

# **St. John-St. James**

**Ev. Lutheran Church & School**



**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 24 & 27**

# ST. JOHN—ST. JAMES

Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

September 24 & 27, 2020

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Good and gracious God, in Your mercy You have gathered us together to worship and praise You. We give thanks to You, O Lord, that You continue to deal with us in love and compassion, that You are slow to anger, and abounding in love. You do not treat us as our sins deserve, or repay us according to our iniquities. May all that we do and say reflect Your love and bring honor and glory to You. Amen.

WELCOME

*Forgive Each Other*

## **Opening Hymn:**

Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul

Christian Worship, Hymn # 238



Verse 1

♪ **Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!**

**Let all within me join**

**And aid my tongue to bless his name**

**Whose favors are divine.**



Verse 2

♪ **Oh, bless the Lord, my soul,**

**Nor let his mercies lie**

**Forgotten in unthankfulness**

**And without praises die.**



Verse 3

♪ **'Tis he forgives my sins;**

**'Tis he relieves my pain;**

**'Tis he that heals my sicknesses**

**And makes me young again.**

INVOCATION



In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



**Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**M** Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C** **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.  
For faithfulness worrying and selfish pride,  
For sins of habit and sins of choice,  
For the evil have done and the good I have failed to do,  
You should cast me away from your presence forever. O  
Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

**M** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant. I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

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

**C** Verse 1 **♩** **By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;  
My soul, believe and doubt it not.  
Why waver at this word of promise?  
Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?  
So then this word must true remain:  
By grace you, too, shall heav'n obtain.**

*(Hymn response continues on the next page.)*

**C** Verse 2 **M** **By grace God’s Son, our only Savior,  
Came down to earth to bear our sin.  
Was it because of your own merit  
That Jesus died your soul to win?  
No, it was grace, and grace alone,  
That brought him from his heav’nly throne.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** 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.**

*BE SEATED*

### *Epistle Lesson*

Romans 14:5-9

<sup>5</sup> One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. <sup>6</sup> Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord. Whoever eats meat does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. <sup>7</sup> For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. <sup>8</sup> If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. <sup>9</sup> For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.

**☐ We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

<sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup> “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

<sup>26</sup> “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ <sup>27</sup> The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

<sup>28</sup> “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

<sup>29</sup> “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

<sup>30</sup> “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

<sup>32</sup> “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ <sup>34</sup> In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

<sup>35</sup> “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

***Hymn of the Day:***

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Christian Worship, Hymn # 493

**C** Verse 1

♪ **“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.**

**C** Verse 2

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

**C** Verse 3

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

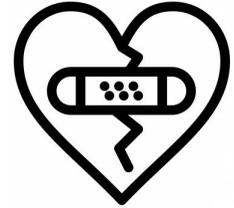
**C** Verse 4

♪ **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.**

Genesis 50:15-21

**“Forgiveness Doesn’t Happen without Tears”**

1. There are tears of hurt
2. There are tears of sadness
3. There are tears of relief



<sup>15</sup> When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?” <sup>16</sup> So they sent word to Joseph, saying, “Your father left these instructions before he died: <sup>17</sup> ‘This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.’ Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father.” When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

<sup>18</sup> His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “We are your slaves,” they said.

<sup>19</sup> But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. <sup>21</sup> So then, don’t be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.” And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

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**THE SACRAMENT**

*Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship as believers, and we proclaim his death until he returns. As we celebrate the Lord’s Supper, **St. Johh-St. James members** are asked to register with the ushers before or after the service.*

***Guests and visitors** wishing to commune with us for the first time are asked to speak with our pastor prior to the start of the worship service. We make this request out of a love for our Savior’s teaching concerning the Lord’s Supper (I Corinthians 10,11), and out of love for our guests, seeking only their spiritual good and blessing. We humbly ask for your respectful cooperation. May the Lord bless each of our communicants today with peace-filled hearts and a renewed spirit to serve and love their Lord Jesus.*

## PREFACE

**M** The Lord be with you.

**G** **And also with you.**

**M** Lift up your hearts.

**G** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**M** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**G** **It is good and right so to do.**

**M** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who came as the Light of the world so that the world may have light and life through him.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**M** Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**G** **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**G** 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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M** Our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**G** Amen.

### A PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION

Lord God, have mercy on me a sinner. Forgive my open sins and my secret sins. Forgive the sins I know and the sins I do not know. Forgive the sins I did to please myself and the sins I did to please others. Forgive them all, Lord. I ask not assuming any worthiness on my part, rather I come in faith and at the invitation of your dear Son. Bless me through your sacrament, for his sake. Amen.

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*(After all those communing have received Lord's Supper, we conclude our celebration: )*

**M** Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto life everlasting.

**G** **Amen.**

## CLOSING PRAYER

**M** O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**G** **And his mercy endures forever.**

**M** We give thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** **Amen.**

## BLESSING

**M** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**G** **Amen.**

***Closing Hymn:***

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Christian Worship, Hymn # 389

**C** Verse 1

♪ **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.**

**C** Verse 2

♪ **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.**

**C** Verse 4

♪ **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!**