

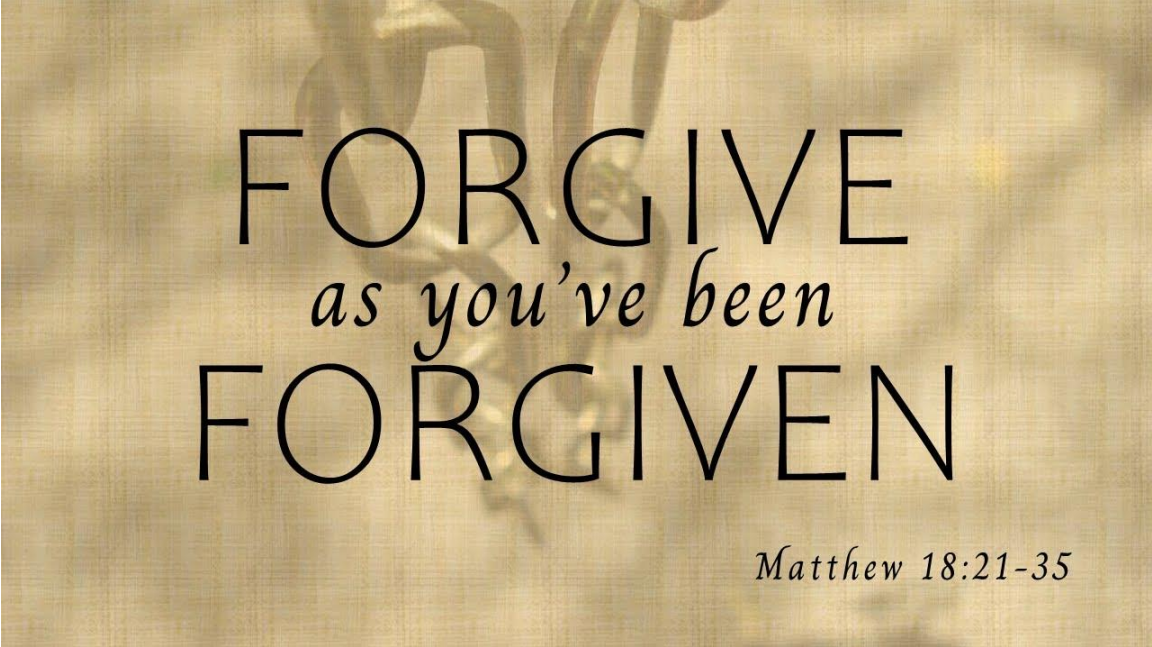
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PASTOR TOM HURLEY



FORGIVE
as you've been
FORGIVEN

Matthew 18:21-35

September 13, 2026

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

"FORGIVEN FORGIVERS"

Whoever you are...
Wherever you are in your JOURNEY OF FAITH...
YOU are WELCOME here!

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Welcome

Gathering Music

Our celebration begins with this morning's pre-service music selection. Use this time to prepare your heart for worship by reading and meditating on the lessons for today.



Invocation and Prayer

Leader: It often irritates us when a kindness extended to others is not returned. When we fail to forgive others as we have been forgiven, something greater is at stake. In the parable of the unforgiving servant, Jesus ties together the forgiveness we receive from God and the forgiveness we offer to others in His name. That connection becomes prayer in the words of the Lord's Prayer: "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Part of this is the reminder of the great debt of sin of which we have been forgiven and of the petty things we cling to and refuse to forgive of our brothers. While this might seem to lay a burden upon the Christian, it is instead the call to live out what is the ground and center of our relationship with God in our daily lives with others. This treasure of forgiveness only grows in us as we apply it and give it away to others.

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

People: Amen.

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

People: according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Leader: Wash me, thoroughly, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

People: If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

Leader: But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.

People: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Leader: Let us pray: O merciful Lord, in Your goodness You acted with patience toward us sinners and delivered up Your own Son to be our Savior and Redeemer. Grant to us patience with the erring and grace to forgive one another as You have forgiven us, presuming nothing but in all things holding fast to Jesus the Christ; through Him who died that we might live and who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

Leader: Since we are here assembled to hear God's Word, to call upon Him in prayer, and to receive the body and blood of Christ, let us first think of our unworthiness; confess before God our sins of thought, word, and deed; and acknowledge also that we, by our own strength, cannot free ourselves from our sinful nature or the sins we have committed. Therefore, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy and grace of our heavenly Father, seeking and imploring Him to behold us through Jesus, saying:

People: **God have mercy on me, a poor, sinful being, forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and grant to me the Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful ways; through Jesus Christ, my Lord, I pray. Amen.**

Pastor: God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to life everlasting. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by His authority, I, therefore, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**



Opening Song: "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us" – LSB #851

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS WORD

(SCRIPTURE READINGS ON PAGE 7-8)

First Reading: Genesis 50:15 – 21

Reader: This is God's Word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Romans 14:1 – 12

Reader: This is God's Word.

