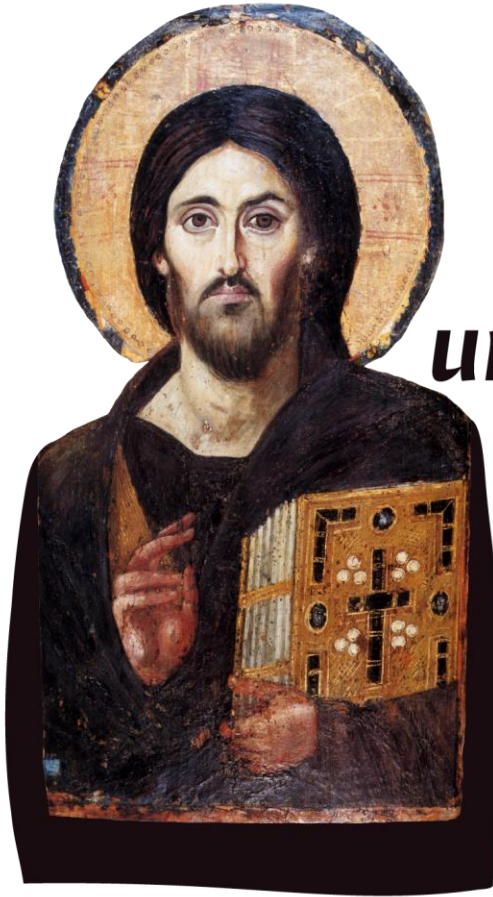




Grace
LUTHERAN CHURCH



unexpected
TRUTHS

Pentecost 16 – Forgiveness is for Me



WELS
Christ's Love, Our Calling.

Opening Hymn: His Mercy Is More

CW 579



1 What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?
2 What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam,
3 What rich - es of kind - ness he lav - ished on us;



Om - ni - scient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum;
what Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home!
his blood was the pay - ment, his life was the cost.



thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore,
He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor;
We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford;



our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.



Refrain

Praise the Lord! His mer - cy is more!



Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn; our



sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more!

Text: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983 Tune: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983 Text and tune: © 2016 Getty Music Songs, Messenger Hymns, and Love Your Enemies Publishing, admin. MusicServices.org. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 743605

Stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

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

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

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.

Absolution

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.

Prayer of the Day

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.

The Word

First Reading

Genesis 50:15–21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “It may be that Joseph will hate us and will pay us back in full for all of the evil that we did to him.”

¹⁶They sent the following message to Joseph: “Before he died your father commanded us, ¹⁷“You are to tell Joseph, “Please forgive the offense of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.”” Now, please forgive the offense of the servants of the God of your father.”

Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down in front of him, and they said, “See now, we are your servants.”

¹⁹Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring this to pass and to keep many people alive, as it is this day. ²¹Now therefore, do not be afraid. I will nourish you and your little ones.” He comforted them and spoke to them in a kind way.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:29—5:2

²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come from your mouths. Say only what is beneficial when there is a need to build up others, so that it will be a blessing to those who hear. ³⁰Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

³¹Get rid of every kind of bitterness, rage, anger, quarreling, and slander, along with every kind of malice. ³²Instead, be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ has forgiven us.

¹Therefore, be imitators of God as his dearly loved children. ²And walk in love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

Colossians 3:13

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

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 18:21–35

²¹Then Peter came up and asked Jesus, “Lord, how many times must I forgive my brother when he sins against me? As many as seven times?”

²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but I tell you as many as seventy-seven times. ²³For this reason the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle them, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵Because the man was not able to pay the debt, his master ordered that he be sold, along with his wife, children, and all that he owned to repay the debt.

²⁶“Then the servant fell down on his knees in front of him, saying, ‘Master, be patient with me, and I will pay you everything!’ ²⁷The master of that servant had pity on him, released him, and forgave him the debt.

²⁸“But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began choking him, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’

²⁹“So his fellow servant fell down and begged him, saying, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back!’ ³⁰But he refused. Instead he went off and threw the man into prison until he could pay back what he owed.

³¹“When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were very distressed. They went and reported to their master everything that had taken place.

³²“Then his master called him in and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt when you begged me to. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴His master was angry and handed him over to the jailers until he could pay back everything he owed.

³⁵“This is what my heavenly Father will also do to you unless each one of you forgives his brother from his heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day: Come Down, O Love Divine

CW 587



1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing.
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear,
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
no soul can guess his grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes his dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, c. 1350–1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890 Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon – Forgiveness is for Me

Matthew 18:21–35

Stand

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Offering

An opportunity to give online can also be used at: <http://www.grace-wels.net/Give> or by utilizing this QR code:



Stand

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

The Sacrament

Words of Institution

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."

O Christ, Lamb of God

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

Be seated

Distribution

Thank you for honoring our practice of "close" communion. The Bible teaches that participating in the Lord's Supper is an expression of complete unity of faith (1 Cor. 10:17). We lovingly ask, therefore, that before joining in this, the highest act of fellowship, a unity of faith based on the Bible be established through membership in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are most eager for you to join us in the unity of faith and confession we enjoy.

Distribution Hymn: Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

CW 660



1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;
2 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
3 I have no help but yours nor do I need
4 Mine is the sin but yours the right - eous - ness;



here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen,
this is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread a - new.
an - oth - er arm but yours to lean up - on.
mine is the guilt but yours the cleans - ing blood.



here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,
Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
It is e - nough, O Lord, e - nough in - deed;
Here is my robe, my ref - uge, and my peace:



and all my wea - ri - ness up - on you lean.
the brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with you.
my strength is in your might, your might a - lone.
your blood, your right - eous - ness, O Lord, my God.

**5 Too soon we rise;
the vessels disappear;
the feast, though not the love,
is past and gone.
The bread and wine remove,
but you are here,
nearer than ever,
still my shield and sun.**

**6 Feast after feast thus comes
and passes by,
yet, passing, points to that
glad feast above,
giving sweet foretaste
of the festal joy,
the Lamb's great marriage
feast of bliss and love.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. 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.

Benediction

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: God Loves Me Dearly

CW 583 sts. 1, Ref, 3, 5



3 He sent forth Je - sus, my dear Re -
5 Now I will praise you, O Love e -



deem - er, he sent forth Je - sus and set me free.
ter - nal; now I will praise you all my life long.



dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, loves e - ven me.

Text: August Rische, 1819–1906; tr. Composite Tune: German Text and tune: Public domain

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Church: 7610 NE Fremont St, Pastor – Christopher Goelzer (cgoelzer@grace-wels.net 920.602.3804)

School: 2252 SE 92nd Ave, Principal – John Henning (jhenning@grace-wels.net 253.441.9052)

Preschool: 2252 SE 92nd Ave, ECE Director Tammy Godish (503.312.4230 – call/text)

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Grace Ministries

Church Center will be the primary means to stay updated for choir, ushers, acolytes, greeters, other various events, volunteer opportunities, and meetings.



Get started with the QR Code. We look forward to having you join us!