



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 2020

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 27, 2020

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

1600 S. Main St.

Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54937-9235

www.stpetersfdl.net

Worship: Thursday, 6:30 pm ~ Sunday, 7:45 & 10:30 am

Phone: 922-1160 or 921-8075

Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier: 517-8808

Pastor Matthew M. Guse: 517-9000

For hospital visits or emergencies, please call Pastor Zuberbier at 517-8808.

Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. David Schroeder, Principal 921-4930 ext. 304

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE May the time that we spend together in the Word of Truth give you encouragement and endurance to live your life to the glory of your Savior.

Thank you for joining us for worship. If you have any questions about our service or practice, please feel free to ask one of the ushers or a pastor.

- Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 each Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.
- Please silence your cell phone and all other electrical devices to help minimize distractions during Divine Worship. Thank you.
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- Visitors, we are pleased that you have joined us this morning. Please feel free to inquire about our congregation through the pastors, one of the ushers, or one of the members. If you are a visitor from out of town, please be sure to introduce yourself to one of the pastors after the service. We welcome all of you to come and worship with us again.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Lord of my life, whose tender care has led me on till now, here lowly, at the hour of prayer, before your throne I bow. I bless your gracious hand and pray forgiveness for another day. Amen.

SERVICE THEME Our gracious heavenly Father leads us to forgive others just as in Christ he has forgiven us.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Service of the Word

OPENING HYMN

Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul | CW 238

Oh, bless the Lord, my soul! Let all within me join
And aid my tongue to bless his name Whose favors are divine.

Oh, bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let his mercies lie
Forgotten in unthankfulness And without praises die.

'Tis he forgives my sins; 'Tis he relieves my pain;
'Tis he that heals my sicknesses And makes me young again.

His wondrous works and ways He made by Moses known,
But sent the world his truth and grace By his beloved Son.

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

SONG of PRAISE

Wondrous Are Your Ways, O God | CW 307

Wondrous are your ways, O God! No one can escape you!
Farthest space nor greatest depth Cannot hide me from you!
Long before I came to birth, Your eye saw and knew me.
Even in life's darkest hour In your hand you hold me.

Search me, God, and know my heart, Lord of truth and mercy.
From afar, O Lord, you know All my thoughts, my secrets.
And if any wicked way Should be found within me,
Cleanse, forgive me by your grace; By your Spirit guide me.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: 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.

C: **♪ Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 50:15-21

True forgiveness means bearing no grudges.

¹⁵When 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."

¹⁶They sent the following message to Joseph: "Before he died your father commanded us, ¹⁷'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.

¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down in front of him, and they said, "See now, we are your servants."

¹⁹Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰You 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. ²¹Now therefore do not be afraid. I will nourish you and your little ones." He comforted them and spoke to them in a kind way.

VERSE OF THE DAY

♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 4:29-5:2

Christ's forgiveness drives us to forgive one another in love.

²⁹Do 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. ³⁰Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Get rid of every kind of bitterness, rage, anger, quarreling, and slander, along with every kind of malice. ³²Instead, be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ has forgiven us.

^{5:1}Therefore, be imitators of God as his dearly loved children. ²And walk in love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY

God Loved the World So that He Gave | **CW 391**

God loved the world so that he gave His only Son the lost to save
That all who would in him believe Should everlasting life receive.

Christ is the solid rock of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death.
All who confide in him alone Are built on this chief cornerstone.

God would not have the sinner die-His Son with saving grace is nigh.
His Spirit in the Word does teach How we the blessed goal may reach.

Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives the sins that you have done.
You're justified by Jesus' blood; Baptized, you are a child of God.

When you are sick, when death draws near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death-This is the anchor of my faith!

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

Those who have been forgiven much, forgive much.

²¹Then 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?"

²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but I tell you as many as seventy-seven times. ²³For this reason the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle them, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵Because 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.

²⁶"Then the servant fell down on his knees in front of him, saying, 'Master, be patient with me, and I will pay you everything!' ²⁷The master of that servant had pity on him, released him, and forgave him the debt.

²⁸"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!'

²⁹"So his fellow servant fell down and begged him, saying, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back!' ³⁰But he refused. Instead he went off and threw the man into prison until he could pay back what he owed.

