



FFTP

September 17, 2023

16th Sunday after Pentecost



Ascension Lutheran Church

1105 N. Washington Blvd.

Ogden, UT 84404

801.782.2810

Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 50 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community. It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community, communion** and **commitment**. Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshipping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

**Children are always welcome in worship services;
however please know a nursery space is available for
parents who need to tend to their little ones.**

Introduction

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

Welcome to Worship

Prayer of Confession

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
✝ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

All Amen

P Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

Steadfast and faithful God,

**All you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

Amen.

P Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In ✝ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

All Amen.

Opening Song

Come Let Us Worship And Bow Down Words and Music by Dave Doherty

Come, let us wor-ship and _ bow down, let us kneel be-fore the Lord, our God, our
Mak - er. ____ Come, let us wor-ship and _ bow down, let us
kneel be-fore the Lord, our God, our Mak - er. For He ____ is our God, and
we are the peo - ple of His pas - ture, and the sheep ____ of His
hand, just the sheep ____ of His hand.

Greeting

P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness.

All 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.

[You may be Seated](#)

A Reading from Genesis, the 50th chapter

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Genesis 50:15-21

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from Romans, the 14th chapter

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.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those 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. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants 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.

⁵Some 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. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If 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. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why 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. ¹¹For it is written,

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

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Romans 14:1-12

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit.



Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

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

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus 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. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But 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.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Matthew 18:21-35

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

[You may be Seated](#)

Sermon

Deacon Frederico Garza

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit.

God Of The Poor

Words and Music by
Graham Kendrick

1 Beau - ty for bro - ken - ness, hope for des - pair, Lord, in Your
2 Shel - ter for fra - gile lives, cures for their ills, work for the
3 Re - fuge from cruel wars, ha - vens from fear, cit - ies for

suff - 'ring world, this is our prayer. Bread for the chil - dren,
crafts - men, trade for their skills. Land for the dis - pos - sessed,
sanc - tu - 'ry, free - doms to share. Peace to the kill - ing fields,

jus - tice, joy, peace, sun - rise to sun - set Your king - dom in -
rights for the weak, voic - es to plead the cause of those who can't
scorched earth to green, Christ for the bit - ter - ness, His cross for the

crease. speak.
pain.

God of the poor, friend of the weak,

give us com - pas - sion we pray, melt our cold

hearts, let tears fall like rain. Come change our love

from a spark to a flame.

8

The Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the 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.**

[You may be Seated](#)

Prayers of Intercession

L Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.



O Lord, hear our prayer we of-fer up to you; O Lord, hear our prayer.

(each prayer petition ends with)

L: Merciful God, **All:** receive our prayer.

Passing of the Peace

P Christ become peace with you.

All And also with you.

Offering

All that we have _____ and all that we of - fer _____
comes from a heart both fright - ened and free. _____
Take what we bring now and give what we need; _____
All done in His name. _____

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray:

God of field and forest, sea and sky,
you are the giver of all good things.

All Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us,
that we would feed and fill the world with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Please stand in body or spirit.

P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P And with our hearts and voices raised we remember...

(All) On the night You were be - trayed You took the bread; Af - ter
giv - ing thanks, You broke it and said, "This is My
bod - y, bro - ken for you, and as you
eat it, re - mem - ber Me; This is My
bod - y bro - ken for you, and as you
eat it, re - mem - ber Me." On the

night You were be - trayed You held the cup; Af - ter
 giv - ing thanks, You lift - ed it up. "This is My
 blood, poured out for you, and as you drink it, re - mem - ber
 Me; This is My blood, poured out for you, and as you
 drink it, re - mem - ber Me." So, we
 thank You for the wine and for the bread; For we
 see the life You gave and the blood You shed. And we re -
 mem - ber Your won - drous love, You gave Your
 bod - y, You shed Your blood; And we re - mem - ber Your won - drous
 love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your blood.

The Lord's Prayer

P Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:

All 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.

The Invitation

P All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat and live..

You may be Seated

Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice.

Gluten Free wafers available –ask the communion attendant

Communion Songs

What a Friend We Have in Jesus



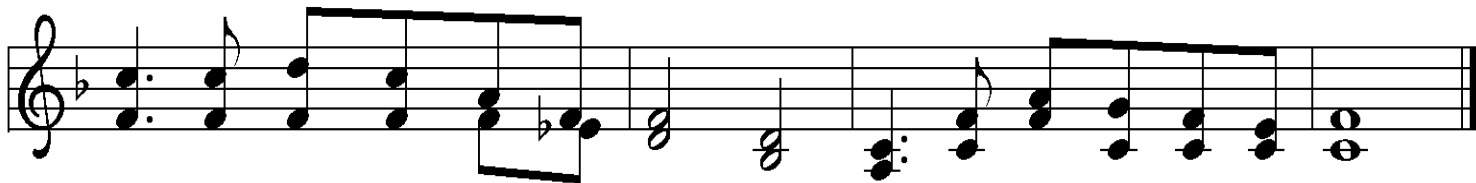
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share?
Do your friends de-spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Spirit Song Words and Music by
John Wimber



