

# Forgiveness Modeled After Christ

September 24,  
2023



Seventeenth Sunday  
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 forgives as God forgives. Anytime we try to imitate God, we quickly realize our inadequacy. Yet today God tells us to model our forgiveness on his: a boundless, free, and loving forgiveness based on the sacrifice of Christ. How could our sinful hearts ever forgive like that? The Prayer of the Day asks that the mercy and grace of God precede us and follow after us, that we might love God with undivided hearts—hearts always ready to forgive as God does: sins are forgiven, forgotten, forever.

**MORNING PRAYER:** Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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



# OPENING HYMN:

#303

WITH BROKEN HEART AND CONTRITE SIGH

**\*\*Please Stand for Last Verse\*\***



1 With bro - ken heart and con - trite sigh, A  
2 I smite up - on my trou - bled breast, With  
3 Far off I stand with tear - ful eyes Nor  
4 No gifts, no deeds that I have done Can  
5 And when, re - deemed from sin and hell, With



trem - bling sin - ner, Lord, I cry, Your  
deep and con - scious guilt, op - pressed, Christ  
dare up - lift them to the skies, But  
for a sin - gle sin a - tone. To  
all the ran - somed souls I dwell, My



par - d'ning grace is rich and free— O  
and his cross my on - ly plea— O  
you can all my an - guish see— O  
Cal - va - ry a - lone I flee— O  
joy - ous song shall ev - er be: God



God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
has been mer - ci - ful to me!

Text: Cornelius Elven, 1791–1873, alt.

Tune: ST. LUKE (LM) Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707.



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

C: A - men.

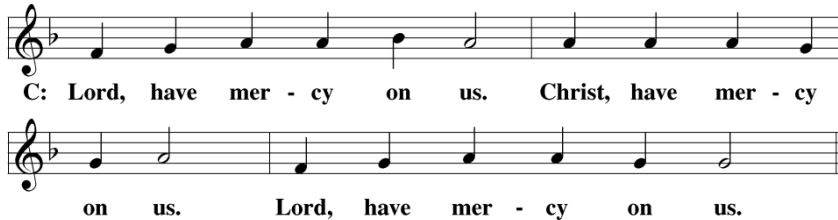
## CONFESSION OF SINS

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.

### LORD, HAVE MERCY

KYRIE



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.

### GLORY BE TO GOD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS





### PRAYER OF THE DAY



The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



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

### FIRST LESSON:

### GENESIS 50: 15 – 21

*How hard it is to forgive like God! We may forgive someone who hurts us, but we never forget. We harbor that hurt deep inside of us for years—never understanding that we are locking ourselves in the prison of the past. Joseph's brothers feared that they would finally have to pay for what they did to Joseph.*

***When 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. "They sent the following message to Joseph: "Before he died your father commanded us, '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. His brothers also came and fell down in front of him, and they said, "See now, we are your servants." Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? You 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. Now therefore, do not be afraid. I will nourish you and your little ones." He comforted them and spoke to them in a kind way.***

*Refrain*

I will hear what the Lord pro-claims: peace to his peo - ple.

*Psalm tone**Refrain*

Praise the LORD, O my soul;\*  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.  
He forgives all your sins\*  
and heals all your diseases;  
he redeems your life from the grave\*  
and crowns you with love and compassion.

*Refrain*

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,\*  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
He does not treat us as our sins deserve\*  
or repay us according to our iniquities.  
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,\*  
so great is his love for those who fear him;  
as far as the east is from the west,\*  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

*Refrain*

As a father has compassion on his children,\*  
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;  
for he knows how we are formed,\*  
he remembers that we are dust.  
Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;\*  
the wind blows over it and it is gone.  
But the LORD'S love is with those who fear him\*  
from everlasting to everlasting.

**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.**

*Refrain*

## SECOND LESSON

## EPHESIANS 4: 29 – 5: 2

*Paul commands us not to act like the unmerciful servant, but rather: “Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.” The Church is comprised of people who have been sealed for redemption, so let’s act like it! Not only kindness and compassion, but forgiveness is the primary mark of the Christian.*

***Do 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. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of every kind of bitterness, rage, anger, quarreling, and slander, along with every kind of malice. Instead, be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ has forgiven us.***

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

### VERSE OF THE DAY

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



## GOSPEL

## MATTHEW 18: 21 – 35

*Forgiveness must be learned, and Peter thought he had figured it out. From the elders of the Jews Peter had heard: “If a man transgresses three times, forgive him. If a man transgresses four times, do not forgive him.” Three times, the elders said, was the limit of forgiveness for a good Jew. Peter, however, was willing to go much further—seven times. Until Jesus said, “Not seven times, Peter, seventy times seven— what the elders say doesn’t matter.*

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



***Then 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?”***

***Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but I tell you as many as seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle them, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. Because 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.***

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

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

*“When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were very distressed. They went and reported to their master everything that had taken place. “Then his master called him in and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt when you begged me to. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had mercy on you?’*

*His master was angry and handed him over to the jailers until he could pay back everything he owed. “This is what my heavenly Father will also do to you unless each one of you forgives his brother from his heart.”*

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

### 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

#493

## FORGIVE OUR SINS AS WE FORGIVE



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," You  
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless The  
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals The  
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls And

taught us, Lord, to pray, But you a - lone can  
 un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and  
 truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are  
 bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in

grant us grace To live the words we say.  
 will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
 owed to us; How great our debt to you!  
 bonds of love Our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-87, alt. © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
 Tune: DETROIT (CM) *A Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony*, Harrisonburg, 1820.