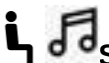
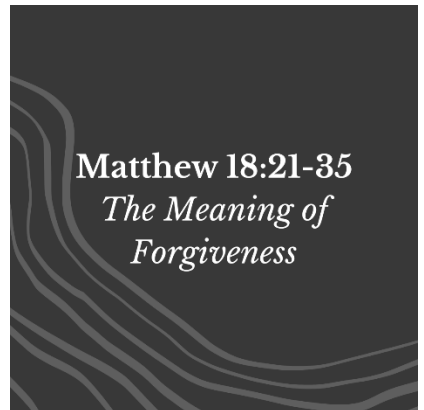
People: **Thanks be to God.**



Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21 – 35

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



Song of the Day: "I Lay My Sins on Jesus" – LSB #606

Message: "Abundantly Forgiven" – Pastor Tom Hurley

WE BRING OUR PRAISES, PRAYERS AND GIFTS



Nicene Creed – *(All speak together)*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



The Prayers – Congregation: “Hear our prayer.”

WE ARE REFRESHED BY GOD’S GRACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name.

Words of Institution

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Communion



Please come forward as the ministers (Pastor and Lay Leader) serve you the Sacrament. As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say to each communicant, "The Body of Christ, given for you... The Blood of Christ, shed for you." The communicant may say, "Amen." We invite non-communicating children to come forward for a blessing and to cross (X) their arms.

Dismissal Blessing

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

People: **for His steadfast love endures forever!**

Pastor: Let us pray: Heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise that You are always faithful in Your promises and in Your gifts. Grant that we may so receive the gifts of Your grace, that we be led by Your Spirit to live holy, upright, and godly lives, multiplying Your mercies by forgiving one another as You have forgiven us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

WE GO OUT TO SHARE GOD'S GRACE

Benediction

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn His face toward you and give you peace. In the name of the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



Closing Hymn: "Let All Things Now Living" – Songbook #162

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT FORUM – Join us after service today for the Adult Forum or Monday mornings at 9:30 on Zoom for our Adult Forum. Look for the ZOOM invitation in your email.

SERVING IN THE LORD’S FIELD TODAY: SERVING IN THE LORD’S FIELD NEXT SUNDAY:

Lay Leader: Fe Rittenbach
Comm. Assistant: Fe Rittenbach
Ushers/Greeter: Sherrald McMurray
Reader: Linda Sotto
Altar/Pre-Post Clean: Marcia Hurley
Counter: Dan Bastien
Fellowship: Linda Sotto & Vicki Mitchell

Lay Leader: Nelson Gremmels
Comm. Assistant: **No Comm.*
Usher/Greeter: John & Gail Hutson
Reader: Doug Holm
Altar/Pre-Post Clean: **Cecilia Bowman*
Counter: Shirley Gremmels
Fellowship: John & Gail Hutson

**No Communion on these Sundays. Altar person will fill the candles on the Altar, change and light the hanging candle.*

BIRTHDAY: None

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: None

SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Joseph Worthington (*Grandson of the Bakken's*) and LTJG Charles Gremmels (*Grandson of Nelson & Shirley Gremmels*).

SURGERY/ILLNESS/PRAYER REQUEST:

Beverly Erbel – Prayers for healing of her broken wrist.

Mike Gremmels – Prayers for recovery from surgery.

Max Newman – Prayers for recovery from stem cell transplant.

Lance Desmond – Prayers for kidney transplant to become available soon, for successful treatment for his neuropathy, and successful hernia surgery.

Joy Bloom – Prayers for comfort and peace.

Eddie Hailey – Prayers for completely healing his brain damage (*Sherrald McMurray's brother*).

Fern Johnson – Prayers for her continued health and her move to Nevada.

Carmen Roncancio – Prayers for her health and for her great-grandson, Gabriel & his father, Daniel.

Ken Benson – Continued healing from cancer.



First Reading: 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.

Second Reading: Romans 14:1 – 12

14 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. **(over)**

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.

Holy Gospel: 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.”