

*September 12, 2020 ~ 5:00 p.m.*  
*Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost*

And out of  
pity for him,  
the master of  
that servant  
released  
him and



*for gave*

him the debt.

MATTHEW 18:27, ESV



*Trinity Lutheran Church & School*

*Our Mission:  
To Make More and Better Disciples of Jesus Christ.*



### ***Trinity Lutheran Church***

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***Website: www.thinktrinitychristian.com***

***Principal: Mrs. Kathleen Fretthold***

### **Worship Services**

***Saturday at 5:00pm (in the church)***

***Sunday at 9:30am (in the church)***

***On-line at "www.trinitywestseneca.com"***

**Welcome Visitors and Guests!** Thank you for coming to worship God with us today! We believe that the Spirit of God had a hand in your coming. We trust that God's Word and this special time in worship will be a continuing blessing to you. Come again!

# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 12, 2020 ~ 5:00 p.m.

## AS WE GATHER

The Readings for today focus on living together under the kingship of God. Joseph forgave his brothers, even though they had sold him into slavery. Paul urges us not to quarrel over opinions about earthly matters, but to honor the Lord in all we do. Jesus tells a parable about God's overwhelming forgiveness and how such forgiveness leads us to forgive others. We can live under the kingship of God only because He has forgiven our sins. In Jesus, God has removed our sins as far as the east is from the west. We practice such forgiveness with one another, living together as the family of Christ.

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

## RINGING OF THE BELLS

PIANO PRELUDE    *"The Heart of Worship"*    Matt Redman

## WELCOME

## INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES    *Psalm 143:1-2, 9*

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

**People:    Amen.**

Pastor:    LORD, hear my prayer,

**People:    listen to my cry for mercy;**

Pastor:    in your faithfulness and righteousness

**People:    come to my relief.**

Pastor:    Do not bring your servant into judgment,

**People:    for no one living is righteous before you**

**All:        Rescue me from my enemies, LORD, for I hide myself in you.**

## HYMN

### ***"By Grace I'm Saved"***

**(v 1,4,5)**

[Christian Scheidt / Kornelius Heinrich Dretzel. Public Domain]

By grace, I'm saved, grace free and boundless;

My soul, believe and doubt it not.

Why stagger at this word of promise?

Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?

No; then this word must true remain:

By grace you too will life obtain.

By grace to timid hearts that tremble,  
In tribulation's furnace tried,  
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,  
The Father's heart is open wide.  
Where could I help and strength secure  
If grace were not my anchor sure?  
By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;  
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;  
For though I know my heart's condition,  
I also know my Savior's voice.  
My heart is glad, all grief has flown  
Since I am saved by grace alone.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God, merciful Father,

**People: We confess to You that we have sinned against You in our thinking, speaking, and acting We have not forgiven the people around us the way You have so graciously forgiven us. For Christ's sake alone, we boldly ask Your forgiveness. Send the Holy Spirit to empower us to freely forgive others the way we have been forgiven.**

Pastor: As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear Him. He showed compassion to us by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, who died for our forgiveness and rose again to bring us new life. Because of Jesus, God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. Therefore, as a called and ordained 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.

**People: Amen. As far as the east is from the west, so far does God remove our transgressions from us.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty God, how quickly we forget the great love with which You love us and the grace You have freely showered upon us through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. Grant that our gaze be fixed on Jesus, our hearts overwhelmed by Your love, and that all our relationships may be marked by forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING:   *Genesis 50:15–21***

<sup>15</sup> When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" <sup>16</sup> So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: <sup>17</sup> 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

<sup>18</sup> His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

<sup>19</sup> But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. <sup>21</sup> So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **EPISTLE:   *Romans 14:1–12***

Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. <sup>2</sup> One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup> The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. <sup>4</sup> Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

<sup>5</sup> One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. <sup>6</sup> Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord. Whoever eats meat does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. <sup>7</sup> For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. <sup>8</sup> If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. <sup>9</sup> For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup> You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister<sup>[a]</sup>? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. <sup>11</sup> It is written:

“As surely as I live,’ says the Lord, ‘every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.’”