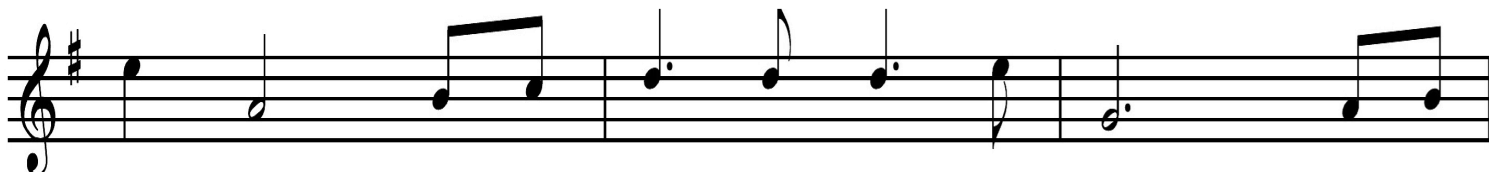
1 Oh, let the Son of God en - fold you with His
2 Oh, come and sing this song with glad - ness as your



Spir - it and His love; Let Him fill your heart and
hearts are filled with joy; Lift your hands in sweet sur -



sat - is - fy your soul. Oh, let Him have those things that
ren - der to His name. Oh, give Him all your tears and



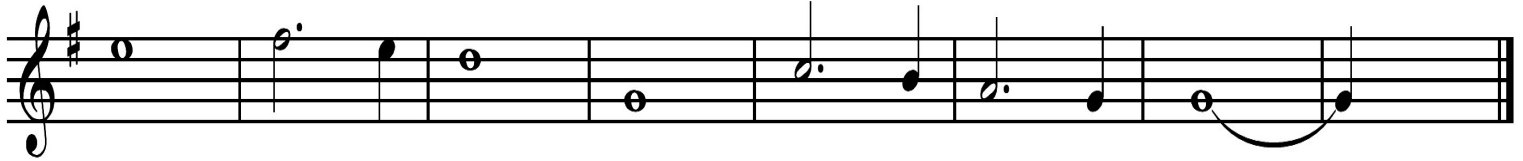
hold you, and His Spir - it, like a dove, will de -
sad - ness, give Him all your years of pain, and you'll



scend up - on your life and make you whole. _____
en - ter in - to life in Je - sus' name. _____



Je - sus, oh Je - sus, come and fill Your lambs. _____



Je - sus, oh Je - sus, come and fill Your lambs. _____

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All Amen

P We thank you, generous God,
for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table.

All Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,
through the one who is our dearest treasure,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated for Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

Benediction & Sending

Please stand in body or spirit.

(Leaders sing each line, the congregation repeats.)

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make His face to shine on you.
And be gracious to you.

May the Lord lift His countenance on you.
May the Lord lift His countenance on you.
May He keep you in perfect peace.

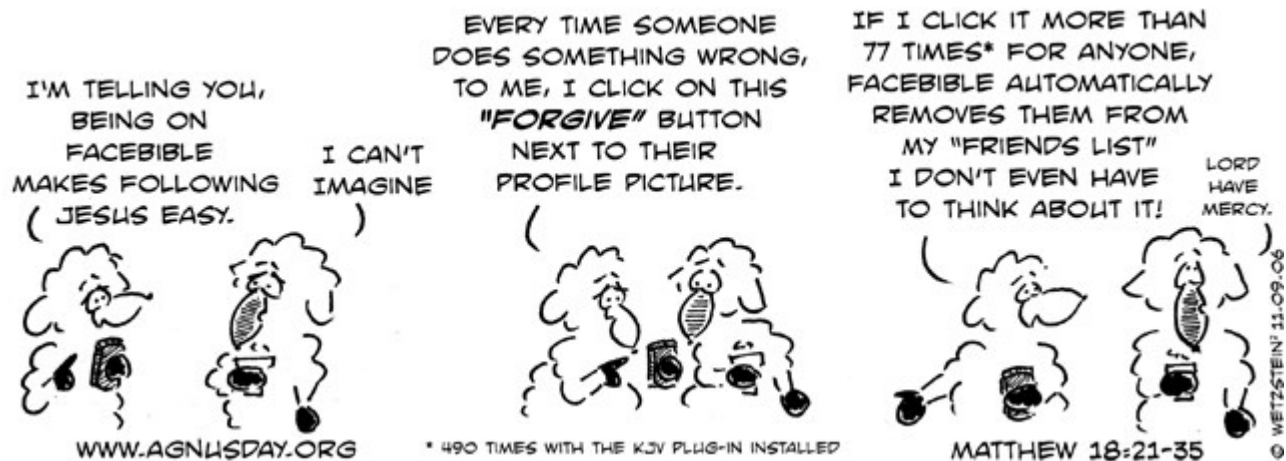
Dismissal

P Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

Romans 12:12

Go in peace. God is at work in us.

All Thanks be to God.



Front Cover:

Images from FFTP Facebook Page

Readings for next Sunday,
October 1st
Pentecost 17

First Reading:

Jonah 3:10--4:11

Psalm:

Psalm 145:1-8

Second Reading:

Philippians 1:21-30

Gospel:

Matthew 20:1-16

Music licenses covered by these subscriptions