

Lord, how often should I forgive?

MATTHEW 18:21



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 13, 2026, 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Stephanie White

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Order of Worship

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 2026, 9:30 a.m.

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

Key to hymnals in the pews:

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red); page numbers are in front, hymns in back

WOV = With One Voice (blue); page numbers are in front, hymns in back

STS = Spirit Touching Spirit (grey)

* = Please rise

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

We welcome all who are gathered with us for worship, whether in person or via the livestream! If you are worshipping with us via the livestream, please send an e-mail to redeemer@gytel.com to let us know from where you are worshipping.

*Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**
Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Water is poured into the baptismal font.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
Amen.

***ProceSSIONAL Hymn**

Ten Thousand Reasons

ACS #1097
(see insert)

All turn and face the processional cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.

***Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

***Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray...O Lord God, merciful judge,
you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: *Having decided to let the Israelites go from Egypt, Pharaoh had second thoughts and sent his army after them (14:5-8). Though the passage through the Red Sea became a sign of salvation for the people of Israel, Pharaoh's forces drowned in the waters. As a result the Israelites believed in the Lord and in the Lord's servant Moses.*

Exodus 14:19-31

¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the Lord, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. ²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers."

²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God!

Psalm 114

- ¹ Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,
² **Judah became God's sanctuary
and Israel God's dominion.**
³ The sea beheld it and fled;
Jordan turned and went back.
⁴ **The mountains skipped like rams,
and the little hills like young sheep.**
⁵ What ailed you, O sea, that you fled,
O Jordan, that you turned back,
⁶ **you mountains, that you skipped like rams,
you little hills like young sheep?**
⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
⁸ **who turned the hard rock into a pool of water
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

Second Reading: *This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.*

Romans 4:1-12

- ¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God!

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW p. 102

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Gospel: When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

*Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew...

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Stephanie White

***Hymn of the Day**

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

ELW #605



Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease;



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
how tri - fling oth - ers' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.

Music: DETROIT, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © Oxford University Press 1969.

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*Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

***Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

We welcome you to Redeemer Lutheran Church this day! In-person worshippers can place their offering in the offering plate at this time. Your tithes and offerings submitted via the Postal Service or electronically are also gratefully appreciated. Also at this time, please take a minute to sign the red book and the end of pews and pass it down. Thank you!

***Offertory**

*Take Me Lord
sing twice*

STS #41

Take me, Lord, I give to you,
everything and all I do!
My love, my life, is my offering
that I give to you.

***Offering Prayer**

God of creation,
**you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.
Amen.**

***Prayers of the Church**

...Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

***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**



SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Benediction**

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

All turn and face the processional cross as it is carried from the sanctuary.

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your trib - ute bring.
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis - tress.
3 Tend - er - ly he shields and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows.
4 An - gels help us to a - dore him, who be - hold him face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais-es sing.
Praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
In his hands he gent - ly bears us, res-cues us from all our foes.
Sun and moon bow down be - fore him; all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly as his mer - cy flows.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847

Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

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***Dismissal**

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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ASSISTING IN MINISTRY

Presiding: Rev. Stephanie White

Ushers: Nate and Dianne Stroh

Acolytes:

Lector: Katelyn Johanneck

Serving at the Altar: Polly Gustafson

Organist: Reid Froiland

Cantor: Chris Cuppett

Video: Dave Ulrich

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

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Rev. Stephanie White, *pastor*
Dianne Stroh, *administrative assistant*
Marit Knutson, *financial secretary*
Katelyn Johanneck *director of gen. ministry*
Terri Cuppuett, *council president*

Reid Froiland, *organist/liturgist/choir director*
Chris Cuppett, *cantor*
Mike Lundgren, *custodian*
Dave Ulrich, *videographer*

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Joe Caswell and Family, Lillian Ancoa, The Marlys Anderson Family, Shane Defreece, Mike and Kathy Barry Family, Donna Teeter, Tom Goddard Families, Larry Forsberg and Family, Ezra Efteland, Hannah Holthouse, Roger Forsberg, Nancy Killian, Heather Stein, Kristie Huseh, Diane Brooks, Jon Christianson, Tom Gustafson, Tamara Vaughan, Darren Bakke, Rick Harbott, Michelle Kasprick, Shari Safranski, Barb Horien, Rick and Tami Hanson, Rose Teie, Fern Melbye, Laurie Miller, Adam Holthouse (deployed to Iran.)

