# Being Responsible for One Another

September 17, 2023



Sixteenth Week after Pentecost

**WELCOME, GUESTS!!!** We are so glad you came! If you have any questions or would like more information about our church, any member of Grace would be happy to speak with you. Please take the time to fill out a guest register at the church's entrance. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Congregational responses are indicated by indent and boldened letters.

**THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS** – The Church fulfills her role as her brother's keeper. The privilege, responsibility, and importance of this task all rest in the words from our Gospel lesson that follow Jesus' divine directive, "I tell you the truth..." The keys of the kingdom have been placed in our hands. It is our privilege and responsibility to bind and to loose—to be our brother's keeper—because Christ has appointed the Church to carry out that task on his behalf.

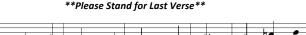
MORNING PRAYER: Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

**ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE:** COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION—CW, p.15



#### **OPENING HYMN:** #529

#### **BUILT ON THE ROCK**





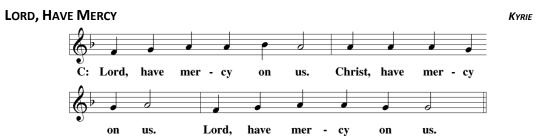
Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt. Tune: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMELT HUS (88 88 88 8) Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87.



#### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

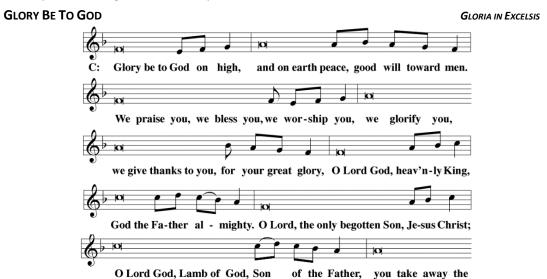


God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.



#### PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



2



**PRAYER OF THE DAY** 



The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



\*\*Please Be Seated\*\*

#### FIRST LESSON:

## EZEKIEL 33: 7 - 11

Since the time of Cain, man has hated being his brother's keeper. Are we any different today? Who but little Pharisees enjoy pointing out others' sins? But God tells us the task is not optional. No one wants to wake up their next-door neighbor at 6:00am on a Saturday but if his house were burning, and you let him sleep, you are not just loveless and careless—you are a killer. In the same way God drops on us the heavy message of being a watchman for our brother.

But I have appointed you, son of man, to be a watchman for the house of Israel. So whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you are to warn them from me. When I say to a wicked man, "Wicked man, you shall surely die," if you do not speak to warn the wicked man against his way, that wicked man will die because of his guilt, but I will also hold you responsible for his blood. But if you do warn the wicked man to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he will die because of his guilt, but you will have saved your life. So you, son of man, say the following to the house of Israel. This is what you people

are saying: "Certainly our rebellion and our sins weigh us down, and because of them we are rotting away. How then can we live?" Say to them, "As I live, declares the LORD God, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from their way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why should you die, O house of Israel?"

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 51A





#### Refrain

Have mercy on me, O God,\*
according to your unfailing love.
Wash away all my iniquity,\*
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions,\*
and my sin is always before me.

#### Refrain

Against you, you only, have I sinned\*
and done what is evil in your sight.
Surely I was sinful at birth,\*
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
Hide your face from my sins,\*
and blot out all my iniquity.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,\*
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,\*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

SECOND LESSON GALATIANS 2: 11 – 21

Being your brother's keeper will lead at times to uncomfortable situations or even confrontations. Here Paul tells how he had to oppose Peter to his face. Paul did not do this out of jealously of this reputed pillar; this was no power play pitting the Apostle to the Jews against the Apostle the Gentiles. This had to do with the eternal salvation of everyone involved.

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he was clearly wrong. For before some people came from James, he ate with the Gentiles. But when those people came, he drew back and separated himself, because he feared those from the circumcision group. And the rest of the Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, with the result that even Barnabas was carried away by their hypocrisy. But when I saw that they were not acting according to the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of all of them, "If you, a Jew, live like the Gentiles and not like the Jews, why do you compel the Gentiles to live like the Jews?"

"We are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinner. We know that a person is not justified by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. So we also believed in Christ Jesus that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. But if, while seeking to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were also found to be sinners, then is Christ a servant of sin? Certainly not!

"In fact, if I build up again those things that I destroyed, I bring on myself the judgment of being a lawbreaker. Indeed, through the law I died to the law that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I am now living in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not regard the grace of God as nothing. As a matter of fact, if righteousness is through the law, then Christ died for nothing!"

#### VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Alleluia. (Philippians 4:4)



GOSPEL MATTHEW 18: 15 – 20

Matthew 18 has become shorthand for Christian discipline. This Sunday provides an excellent opportunity to ensure that shorthand has not become short shrift. The importance of Christian discipline lies in the fact that the keys have been placed into the hands of the Church and in no other. The Christian and the Church are a fallen sinner's only lifeline.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



"If your brother sins against you, go and show him his sin just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have regained your brother. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And, if he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as an unbeliever or a tax collector. Amen I tell you: Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Amen I tell you again: If two of you on earth agree to ask for anything, it will be done for them by my Father who is in heaven. In fact where two or three have gathered together in my name, there I am among them."



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 fully 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.

\*\*Please Be Seated\*\*

## HYMN OF THE DAY JESUS SINNERS DOES RECEIVE



6 Oh, how blest it is to know, Were as scarlet my transgression, It shall be as white as snow By your blood and bitter passion, For these words I do believe— Jesus sinners does receive.

