

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, September 13, 2020 – Contemporary Service

And out of
pity for him,
the master of
that servant
released
him and



for gave

him the debt.

MATTHEW 18:27, ESV



WELCOME TO ALL

Welcome to worship at Trinity Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here. Even though we are spread out and wearing masks, we are delighted to gather as one people in the name of the risen Lord Jesus, in whose power over disease and death we take hope. Please use this bulletin to participate in the liturgy and take it with you when the service is ended. Don't forget to register each week on our website or by calling the office (717-263-8156) for the service that you wish to attend, so that we can maintain appropriate physical distancing in our sanctuary. If you are a guest or visitor worshipping with us and did not know to register for today's service, no problem; we have kept open some extra seating just in case. Simply plan to register for the service next week – and we do invite you to worship with us again!

Bathrooms are located down the hall from the side entrance to the sanctuary. Our nursery is not yet open, but the space is available for special use by individual families. If you visit the nursery to settle a child or change a diaper, please let one of the pastors or ushers know so that we can be sure to sanitize the room before the next service.

Ushers will dismiss worshippers at the end of the service row by row. Please wait to be dismissed, and conduct conversations and fellowship in the fresh, open air outside. We trust that as we take such precautions together, we follow our Lord's command to love our neighbor, and we help to ensure that we will be able to continue to gather for worship during the pandemic. Thank you for working with us toward that end!

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, September 13, 2020

Contemporary Service

*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 / ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Congregation responds in bold print.)

Please respect the silence of those around you preparing for worship.

CENTERING HYMN

“Gather Us In”

Nate Houge

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

“Spirit of the Living God”

CLH 221

Musical score for the hymn "Spirit of the Living God" (CLH 221). The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me." The chords are indicated above the vocal line: D, G, B/F# Em, D/A, G/A A7, D, D, G, B/F# Em, D/A, G/A A7, D, G, D, E7, A, A7, D, G, B/F# Em, D/A, G/A A7, D.

OPENING PRAYER

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.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15-21

Joseph reconciles with his brothers

⁵Realizing 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.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM

Psalm 103:1-13

Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy. (Ps. 103:8)

- ¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
- ²**Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits**
- ³who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;
- ⁴**who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**
- ⁵who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- ⁶**O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
- ⁷You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.
- ⁸**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**
- ⁹you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.
- ¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**
- ¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.
- ¹²**As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**
- ¹³As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

SECOND READING

Romans 14:1-12

Accepting diversity in the community of faith

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.

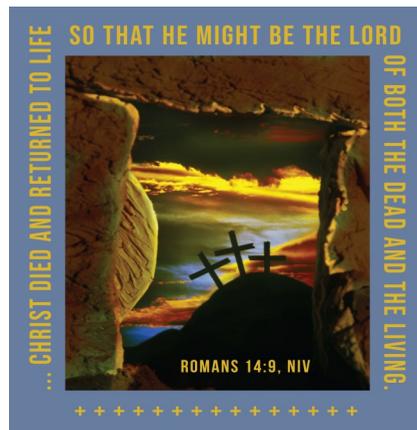
¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“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.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!



Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

A parable of forgiveness in the community of faith

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Ruth Smith

HYMN of REFLECTION

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

ELW 608

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain

watch - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

APOSTLES' CREED

◆ *I Believe*

I believe, I do believe,
truly I believe it,
truly I believe it,
truly I believe it
(Repeat)

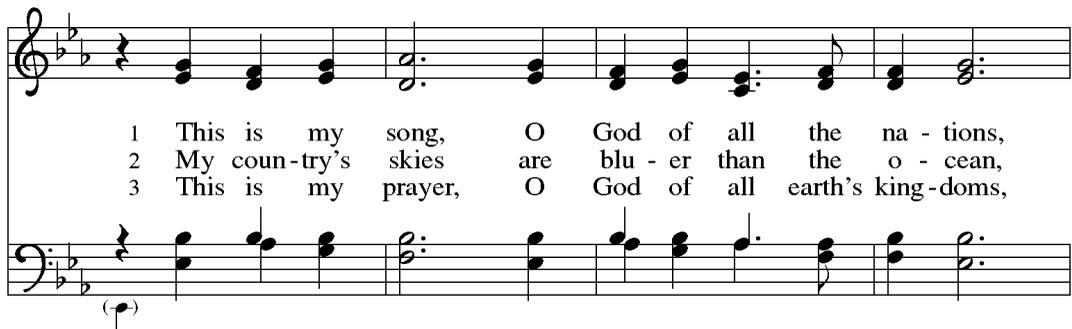
I believe in God the Almighty Lord Creator,
Mighty Lord Creator,
Mighty Lord Creator
(Repeat)

I believe in Jesus the Savior of the people,
Savior of the people,
Savior of the people
(Repeat)

