

17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2020

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“Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times? Jesus answered, I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. . . . Then the master called the servant in. You wicked servant, he said, I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you? In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. **This is how My heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart.**” (Matthew 18:21-22; 32-35 - NIV)

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, I pray that Your mercy & grace may continue to always go before me and follow after me, that loving You with an undivided heart, I may always be ready for every good and useful work; through Your Son, Jesus Christ my Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. AMEN

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### **Order of Worship – The Common Service With L.S. – pg. 15**

- Greeting by the Pastor

- Invocation (Liturgy pg. 15)

Opening Hymn **C.W. 224 / TLH 4** sung by the Congregation

- Confession of Sins

- Absolution

- Prayer and Praise (pg. 16)

- Prayer of The Day (pg. 17)

**First Lesson** – Genesis 50:15-21 – Joseph Forgives.

**PSALM OF THE DAY** Psalm 103 (C.W. pg. 105 – Read Responsively)

M: Praise the Lord O my soul; all my inmost being, praise His Holy Name.

**C: He forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases;**

M: He redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with love and compassion.

**C: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.**

M: He does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

**C: 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.**

M: 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.

**C: Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field; the wind blows over it and it is gone.**

M: But the Lord's love is with those who fear Him from everlasting to everlasting.

**C: This Is The Word Of The Lord.**

**Second Lesson** – Romans 14:5-9 – We Are the Lords.

**Gospel Lesson** – Matthew 18:21-35 – Forgiven – Forgive.

**Nicene Creed** by the Congregation: (Liturgy pg. 18)

Sermon Hymn: **C.W. 391 / TLH 245** sung by the Congregation

**Sermon Text:** Matthew 18:21-22; 32-35

Sermon Theme: Forgiven. - Why Not Forgive?

"Create in Me" – (pg. 20)

Offering (The plates will not be passed but are at the entrance doors)

Offering Prayer

Prayer of The Church

Lord's Prayer

**Communion Liturgy** (Liturgy - pg. 21)

*Sanctus* (Holy, Holy, Holy – Liturgy pg. 22)

Words of Institution (Liturgy pg. 23)

**Agnus Dei** (O Christ Lamb of God – Lit. pg. 23)

RECEPTION of Christ's Body & Blood which are Really Present, In / With and Under the Bread and the Wine for the forgiveness of sins.

Communion Hymn **C.W. 316 / TLH 309** sung by the Congregation after everyone has communed including the Pastor

*Nunc Dimittis* (Song of Simeon - Liturgy pg. 24)

Collect / Prayer (pg. 24)

Benediction

Closing Hymn **C.W. 334 / TLH 644** sung by the Congregation.

**Wherever You Are, There Is God's Mission Field.**

SERMON TEXT: Matthew 18:21- 2; 32-35

Vs. 21 – Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?

Vs. 22 – Jesus answered, I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

Vs. 32 – Then the master called the servant in. You wicked servant, he said, I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.

Vs. 33- Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?

Vs. 34 – In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

Vs. 35 – **This is how My heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart.**

GREETING: Let us hold unswerving to the hope we profess, for He Who promised is faithful.

As you sit in your favorite chair, or lay in bed in thought, what type of questions do you ask God?

When will all the problems in the world come to an end?

Lord, what do you want me to do with my life?

Lord, and you can fill in the blank \_\_\_\_\_?

Have you ever asked God: How many times shall I forgive my neighbor, my fellow human being?

That is the question that the Apostle Peter asks today:

**Vs. 21 – “Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?”**

And to this question of Peter, the Lord Jesus gives the following answer:

**Vs. 22 – Jesus answered, I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.**

And just in case Peter does not understand what is meant by this answer, Jesus gives *The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant*.

The servant owed his Master and King 10,000 talents.

A Talent is approximately 75 pounds of either silver or gold. Whichever precious metal it was, (and the text does not state clearly) that would amount to 750,000 pounds of Silver or of Gold. Silver at the time is \$17.50 / ounce which is = to \$ 280.00 / lbs. x 750,000 = 2 Billion + \$ Gold at the time is \$1,225.00 / Ounce which is = to \$ 19,600.00 / lbs. x 750,000 = 1.47 Trillion dollars.

A tremendous amount!                      The servant had his debt forgiven!

Unfortunately, the servant did not practice what he learned from his Master, instead we are told that he immediately went out and found a fellow servant who owed him 100 denarii. (Estimated at \$17.00)

The first servant then grabbed the second servant and began to choke him, demanding to be paid back.                      The second servant begged for mercy and time to pay back the debt.

But the first servant then had the second servant thrown into prison until he could pay back the debt of 100 denarii.

News of this unmerciful servant was taken back to the King / Master.

The Master in turn called the first servant back.

**Vs. 32 – Then the master called the servant in. You wicked servant, he said, I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.**

**Vs. 33- Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?**

**Vs. 34 – In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.**

God in His mercy has forgiven us all our sins because of Jesus.

Can we ever repay God?                      Can we ever undo any evil thought, word or deed from yesterday?

We cannot, but God has forgiven us in Christ Jesus our Lord and has won heaven for us.

What does God want?

He wants each one of us to forgive from the heart and in truth, without holding grudges in our heart against our fellow man, even as God in Christ Jesus has forgiven us.

There do come times when we do not want to forgive others because in our mind we feel that they do not deserve it.

The truth is that WE NEVER deserve God's forgiveness.

Yet He forgives us freely and totally in Christ Jesus our Risen and Living Savior. **AMEN**

**THEME: Forgiven.**