

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
(PR. 19)
September 13, 2020

WELCOME TO MOUNT OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH



Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Education Hour 10:20 a.m.

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**Prepare our hearts, Jesus, to receive your message of truth and love revealed in
worship this morning**

The Rev. Dr. William G. Moorhead
Vacancy Pastor

Rachel Misiolek
Organist



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In today's second lesson Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgement of God. Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we receive absolution and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

P R E L U D E

W E L C O M E

R I N G I N G O F T H E C A R I L L O N

**To reduce particle transmission please stay seated throughout the service and
maintain a six foot distance from others.**

G A T H E R I N G
We Enter God's Presence.

I N V O C A T I O N

O P E N I N G P R A Y E R

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son,
that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray
that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my
doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself,
my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the
evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

Have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgement on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

In Thee Is Gladness

LBW 552

**In Thee is gladness amid all sadness, Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By Thee are given the gifts of heaven, Thou the true redeemer art.
Our souls Thou wakest; Our bonds Thou breakest.
Who trusts thee surely has built securely and stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining to see thy shining,
Dying or living, to thee are cleaving; naught us can sever:
Alleluia!**

**If He is ours, we fear no powers, not of earth or sin or death.
He sees and blesses in worst distresses; He can change them with a breath,
Wherefore the story tell of His glory
With heart and voices; all heav'n rejoices in Him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness, triumph o'er sadness,
Love Him and praise Him and still shall raise Him glad hymns forever:
Alleluia!**

APOSTOLIC GREETING

PRAYER OF THE DAY

W O R D
We Hear God's Word.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 50:15-21

Joseph reconciles with his brothers.

Realizing 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?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, '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. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even 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. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them. (NRSV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God! (*shouted*)

PSALM 103

Cantor-once, Congregation-twice

The musical score for Psalm 103 is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system contains the lyrics: "Bless the Lord, O my soul; bless the Lord, O my soul;". The second system contains the lyrics: "and all that is with - in me bless God's ho - ly name." The piano accompaniment features chords and arpeggiated patterns that support the vocal melody.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 14:1-12

We who belong to the Lord do all things for His glory.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those 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. Who 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. Some 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. Those 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. 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. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why 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. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God. (NRSV)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God! (*shouted*)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

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

Cantor: We have an advocate, Jesus | Christ the righteous;* your sins are forgiven on account | of his name. (*1 John 2:1, 12*)

H O L Y G O S P E L

Matthew 18:21-35

The parable of the unforgiving servant.

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

Glory to you, O Lord! (*shouted*)

Then Peter 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?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, 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. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But 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.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.” (*NRSV*)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ! (*shouted*)

S E R M O N

Note to Self: Avoid an Unforgiving Heart

Text: Matthew 18:21-35

H Y M N O F T H E D A Y

Our Father, We Have Wandered

WOV 733

**Our Father, we have wandered and hidden from your face;
In foolishness have squandered your legacy of grace.
But now, in exile dwelling, we rise with fear and shame,
As, distant but compelling, we hear you call our name.**

**And now at length discerning the evil that we do,
Behold us, Lord, returning with hope and trust to you.
In haste you come to meet us and home rejoicing bring,
In gladness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.**

**O Lord of all the living, both banished and restored,
Compassionate, forgiving and evercaring Lord,
Grant now that our transgressing, our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing, in pardon, and in peace.**

A P O S T L E S ' C R E E D

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the
power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.
On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

P R A Y E R O F T H E C H U R C H

Drawn together in the compassion of God, . . . Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.
All these things. . . Through Christ our Lord.
Amen

Instrumental Interlude.

