

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 19



Forgive Your Brother from the Heart

Who Do You Think You Are?

September 13, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Forgiveness is filled with questions. How often must I forgive? Is there a limit to the grace of forgiveness? What is the connection between God's forgiveness to me and my forgiveness to others? The answer to these questions lies in Christ. As our heavenly Father has forgiven us, so do we forgive one another in His name. This forgiveness is clearly and beautifully shown in the example of Joseph, who was sold into slavery by his brothers and then forgave them because of God's mercy.

We live in a world filled with uncertainty, and much of this uncertainty is so personal. Who we are and what it is that gives our lives identity, meaning, and purpose go to the very heart of the questions for our times. Today, Paul reminds us that we belong to the Lord. Whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Being the Lord's own is what shapes our self-understanding and defines how we relate to one another. All the things that divide us on earth and how we are tempted to identify ourselves by preference or desire are overcome by the Lord, who suffered for us, died to save us, and lives to set us free. This love makes it possible for us to see others as our brothers and sisters in Christ.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

PRAYERS OF PREPARATION:

Bless us as we meet together, dear Lord we pray. Bless the singing of your praise, the reading of your Word, the sharing of our fellowship, the prayers that will be heard. Bless us as we meet together. Christ Jesus, we come into your presence from many

different places. We come with songs of joy and shouts of gratitude. We come carrying heavy burdens and sighs of suffering. As you welcome us into your house, lift our burdens and receive our praise. Salt us with your grace and flavor us with your mercy. Bind us together, that we may be at peace with one another and be strengthened to go forth in service to the world. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

WELCOME:

WELCOME TO GOD’S HOUSE... *“If you are tired from carrying heavy burdens, come to me and I will give you rest. Take the yoke I give you. Put it on your shoulders and learn from me. I am gentle and humble, and you will find rest. This yoke is easy to bear, and this burden is light.”* Christ calls us to come to worship to rest from the things that are troubling us, to learn what Christ can teach of life, to realize what we can offer to others, and so to return into the world to serve. In the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ, welcome to Christian worship.

SELECTION

Minister Terry Dale

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☐ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for self-examination.

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, confident of His grace and forgiveness to all who are penitent.

People: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, 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.

Pastor: Rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints through the gift of forgiveness, let us manifest our unity by extending the hand of peace. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

✠ WORD ✠

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, You have rescued us from our bondage to sin and given us a new life and identity in Baptism. Grant us Your grace that we live in peace with all people and show to those around us the same forgiveness that You have shown to us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Genesis 50:15–21* (At the death of their father, Jacob, Joseph reassured his brothers that he forgave them and recognized the hand of God at work in their lives.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Psalm 39:9, 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 *Romans 14:1–12* (If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die
to the Lord.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Matthew 6:14*

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Leader: If you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also
forgive you.

People: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 18:21–35* (How often must I forgive my brother? How
Often has God forgiven you?)

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

SELECTION

Minister Terry Dale

SERMON

SELECTION

Minister Terry Dale

(We Bring Our Tithes and Offering To the Lord)

CREED Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the
Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell.**

The third day He rose again from the dead.

**He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Lord, grant that we not judge without mercy but forgive without limit, that we who have known the fullness of Your mercy in Christ also manifest a compassionate heart against those who sin against us.
Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Lord, grant to Your Church Your Spirit and power, that we be supplied with faithful Leaders and church workers to serve us in Your name, and that we hear and heed the voice of Your Word and walk in holiness of life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Lord, grant to those who lead us in this nation and in all the nations wisdom and integrity, that they pursue what is good and right and just according to Your Word and commands, and serve the common good. Deliver us from terror and threat, and give Your peace to the nations. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Lord, grant to the sick and all who suffer any affliction of body, mind, or soul the blessing of Your mercy, with forgiveness according to Your will, and Your presence and comfort to sustain them through the day of trouble. Hear us especially on behalf of those for whom our intercession has been requested, [*names*], and those we name in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, grant to the homeless, the widowed, the orphaned, and the unemployed Your strength to bear up under the weight of their trials and Your guidance to bring them to the places where their needs may be answered. Open our hearts to care for them and support them in their need. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Lord, grant to us grateful hearts that with our voices we offer You the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and with our tithes and offerings show forth our confidence in Your loving care and our desire to support the work of Your Church. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Local concerns may be added here.

Leader: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
People: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

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.
Numbers 6:24–26
People: Amen.

SELECTION

Minister Terry Dale

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON NOTES

***LISTEN TO THE MESSAGE FROM GOD'S WORD.
USE THIS SHEET TO MAKE SOME PERSONAL NOTES.
GO BACK OVER THEM THROUGH THE WEEK.
THINK AND LET GOD CRYSTALIZE TRUTHS IN YOUR LIFE.***

Sermon Title

Biblical Scripture Text

Main points of the sermon:

Illustrations I want to remember:

What should I do as a result of hearing this sermon?