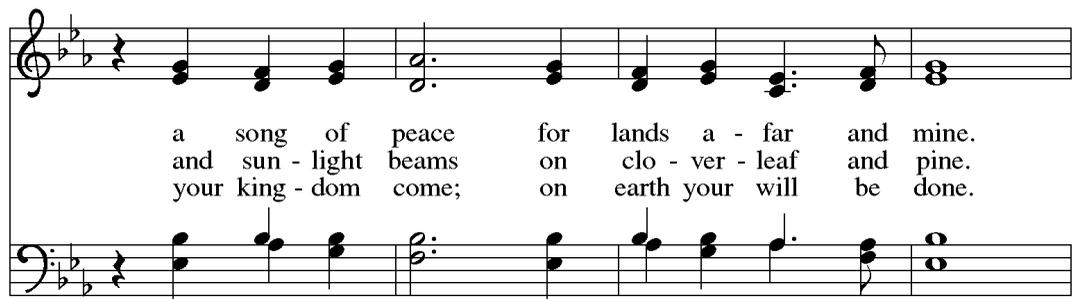
And I do believe in the power of the Spirit,
power of the Spirit,
power of the Spirit
(Repeat)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

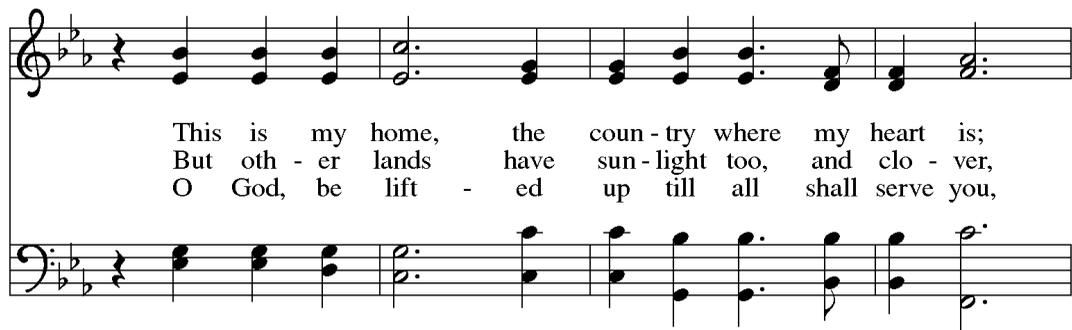
"This Is My Song"



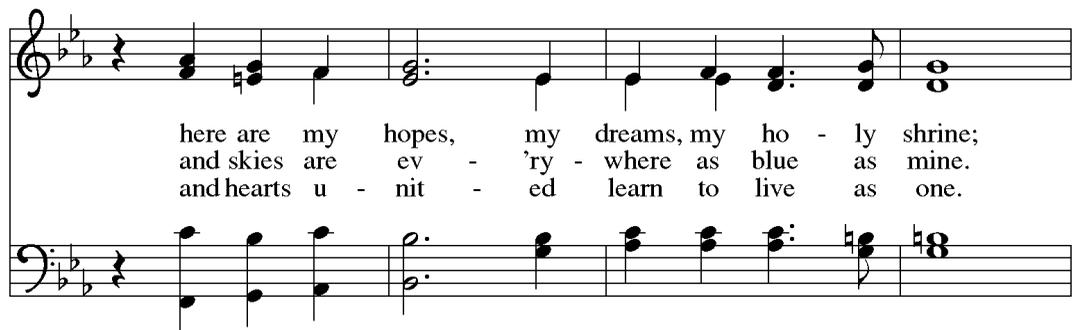
1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church,
 the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Merciful God, teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors. We pray for our members: Neil, Michele, Morgan, Landon, & Brendan; Robert & Robert; Joseph; Donna; Stanley & Shirley; Harry; Robert; Edgar & Karen; Shawn, Kristine, Evan & Ethan; and Joyce.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Strengthen our faith through Bible studies and Sunday school education, confirmation classes and youth ministry, especially as we explore new methods for teaching and learning. Give success to events planned for youth, that even across distance they might grow in compassion, and through only occasional interaction they might progress in understanding, patience, and love.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The heights of the heavens and depths of the earth reveal your love and forgiveness. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem. Cause us to repent and join you in bringing new life to the world.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Continues on next page.

Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. Bring healing and comfort to those who suffer: Brantley, Scott, Jim, Ray, Jennifer, Rachel, Dottie, Corrina, Brian, Shirley, Christine, Lillian, Mae, Kayla, Rose, Larry, Mary, Doc, Edie, Sherry, Hazel, Peg, Linda, Tim, Cameron, Jim, Ron, and Cheryl.