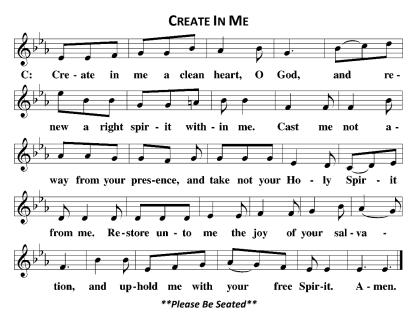
7 Jesus sinners does receive. Even I have been forgiven. And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven. Dying, still to him I cleave— Jesus sinners does receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671-1756, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: Meinen Jesum Lass ich nicht (78 78 77) Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt,

SERMON TEXT SERMON:

MATTHEW 18: 15 – 20 **GUIDED TO SAFETY** 



OFFERING — Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: "Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver." This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

#### PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH'S MISSION

Eternal God and Father, we give you thanks for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, and for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge.

# Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.

Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, O Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

# Awaken us to the opportunities you give to proclaim your message of love.

Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and sacrament, bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have.

Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ in our own neighborhoods and the areas around Deschutes County.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow

Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits.

Move us to support missionaries at home and overseas with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.

#### Silent prayer

Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.

Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.

# 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.

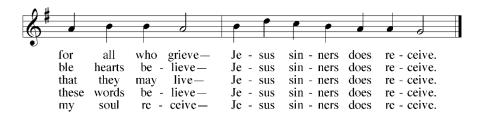
#### \*\*Please Be Seated\*\*

# DISTRIBUTION HYMN JESUS SINNERS DOES RECEIVE

#304

Vs. 5-7





6 Oh, how blest it is to know, Were as scarlet my transgression, It shall be as white as snow By your blood and bitter passion, For these words I do believe— Jesus sinners does receive.

7 Jesus sinners does receive. Even I have been forgiven. And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven. Dying, still to him I cleave— Jesus sinners does receive.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671-1756, abr.; tr. composite.

MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt,

#### \*\*Please Stand\*\*

#### THE SACRAMENT

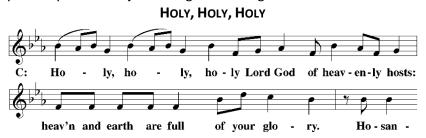
The Lord be with you.

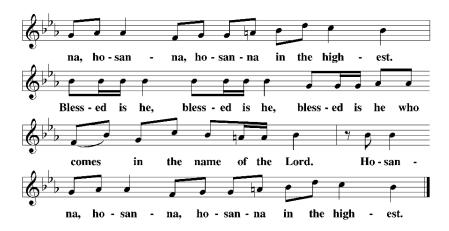
Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and host in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:





#### 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."



#### DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul's guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: "For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord's body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

\*\*Please Stand\*\*



#### **CLOSING PRAYER**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. 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.



#### BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord, make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

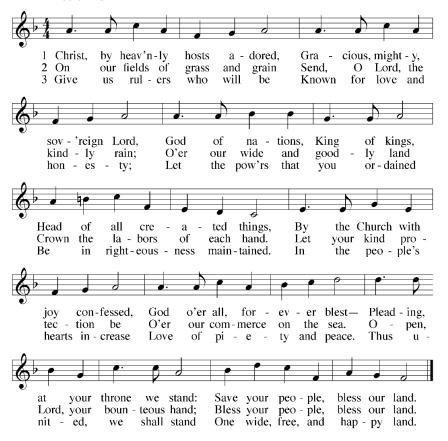
The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



\*\*Please Be Seated\*\*

CLOSING HYMN: #617

#### **CHRIST, BY HEAVENLY HOSTS ADORED**



Text: Henry Harbaugh, 1817-67, abr., alt.

Tune: St. George's, Windsor (77 77 D) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

#### What We believe:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God and is the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary's womb by the Holy Spirit, adding a human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life, and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus' redemptive work receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return to take all believers to heaven, condemn all unbelievers to eternal torment and destroy this present world.

The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2019 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved. www.wartburgproject.org

Refrain Tune: Patricia Craig. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Psalm Tone: Paul Bunjes. © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sunday Morning Bible Study** – Acts of the Apostles; please join us; come and go as you like. We will return to Luther's Small Catechism in October, then we will be considering the second table of the commandments. Please bring your questions!

**Midweek Bible Study** – Due to some classes Pastor Emmons and Tammi have to take on Tuesdays; our Bible Study will be put on hold. We will return on November 7, at 6 pm at the pastor's home, continuing our study of Romans please read Romans 12 in preparation. You may join us at 4384 SW 36<sup>th</sup> St, Redmond, OR, or on Zoom.

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 328 6057 Password: GraceOT

**Ladies' Mission Rally** – Here is an opportunity for the ladies to get together with the other ladies of the Northwest. There will be a Ladies' Mission Rally being held at Parkland Lutheran Church, Tacoma, WA, September  $22-23^{rd}$ . The year's focus is raising up children in the Lord considering the faith formation at home and school the theme is: "Train Up a Child". The link to attend is https://form.jotform.com/231547647192159. Contact Mavis Vandelicht or Pastor Emmons for more information on hotels

**LMSG** – Pastor will be attending the LMSG planning meeting in Colorado Springs September 21 – 23. Lord willing, he will be back in time for Sunday morning service.

**General Pastor's Conference** – Pastor Emmons will be attending the annual conference in Bloomington, MN, October 2 – 6. If you have any pastoral needs in his absence, you may contact him by his cell phone. For more pressing concerns needing immediate care contact Elder Gene Baldwin at 541-610-9978.

Pastor: Roger Emmons Address: 945 SW Glacier Ave

Email: Roger.emmons@graceredmond.com Redmond, OR 97756

**Web Site:** https://graceredmond.com **Mailing Address:** P.O Box 2396 **Church Phone:** 541-844-7100 Redmond, OR 97756

Cell Phone: 541-699-7643