

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 16-17, 2023
St. Lawrence Tide
Divine Service, Setting Five, p. 213

Prelude

Invocation (*stand*)

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Confession and Absolution

Introit *My Soul Thirsts for You*

Ps. 143:1–2; antiphon: Ps. 143:9

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!

Kyrie *Lord, Have Mercy*

LSB 943

All **Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Christe, Christe eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

Gloria

LSB 946

All **Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;
Of heav'nly joy and earthly peace we sing.
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.**

Solo Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.

All **Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,
At God's right hand in majesty most high:
Who with the Spirit worshiped and adored,
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

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P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P 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.

C **Amen.** (*sit*)

Old Testament *God's Good Purposes*

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

- A This is the word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Ps. 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.

Epistle *Do Not Pass Judgment on One Another*

Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let 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. ⁴Who 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.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The 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. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If 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. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why 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; ¹¹for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God."

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

- A This is the word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse of the Day (*stand*)

Matthew 6:14

Alleluia. Alleluia. If you forgive others their | trespasses,*
your heavenly Father will also for- | give you. **Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel *The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant*

Matthew 18:21-35

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

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

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Creed

LSB 953, *soloist st. 2*

All **We all believe in one true God,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Ever-present help in need,
Praised by all the heav'nly host;**

**All He made His love enfolds,
All creation He upholds.**

Soloist We all believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Mary's son,
Who descended from His throne
And for us salvation won;
By whose cross and death are we
Rescued from all misery.

All **We all confess the Holy Ghost,
Who from both in truth proceeds,
Who sustains and comforts us
In all trials, fears, and needs.
Blessèd, holy Trinity,
Praise forever be to Thee!**

Sermon (*sit*) "Forgiveness: It's Not An Option" Matthew 18:21-35

Hymn of the Day "Come Down, O Love Divine" LSB 501, *soloist st. 3*

Prayer of the Church (*stand*) p. 215

Offering (*sit*)

Preface (*stand*) p. 216

Lord's Prayer p. 217

Words of Institution

Sanctus LSB 960

**Isaiah, mighty seer in days of old,
the Lord of all in spirit did behold
High on a lofty throne, in splendor bright,
with robes that filled the temple courts with light.
Above the throne were flaming seraphim;
six wings had they, these messengers of Him.
With two they veiled their faces as was right,
with two they humbly hid their feet from sight,
And with the other two aloft they soared;
one to the other called and praised the Lord:**

**"Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!
His glory fills the heavens and the earth!"**

**The beams and lintels trembled at the cry,
and clouds of smoke enwrapped the throne on high.**

Pax Domini p. 217

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei LSB 434, st. 1

**Lamb of God, pure and holy, who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us, else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!**

Distribution (*sit*) "'As Surely as I Live,' God Said" sts. 1-4, tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR
**"As surely as I live," God said,
"I would not see the sinner dead.**

**I want him turned from error's ways,
Repentant, living endless days."**

**And so our Lord gave this command:
"Go forth and preach in ev'ry land;
Bestow on all My pard'ning grace
Who will repent and mend their ways.**

**"All those whose sins you thus remit
I truly pardon and acquit,
And those whose sins you will retain
Condemned and guilty shall remain.**

**"What you will bind, that bound shall be;
What you will loose, that shall be free;
To My dear Church the keys are giv'n
To open, close the gates of heav'n."**

Post-Communion Hymn (*stand*) "O Lord, We Praise Thee" LSB 617, st. 1
**O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish:
O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead
In all trial, fear, and need:
O Lord, have mercy!**

Post-Communion Collect (*stand*) p. 218
P We give thanks to You, almighty God ... one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Benediction *congregation responds "Amen"*

Closing Hymn "'As Surely as I Live,' God Said" sts. 5-8
tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR

**The words which absolution give
Are His who died that we might live;
The minister whom Christ has sent
Is but His humble instrument.**

**When ministers lay on their hands,
Absolved by Christ the sinner stands;
He who by grace the Word believes
The purchase of His blood receives.**

**All praise to You, O Christ, shall be
For absolution full and free,
In which You show Your richest grace;
From false indulgence guard our race.**

**Praise God the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
As was, is now, and so shall be
World without end, eternally!**

Postlude