<sup>12</sup> So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL: *Matthew 18:21–35***

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

<sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup> “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

<sup>26</sup> “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ <sup>27</sup> The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

<sup>28</sup> “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

<sup>29</sup> “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

<sup>30</sup> “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

<sup>32</sup> “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ <sup>34</sup> In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

<sup>35</sup>“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### ***“Chief of Sinners Though I Be”***

(v 1,2,4,5)

[McComb / Redhead. Public Domain]

Chief of sinners though I be,  
Jesus shed his blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high,  
Lives that I might never die.  
As the branch is to the vine,  
I am his, and he is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus' love,  
Higher than the heav'ns above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea,  
Lasting as eternity!

Love that found me wondrous thought  
Found me when I sought him not.

Chief of sinners though I be,  
Christ is all in all to me;  
All my wants to him are known,  
All my sorrows are his own.  
He sustains the hidden life  
Safe with him from earthly strife.

O my Savior, help afford  
By your Spirit and your Word!  
When my wayward heart would stray,  
Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply  
While I live and when I die.

**SERMON: "Forgiveness" *Genesis 50:15-21 & Matthew 18:21-35***

## NICENE CREED

**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 men 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 Christian 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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

**Pastor:** Dear heavenly Father, look with favor upon the nations of the world, especially those suffering from war, conflict, disease, and famine. Be their peace and healer. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Lord, You have made us the light of the world. Help us bring Your light and love to our workplaces. Direct us to treat our employers, employees, and co-workers with fairness and grace, forgiving wrongs as we have been forgiven in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Lord, You have given us the wonderful gifts of families and friends. Look with favor upon our relationships. Bring reconciliation where there is division. Bring love where there is anger. Bring hope where there is despair. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Lord, send Your forgiveness to all those who are weighed down by guilt. Bring Your resurrection hope to all those who hide their sins in shame. Remind them of the baptismal waters, which give them a new identity: child of God. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**



Pastor: (Special petitions). Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Finally, Lord, bless Your Church here and scattered throughout the world. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Keep us mindful of Your gracious forgiveness shown to us, the family of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: All these things we bring before You, O Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## **PREFACE**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and helpful 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 by the blood of His precious cross has brought peace and forgiveness to all the earth.

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Thank You, Father, for the full forgiveness won for us by Jesus on the cross. Thank You for this Sacrament that renews and strengthens us with Christ's own body and blood, that we may lead lives of forgiveness toward others. Thank You for the Holy Spirit who empowers us through the Means of Grace to live out our baptismal vocation as Your dear sons and daughters in this world. Through Christ our Lord we pray,

**People: Amen.**

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\times$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\times$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## 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.

## DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

### *“Just As I Am”*

[Elliott / Bradbury / Elvey. Public Domain]

Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not  
To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need, in thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; Thy love unknown  
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

## THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Grant us grace, heavenly Father, that we not think too highly of ourselves and too little of our neighbor, but give welcome in Your name to all people and rejoice because You have filled us with Your redeeming love in Jesus Christ, our Lord, with whom, in whom, and through whom all honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, both now and forevermore.

People: **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

## HYMN

### ***“O Jesus Blessed Lord, My Praise”***

[Thomas Kingo / Arthur Mason / Louis Bourgeois. Public Domain]

O Jesus, blessed Lord, my praise,  
My heartfelt thanks to You I raise;  
You have so lovingly bestowed  
On me Your body and Your blood.

Break forth, my soul, in joy and say:  
What wealth has come to me today,  
What health of body, mind, and soul!  
Christ dwells within me, makes me whole.



## **Serving Us**

*Pastor ... Rev. Dennis Krueger*

*Organist ... Katherine Herman*

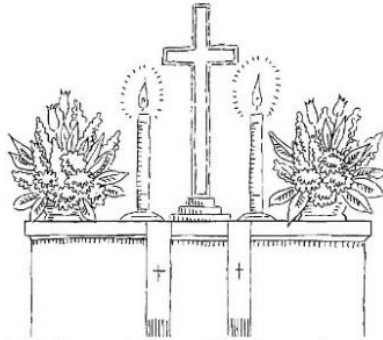
*Piano ... Jean Newton*

*Singers ... Linda Meissner, Marie Thompson*

*Altar ... Karen Hollowood*

*Deacon ... Jerry Meissner*

*Financials ... Dan & Lin Rowsell, Karen Tedesco*



## Worship Schedule

**Saturdays at 5:00pm**

**Sundays at 9:30am**

**Both services will be held in the church.**

You can also view the services each week on our website:

[www.trinitywestseneca.com](http://www.trinitywestseneca.com)