³¹"When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were very distressed. They went and reported to their master everything that had taken place.

³²"Then his master called him in and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt when you begged me to. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴His master was angry and handed him over to the jailers until he could pay back everything he owed.

³⁵"This is what my heavenly Father will also do to you unless each one of you forgives his brother from his heart."

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪ **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

"The Forgiven Forgive"

Pastor Zuberbier

1. Our merciful God freely forgives our immeasurable debt.
2. We will freely forgive the puny debt of others.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

PRESENTING OF OUR OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE 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.

HYMN

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me | CW 389

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood From thy riven side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill thy law's demands.
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress, Helpless, look to thee for grace.
Foul, I to the fountain fly-Wash me, Savior, or I die!

While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, See thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee!

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: ♪ Amen. Amen. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive | CW 493

"Forgive our sins as we forgive," You taught us, Lord, to pray,
But you alone can grant us grace To live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let Old bitterness depart?

In blazing light your cross reveals The truth we dimly knew:
What trivial debts are owed to us; How great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls And bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love Our lives will spread your peace.



ORGANIST
Pam Zuberbier

GREATERS

7:45 ~ Guy & Sue Repp 10:30 ~ Judine Schicker

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**Weekly Announcements**

**BIBLE CLASSES SET TO RESUME** Wednesday and Sunday Bible classes will resume on September 30 and October 4 respectively. Wednesday's Bible Class will meet at 10 am and, since there is currently no Choir Practice, 6:30 pm. We will continue our study of **Genesis, the Book of Beginnings**. You may want to read chapters 1-25 for review. Sunday Bible Class will begin at 9:15 am. We will study the book of Acts under the title: **The Word of the Lord Grows**. We hope to see all our regular attenders back. It would also be wonderful to see new people at Bible Class. "I lift up my hands to your commandments, which I love, and I meditate on your statutes." (Psalm 119:48)

**LWMS FALL RALLY** Saturday morning, October 10 is the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society Winnebago Circuit Fall Rally held at Faith. Registration will begin at 8:45 am. No refreshments of any kind will be served. Masks are highly suggested, because the mask mandate is extended. Be sure to bring your own pen. We ask you fellowship outdoors, and follow the seating arrangement in the sanctuary.

All women by congregational membership are part of LWMS and encouraged to attend. Men are welcome to join their wives or friends, too.

**MISSION FEST** will be held on Thursday, October 22 and Sunday, October 25 with guest pastor Timothy Dolan speaking on the Apache Land. He will also give a presentation between services. The Mission Festival dinner has been cancelled due to Covid-19.

**SPREAD SOME SON-SHINE** Our members in care facilities are unable to have visitors due to the pandemic. We would like to send them some cards to let them know we are thinking of them. Please help us brighten their days!



Kathy Henke at Touchstone in North Fond du Lac  
Eunice Wondrash at the Meadows of Fond du Lac

*Last Week's Stewardship*

Worship: 123 + 114 + 157 = 394

Communed: 101 + 86 + 115 = 302

*First Fruits to the Lord 2020:*

|                                                  | <u>Last Week</u> | <u>Year-to-Date</u> |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Thank offerings in support of the unified budget | \$24,330.73      |                     |
| Other receipts in support of the unified budget  | 2,375.00         |                     |
| Total receipts in support of the unified budget  | 26,705.73        | \$1,049,913.89      |
| Requirement to support proposed unified budget   | 31,127.02        | 1,182,826.76        |
| Overage (Shortfall)                              | (4,421.29)       | (132,912.87)        |
| Improvement Fund                                 | 614.00           |                     |
| WLA Forward in Trust                             | 5.00             |                     |
| Honoring the Lord!                               | 730.00           |                     |
| St. Peter's Tuition Assistance                   | 20.00            |                     |
| Radio Ministry                                   | 150.00           |                     |

*Daily Bible Readings*

|                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 09/27 1 Kings 5        | 10/01 1 Kings 9:1-10:13   |
| 09/28 1 Kings 6:1-7:12 | 10/02 1 Kings 10:14-11:43 |
| 09/29 1Kings 7:13-8:11 | 10/03 1 Kings 12:1-32     |
| 09/30 1 Kings 8:12-66  |                           |