 1 Tim. 2:1-15 **W:** Neh. 4:7-23; 1 Tim. 3:1-16 **Th:** Neh. 5:1-16, 6:1-9, 15-16; 1 Tim. 4:1-16 **F:** Neh. 7:1-4, 8:1-18; 1 Tim. 5:1-16 **Sat:** Neh. 9:1-21; 1 Tim. 5:17—6:2 **Sun:** Neh. 9:22-38; 1 Tim. 6:3-21
- ❺ Preparing for Next Sunday — Lessons for Pentecost 17:**
Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:12-14; 19-30; Matthew 20:1-16; Psalm 27:1-9
- ❻ The Whole Story for the Whole Family — Week 2**

<i>Day 1—A Promise in the Darkness</i>	<i>Day 3—Judgment and Rescue</i>
<i>Day 2—Brother against Brother</i>	<i>Day 4—Never Again</i>

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

Greeters — *Chris Neumann Family*
Elder/Usher — *Mark Mathe*
Altar Guild — *Mandy Neumann; Jr.* Altar Guild — *Sarah Mitchell*
Cantor — *Hayley Buchholz*; Acolyte — *Bryce Dolezal*
Organist — *Mrs. Terry Ourada*
Pastor — *Rev. Paul W. Marks*

The flowers in church today are given by Jeff & June Michaels in celebration of their wedding anniversary. May God bless them with many more years together.

Introit *(sung responsively after confession & absolution)* Psalm 143:1-2; antiphon: v. 9



Deliver me from my enemies, | O LORD!*

I have fled to you for | refuge!

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!*

In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!

Enter not into judgment with your | servant,*

for no one living is righteous be- | fore you.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Deliver me from my enemies, | O LORD!*

I have fled to you for | refuge!

Collect *(spoken by pastor)*

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.

Gradual *(sung responsively)* Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*

for those who fear him lack | nothing!

Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*

but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

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Lutheran Service Book
Divine Service-Setting Three
page 184 and following

Hymn of Invocation.....**#816**
Confession and Absolution.....*p. 184*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

◀ Introit..... *see left*
Kyrie & Gloria.....*p. 186-187*
Salutation & Collect.....*p. 189*
Genesis 50:15-21
God’s Good Purposes

◀ Gradual..... *see left*
Romans 14:1-12
Do Not Pass Judgment on One Another
Alleluia*p. 190*

Matthew 18:21-35
The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant
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SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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Salutation & Benedicamus.....*p. 201*
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Hymn to Depart.....**#719**

