

Zion Lutheran Church - LCMS  
220 North 8th Street  
Brainerd MN 56401



...how often should  
I forgive?  
"Not **SEVEN** times,  
but, I tell you,  
**SEVENTY-  
SEVEN**  
times."

*Matthew 18:21-22, NRSV*

September 13, 2020  
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church  
We are blessed to have you worship with us today.  
If you are a guest or a visitor, we have a  
"You're Very Welcome" folder for you with more information  
about our church. An usher would be glad to get one for you.

Website: [www.zionbrainerd.org](http://www.zionbrainerd.org)  
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**15th Sunday After the Pentecost  
September 13, 2020  
8:00 & 10:30 AM**

**Tune in to 107.3 FM if you are listening in your vehicle.**

**On Line Giving Option**

**Consider Giving Online by clicking on the option on the Home Page of Zion's website ([zionbrainerd.org](http://zionbrainerd.org)).**

**If you use Amazon, go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) when you shop and support Zion Lutheran Church. Amazon donates.**

**Welcome and Announcements**

- **Face masks are required inside the building, except those with a medical condition which prevents wearing one.**
- **If you don't have a mask and would like one, they are available.**
- **According to CDC & MHD guidelines, we encourage those 65+ or with weakened immune systems to stay home. This is for your safety. If you are in one of these categories and still desire to join us in worship, please be as cautious as you can be.**
- **If you are feeling sick or are experiencing any of the COVID-19 symptoms, please refrain from worshipping with us today and please have yourself tested for your sake and the safety of those around you in worship.**
- **Please do not use the drinking fountain.**
- **Please adhere to posted guidelines including 6-foot social distancing and no congregating before or after the service.**
- **Offerings will be collected after the service on your way out. They can also be made online at the church's website([zionbrainerd.org](http://zionbrainerd.org)).**
- **Take your bulletin with you. They are one-time use and cannot be used by the following service. Also, in helping get the sanctuary ready for the next service, please dispose of your bulletin in the trash can provided on the way out.**
- **Thank you for joining us for worship today. We pray that your time here in worship is uplifting as it strengthens your faith.**

Opening Hymn

Just as I Am, without One Plea

LSB 570



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy  
 2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my  
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a  
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to  
 soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each  
 con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -  
 heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
 Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
 Because Thy promise I believe,  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown  
 Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
 Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

### Ten Commandments

**C** You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### Kyrie

LSB 204



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shi - ped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

*Genesis 50:15-21*

<sup>15</sup>When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." <sup>16</sup>So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. <sup>21</sup>So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*Romans 14:1-12*

<sup>1</sup>As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. <sup>2</sup>One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

<sup>5</sup>One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. <sup>6</sup>The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. <sup>7</sup>For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; <sup>11</sup>for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

<sup>12</sup>So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia and Verse



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



These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 18:21-35*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

<sup>23</sup>“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup>And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.

<sup>26</sup>So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup>So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn

What Wondrous Love Is This

LSB 543



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be-  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my  
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my  
is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will  
sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

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Sermon

## Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

### *Brief silence*

Almighty God, as once You kept Joseph from evil and brought good from his suffering in Egypt, deliver us by Your grace so that we may learn patience in trials. Teach us to be slow to judge, quick to forgive, and steadfast in love for You and for one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

### *Following each petition...*

**P** Lord in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Almighty and everlasting God, deliver us from temptation and the powers of evil, that we may be faithful unto death and receive from Your hand the crown of everlasting life. Whether we live or die, we belong to You, and we pray You to comfort us with this promise, that we may join the company of the saints on the day You have appointed and enter into the heavenly places to worship at Your throne on high; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore.

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

**C** 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.

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## Closing Hymn

### My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

LSB 575



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'  
2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on  
3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me  
4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I



blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my  
His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and  
in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly  
then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -



own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.  
ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

*Refrain*



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

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**Please wait to be ushered out.**

**Offering received while exiting.**

### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Rev. Steve Benson, Pastor  
David Hansen, Organ, Sunday  
Jacki Lemieux, Cantor 8 AM  
Jana Hansen, Cantor 10:30 AM

# THE PARABLE OF THE UNMERCIFUL SERVANT

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.