## SERMON TEXT


**MATTHEW 18: 21 - 35**

## SERMON:

## FORGIVENESS BEYOND HUMAN UNDERSTANDING

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

### CREATE IN ME



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
 way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.



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

***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.***

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

### **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 in Deschutes County.**

***Special Prayers and Intercessions***

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

#317

## O LORD, WE PRAISE YOU



1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a-dore you, In thanks-  
 2 Your ho-ly bod-y in-to death was giv-en, Life to  
 3 May God be-stow on us his grace and fa-vor To please

giv-ing bow be-fore you. Here with your bod-y  
 win for us in heav-en. No great-er love than  
 him with our be-hav-ior And live to-geth-er

and your blood you nour-ish Our weak souls that they may  
 this to you could bind us; May this feast of that re-  
 here in love and u-nion, Cher-ish-ing our blest com-

flour-ish. O Lord, have mer-cy! May your bod-y,  
 mind us! O Lord, have mer-cy! Lord, your love and  
 mu-nion. O Lord, have mer-cy! Let not your good

Lord, born of Mar-y, That our sins and sor-rows  
 kind-ness did move you; Let your sup-per move us  
 Spir-it for-sake us; Grant that heav'n-ly-mind-ed

did car-ry, And your blood for us plead In all  
 to love you. All our debt you have paid; Peace with  
 he make us. Give your Church, Lord, to see Days of

tri-al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer-cy!  
 God once more is made. O Lord, have mer-cy!  
 peace and u-ni-ty. O Lord, have mer-cy!

Text: German folk hymn, 15th century, st. 1; Martin Luther, 1483–1546, st. 2-3; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.

Tune: GOTT SEI GELOBET UND GEBENEDEIET (PM) *Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524, alt.

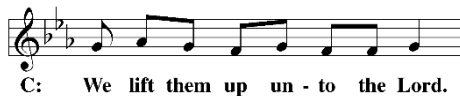
**\*\*Please Stand\*\***

## THE SACRAMENT

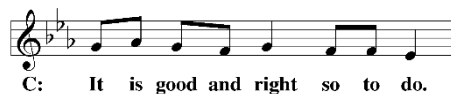
The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.

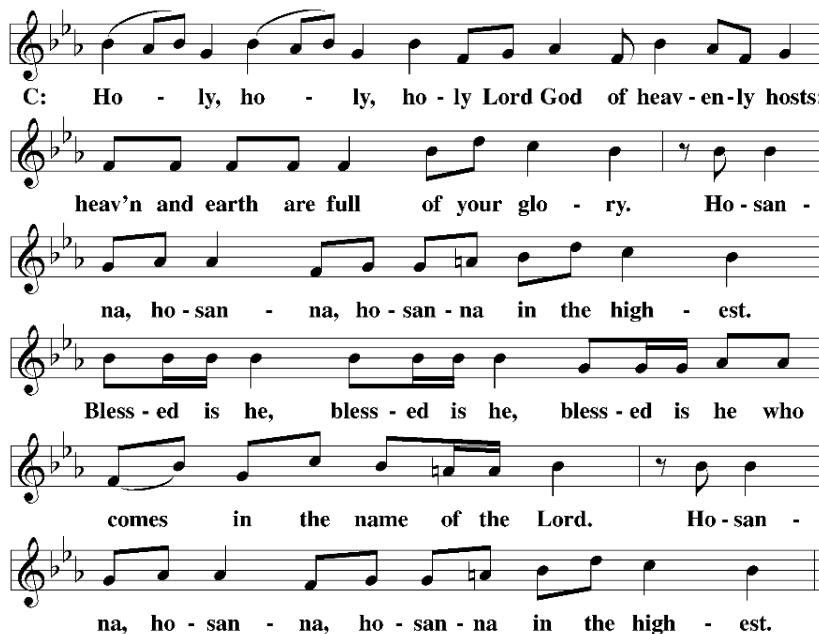


Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



## 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."



The peace of the Lord be with you always.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

*AGNUS DEI*



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

## 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\*\****

## SONG OF SIMEON

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing  
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-  
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the  
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

## 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.

C: A - men.

## 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.

C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

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

**CLOSING HYMN:****#491****O MASTER OF THE LOVING HEART**

1 O Mas - ter of the lov - ing heart, The  
2 Your days were full of kind - ly acts; Your  
3 Your face was warm with sym - pa - thy; Your  
4 Oh, grant us hearts like yours, dear Lord, So



friend of all in need, We pray that we may  
speech was true and plain; Of those who ev - er  
hand God's strength re - vealed; Who saw your face or  
joy - ous, free, and true, That all your chil - dren,



be like you In thought and word and deed.  
sought you, Lord, None came to you in vain.  
felt your touch Were com - fort - ed and healed.  
ev - 'ry - where, Be drawn by us to you.

Text: Calvin W. Laufer, 1874–1938, alt.

Tune: AZMON (CM) Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829, alt.

### **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.

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## 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

**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.

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