

# *Salem Lutheran Church*

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## **SEPTEMBER 13, 2020 ~ 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

*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.*

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **GATHERING HYMN**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ELW 834 verses 1 & 3

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!  
  
To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt.

Music: Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807-1876

#### **GREETING**

**P:** The grace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. **All: And also with you.**

#### **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.**

#### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **WORD**

**FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21**

**PSALM 103:8-13**

<sup>8</sup>LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

<sup>9</sup>you will not always accuse us,

nor will you keep your anger forever.

<sup>10</sup>You have not dealt with us according to our sins,  
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

<sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

<sup>12</sup>As far as the east is from the west,  
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

<sup>13</sup>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**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *Spoken together*

*Alleluia.* We have an advocate, Jesus Christ the righteous; your sins are forgiven on account of his name.

*Alleluia.* (1 John 2:1, 12)

## **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.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>21</sup>Peter 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?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, 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. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But 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.’ <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord given to you. **ALL: Praise to you O Christ.**

## **MESSAGE**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**


*Where Charity and Love Prevail*

ELW 359 verses 1 & 5

Where charity and love prevail,  
there God is ever found;  
brought here together by Christ's love,  
by love we thus are bound.

Let us forgive each other's faults  
as we our own confess,  
that we may love each other well  
in Christian gentleness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th. cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.

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## **APOSTLES' 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**

### **PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. All: **And also with you.**

### **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**

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

Loving God,  
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

### **SENDING SONG**

*O Christ, Our Hope*

ELW 604 verses 1 & 5

O Christ, our hope, our hearts' desire,  
creation's mighty Lord,  
redeemer of the fallen world,  
by holy love outpoured,

by holy love outpoured:  
All praise to you, ascended Lord;  
all glory ever be  
to Father, Son, and Spirit blest  
through all eternity,  
through all eternity!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806-1876, adapt.

Music: Nikolaus Herman, 1480-1561

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **ALL: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **++++++ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER LIST++++++**

**A Special Thank you** to Cathy Hoefler and Pastor for providing vocal accompaniment with our hymns today! And, thank you, to Ruth Phoebus as the lector for this day!

**Thank you for continuing to support the ministries** of our congregation during these unprecedented times. As it becomes clear that we're in this phase for a longer haul, we want to say a particular thanks for your faith, your generosity, and your perseverance. Your faithful stewardship of all God's gifts is the heart of disciple-making and neighbor-loving.

**Outdoor Evening Service with Holy Communion** is scheduled for October 4<sup>th</sup>. Last Sunday's outdoor worship was graced with fine weather, a beautiful sunset, and 24 worshippers. Please mark your calendars for the next one!

**OBD Casseroles** will be picked up this Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon. Thank you for caring for the less fortunate and your generosity.

**Salem's Annual Craft Fair and Yard Sale is postponed this year due to concerns with the coronavirus.**

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns:** Brenda Baker, Family and Friends of Dan Hess, Kimberley, Donna Glorioso, Family and Friends of Carolyn Whelan, Family and Friends of Lee Hoos, John Bragg, Barb Vogel, Jenny, Jenny's mom and sister Donna, Norma Knudsen, Anne Mills, Rachel's baby girl Diana, Capt'n Jim McMahan, Pr. Dick Kiesling, Karen, Donna Miller, Laura Riley, Judy Newsome, Phil Kulinski, Bruce Greer, Debbie McDonald, Michelle Harshman, Lisa Barwick, Dorothy Portera, Nick Carmichael, Walt Karoll, Sandy Barthel, Marianna Putnam, Dawn Weaver, Joan Burleigh, Donald Rembert, Thelma Preisinger, Steve Sussan, Betty Burnet, Carrie Claus, Dorothy Long, Bailey Law, Pr. Myers, Maurice Grove, Nancy Roschli, Margaret and Jerry Shank, Jim McNicholas, Aunt Marie, Joan Evans, Steve Norman, Austin Phoebus, Joan & John Kusick, Robin Sealover, Kaidyn Jamison, Lennard Beecher, Jumela Beecher, Seth Bates, Steve White, Margret Krebbal, Frank Gailitz, Dan Gnau, Paula Feldman, Dolly Suiratt, Talu Elvove Arikan, Jim Bair, Craig Perry Beel, Joyce Craig, Aston Dean, Kattie Hale, Carolyn Lynch, Ray Morrison, Nicole Phelps, Kim Scott, Natalie Szparza, Pat Ward, Curtis Waters, Jason Whitney, Karen Wiley, Nick Wingate, and Jeanie Z., Will & Bernadine Boyce, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Bill Gohl.

*Please contact Lynn Cox or Pastor with updates concerning the prayer list.*

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