

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost / Communion
5:00 pm

GREETINGS and PRAYER

HYMN: LSB 563 vs. 1-4 "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"

(Please rise)

INVOCATION and OPENING VERSES

P: Let us make our beginning in the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN.

P: O LORD, our Lord,

C: HOW MAJESTIC IS YOUR NAME IN ALL THE EARTH!

P: I will praise You, O LORD, with all my heart!

C: I WILL TELL OF ALL YOUR WONDERS!

P: I will be glad and rejoice in You:

C: I WILL SING PRAISE TO YOUR NAME, O MOST HIGH!

P: I will sing to the LORD

C: FOR HE HAS BEEN GOOD TO ME.

P: I said to the LORD, "You are my Lord;

C: APART FROM YOU I HAVE NO GOOD THING."

P: As for the saints who are in the land,

C: THEY ARE THE GLORIOUS ONES IN WHOM IS ALL MY DELIGHT.

P: The sorrows of those will increase who run after other gods.

C: I WILL NOT POUR OUT THEIR LIBATIONS OF BLOOD OR TAKE UP THEIR NAMES ON MY LIPS.

P: I will praise the LORD who counsels me;

C: EVEN AT NIGHT MY HEART INSTRUCTS ME.

P: I have set the LORD always before me.

C: BECAUSE HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, I WILL NOT BE SHAKEN.

P: The LORD is my light and my salvation,

C: WHOM SHALL I FEAR?

P: The LORD is the stronghold of my life,

C: OF WHOM SHALL I BE AFRAID?

P: Let your face shine on Your servant;

C: SAVE ME IN YOUR UNFAILING LOVE.

P: May Your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD'

C: EVEN AS WE PUT OUR HOPE IN YOU.

ALL: PRAISE THE LORD!

SONG OF RESPONSE: LSB 804 (vv.1,2,6) "O Worship the King"

THE SALUTATION & COLLECT:

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Let us pray:

ALL: 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. Amen.

(Please be seated)

THE FIRST READING: GENESIS 50:15-21

¹⁵ When 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?" ¹⁶ So 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. ¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said. ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING: ROMANS 14:1-12

¹ Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. ² One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. ³ The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. ⁴ Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵ One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. ⁶ Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord. Whoever eats meat does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷ For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. ⁸ If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. ⁹ For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰ You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. ¹¹ It is written: "'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.'" ¹² So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please rise)

The GOSPEL SONG: LSB 587 "I Know My Faith Is Founded"

GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 18:21-35

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(Please be seated)

²¹ Then 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?" ²² Jesus 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. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ Since 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.' ²⁷ The 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. ³¹ When 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. ³³ Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴ In 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.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE MESSAGE: Pastor Bruce Kischnick

“Forgiven much ... Forgiving Little”

OFFERTORY: LSB 563 vs. 5-6 “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT

P: The Lord is with His people; Now may He be with you.

C: **The Lord is with His servant; may He be with you, too.**

P: Let us make confession one to another and before our Gracious God:

Do you believe that Jesus Christ is your Lord and Savior?

C: **YES, I DO SO BELIEVE.**

P: Do you confess that you are a sinner who has broken the Lord’s commands in thought, word, and deed; deserve only His punishment; and are in need of His forgiveness?

C: **YES, I CONFESS THAT I AM AN UNWORTHY SINNER AND I THROW MYSELF UPON THE MERCY OF GOD THROUGH HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST.**

P: Do you believe that your sins have been forgiven for Jesus sake?

C: **YES, I BELIEVE THAT FOR THE SAKE OF MY SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST, MY SINS ARE FORGIVEN AND I WILL STAND BEFORE MY GOD DECLARED TO BE RIGHTEOUS IN HIS NAME.**

ABSOLUTION:

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **AMEN**

The LORD’S PRAYER

The CONSECRATION:

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

THE DISTRIBUTION:

HYMNS: LSB 589 “Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens”

LSB 567 “Not What These Hands Have Done”

LSB 628 “Your Table I Approach”

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: We give you thanks, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us with this great gift, and we ask You by Your great mercy to strengthen us by it that we may love one another and serve You faithfully, through Your son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

P: Now the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with His favor and + give you His peace.

C: AMEN.

CLOSING HYMN: "May the Peace of God (Benediction) (Choir & Congregation)

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Choir only:

May the peace of God our heav'nly Father
And the grace of Christ the risen Son
And the fellowship of God the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within His love

And to Him be praise for His glorious reign
From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain
Christ eternal the King of kings

Congregation:

May this peace which passes understanding

And this grace which makes us what we are
And this fellowship of His communion
Make us one in spirit and in heart
And to Him be praise for His glorious reign
From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain
Christ eternal the King of kings

And to Him be praise for His glorious reign
From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain
Christ eternal the King of kings

SILENT PRAYER and ANNOUNCEMENTS