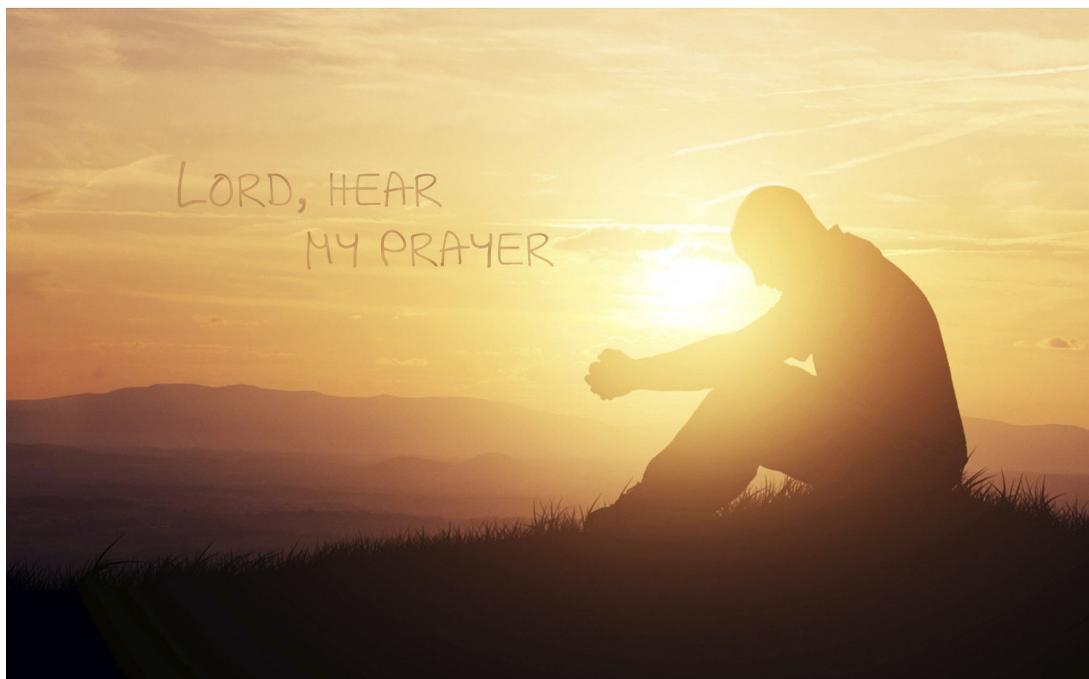
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you, especially John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, whom we commemorate today.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

P: All these things and whatever else you see that we need,
we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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

THE BENEDICTION

Eternal God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

SENDING HYMN

"To God Be the Glory"

CLH 31

Capo 3: D A9 D A D G

F C9 F C F Bb

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things He hath done; so loved He the
 2. O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood, to ev - ery be -
 3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, and great our re -

D E A D A9 D
 F G C F C9 F

world that He gave us His Son, who yield - ed His life an a -
 liev - er the prom - ise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who
 joic - ing through Je - sus the Son; but pur - er, and high - er, and

A D D7 G D/A A D/A A D
 C F F7 Bb F/C C F/C C F

tone - ment for sin, and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
 tru - ly be - lieves, that mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives.
 great - er will be our won - der, our vic - tory, when Je - sus we see.

Refrain D D/F# A/E D A A7
 F F/A C/G F C C7

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord,

D/F# A7/E D A9
 F/A C7/G F C9

praise the Lord, let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther, through

A D G D/A A D/A A7 D
 C F B^b F/C C F/C C7 F

Je - sus the Son, and give Him the glo - ry, great things He hath done.

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:
Sunday, September 6, 2020

In – Person: 49

Online Worship Service Views: 124

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Senior Pastor	<i>Pastor Aaron</i>
Associate Pastor	<i>Pastor Arlyn</i>
Usher	<i>Sue Derk</i>

Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our parents and remembering those whose lives were lost in 9/11/01 by Dave and Louisa Etter.



Liturgy and Music used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #13649-S and CCLI License # 2469818

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPET

*We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.
 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. – Romans 14:26-27*
 What is the common good? For Christians, it is expressed in the reign, or way, of Christ. We are accountable to God for how we treat one another; how we reflect the love of Christ through both our words and our actions.

Budgeted amount needed: \$8,072.12 09/06/2020 Offering: \$10,410.75
 Thank You!





TRINITY

Evangelical Lutheran Church

431 Philadelphia Avenue
Chambersburg, PA

www.trinitylutheranchambersburg.org

 @trinitychambersburg

 Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Chambersburg

 @trinitylutheranchburg

OFFICE HOURS

9 AM - 1PM Mon. - Thurs.

office@trinitychbg.org

717-263-8156

PASTORS CONTACT INFO

Pastor Aaron

pastoraaron@trinitychbg.org

720-448-5228

Pastor Arlyn

rev_pa@trinitychbg.org

717-331-8954

TRINITY STAFF TO SERVE YOU

Senior Pastor	<i>The Rev. Dr. Aaron Smith</i>
Associate Pastor	<i>The Rev. Arlyn Rusche</i>
Visitation Pastor	<i>The Rev. Ruth Smith</i>
Director of Music Ministries	<i>Robert Eyer, Jr.</i>
Office Manager	<i>Christie Brown</i>
Secretary	<i>Tammy Small</i>
Sexton	<i>Elaine Hess-Strite</i>
Treasurer	<i>Dennis Alleman</i>
Financial Secretary	<i>Sue Derk</i>

Vision

"Growing in God"

Mission Statement

*"Seed - Planting and Growing in our Faith
Sow - Sharing the word of God with our community
Steward - Giving to all the love of God
Service - Showing the love of God with our community"*