If you have anyone to add to the prayer list, please let Pastor Steph or the office know.



Altar flowers are given today by
Tim and April Maas
In loving memory of Myron Maas.
Altar flowers are also given by
June Johnson
In memory of Brad.



Quarterly statements are available upon request; please contact Marit at the church office.

**Week Ending
August 30, 2026
\$ 3,712.37**



Volunteers are needed to read, usher and serve communion. If you can help out in any of these roles, please fill out a volunteer sheet found on our new church app. Thank you for sharing your time and talents.

We offer our Christian love and sympathy to the Joe Caswell family on the passing of wife, mother and grandmother, Betty Caswell. Her funeral will be held on Saturday October 3rd beginning at 1:00 pm at Johnson Funeral Home.

Everyone is welcome to come enjoy the Coffee Cart every Thursday from 9am to 11am. Bring a friend and come have coffee, tea, or another beverage along with a treat.

Coming this week:

Tuesday, September 15 – 9:00 Quilters

3:30 Techy Tuesday

6:00 Church Council

Wednesday, September 16 – 9:30 Staff

1:30 Ruth Bible Study

5:45 J.A.M.

6:30 Evening Prayer Worship

7:00 Confirmation

9th Grade Stoles

Thursday, September 17 – 9:00 Coffee Cart with Katelyn

1:00 Nursing Home Visits

Sunday, September 20 – 9:30 – Worship with Holy Communion

Food Drive carts are out in the Narthex. Please remember to bring a donation to help the hungry in our community. All donations will be brought to the local food shelf. Thank you! The theme is for ethnic foods.

Please download the app for Redeemer on your electronic devices. If you are needing help with this, Katelyn is offering Techy Tuesday from 3:30 to 6:00pm every Tuesday. Stop in and she will help get the app downloaded to your electronic devices, show you how it works and answer any questions you may have.

Women of the ELCA - Trinity Lutheran in Crookston is the place to be on September 18th & 19th. They are hosting the 38th annual Convention. More information and the registration sheets are on the table in the Narthex.

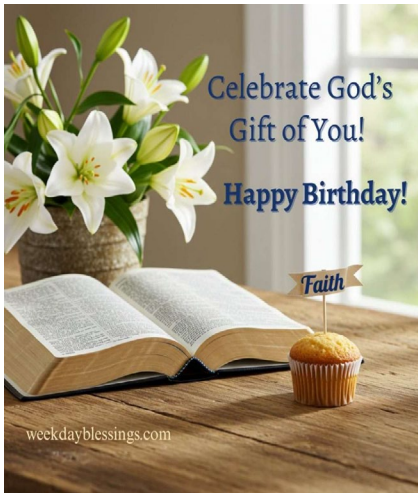
The 2nd Annual Hootenanny has been postponed unit sometime in October.

Confirmation pictures will be taken on Wednesday, October 7th.

Confirmation will be on October 25th this year.

 A grief support group meets on the 3rd Thursday at 1:30 p.m. each month at the Heritage Center. Open to all adults dealing with the loss of a loved one through death. All meetings are free. You may call 800-237-4629 with questions

September Birthdays



- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Douglas Nomeland | 16. Anna Stroh |
| 3. April Scheinoha | 17. Beth Nordby-Pelletier |
| 4. Brandon Gehrls | Pat Thibert |
| Jason Svir | 18. Susan Froiland |
| Charlotte Aahles | Chuck Odegaard |
| 6. Brady Bakken | 19. Chad Eckstein |
| 7. Mike Conely | 20. Jacob Hall |
| Brody Olson | Cole Johnson |
| 8. Dick Krogstad | 22. Cheryl Srnsky |
| 10. LaVonne F0rsberg | 23. Kayleigh Jesme |
| 11. Cody Weinen | 24. Brody Poe |
| Isabela Nelson | 25. Annah Haugen |
| 12. Andi Efteland | Kristen Bjerklie |
| Brooklyn Carlson | Hannah Holthouse |
| Jan Dillon | 26. Richard Holmes |
| 13. Tyson Gustafson | Marek Landgren |
| 14. Scott DCamp | 27. Baryth Halvorson |
| Teresa Fay | Rose Teie |
| Alyssa Nelson | Ken Niemela |
| Jami Philipp | 28. Aaron Myers |
| 15. Missy Hall | Hailey Kvick |
| Cameron Dahlin | 30. Olivia Schuster |