M E A L

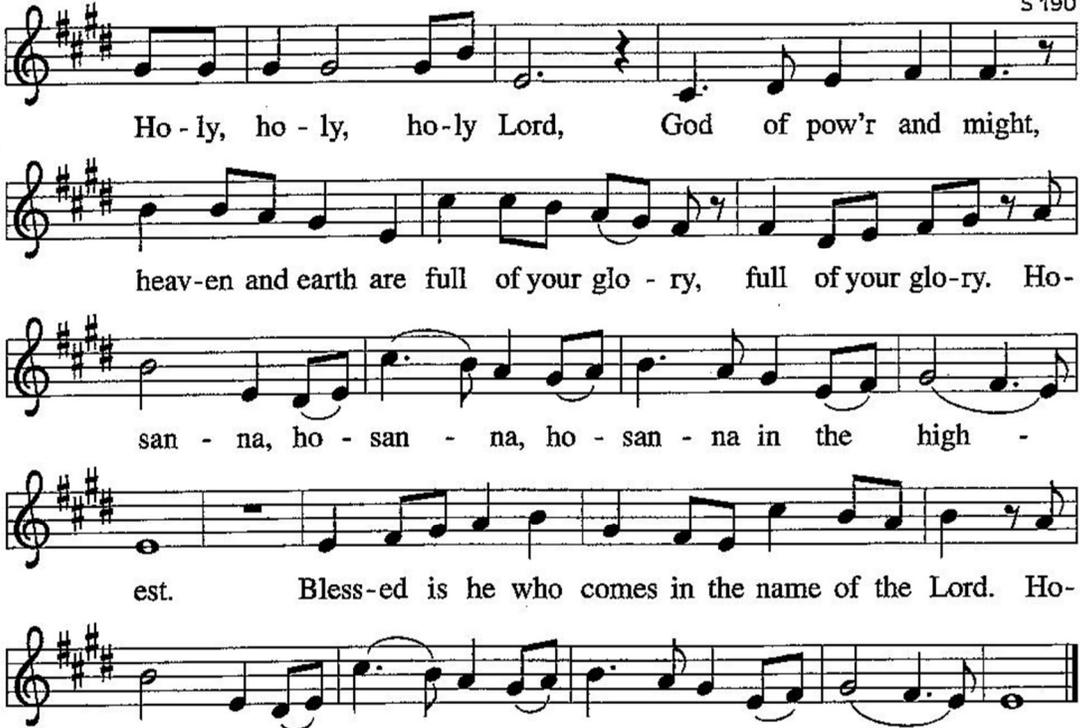
We Celebrate the Lord's Supper.

P R E F A C E

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
It is indeed right, . . . we praise your name, and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

S 190



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, . . . we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, . . . Your holy church now and forever.
Amen.

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.

INVITATION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

If you believe that those who commune receive in, with and under the bread and wine of this sacrament the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and that receiving the sacrament is a public witness to your oneness in faith in the teachings of our church, you are invited to join us at the Lord's Table.

Please stay masked as you come forward in groups of three when directed to do so. Avoid kneeling or touching the communion rail. Dispose of cup and plate in containers provided.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

S 191



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Now the Silence

LBW 205

**Now the silence, Now the peace, Now the empty hands uplifted;
Now the kneeling, Now the plea, Now the Father's arms in welcome;
Now the hearing, Now the pow'r, Now the vessel brimmed for pouring;
Now the body, Now the blood, Now the joyful celebration;
Now the wedding, Now the songs, Now the heart forgiven leaping;
Now the Spirit's visitation, Now the Son's epiphany,
Now the Father's blessing. Now. Now. Now.**

Forgive Our Sins

LBW 307

Musical score for "Forgive Our Sins" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," You
 2 How can your par - don reach and bless The
 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals The
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls And

taught us, Lord, to pray; But you a - lone can
 un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
 truth we dim - ly knew: How tri - fling oth - ers'
 bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, by your mer - cy

grant us grace To live the words we say.
 will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 debts to us; How great our debt to you!
 rec - on - ciled, Our lives will spread your peace.

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

LBW 343

**Guide me ever, great Redeemer, Pilgrim through this barren land.
 I am weak, but you are mighty; Hold me with your pow'rful hand.
 Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
 Feed me now and evermore, Feed me now and evermore.**

**Open now the crystal fountain Where the healing waters flow;
 Let the fire and cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through.
 Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
 Shield me with your mighty arm, Shield me with your mighty arm.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore, I will raise forevermore.**

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

S E N D I N G

We Go Forth With God's Blessing To Serve.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*When departing the Sanctuary please allow the pews in the back to leave first.
Use side aisles as needed to maintain social distancing and avoid congregating
in the hallways.*

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

Let All Things Now Living

LBW 557

**Let all things now living A song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, Protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us,
His light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.**

**His law he enforces, The stars in their courses
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, The rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.
We too should be voicing Our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a song let us raise
Till all things now living Unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"**

September 13, 2020 (A)

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

To reduce particle transmission please take your bulletins with you.

As We Gather, Confession and Absolution and Gospel Acclamation verse text are from Sundays and Seasons Year A 2020 © 2019 Augsburg Fortress. *In Thee Is Gladness, Bless the Lord, O My Soul, Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive, Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer* and *Let All Things Now Living* are in the Public Domain. *Our Father, We Have Wandered* Text: Kevin Nichols © 1980, ICEL. *Now the Silence* Text: © 1969, Hope Publishing Company. Used by permission of OneLicense.net #A708099. Scripture Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. All rights reserved. Artwork (c) Laura R. Norton, www.lettersaloft.com

NEXT SUNDAY — The 16th Sunday after Pentecost-Pr. 20 (Year A): Isaiah 55:6-9; Psalm 27:1-9; Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30; Matthew 20:1-16

*** ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP TODAY ***

LAY MINISTER-----Paul Whitmore
LECTOR-----Mark Sorensen
CANTOR ----- Rev. Roland Jank, Jr.
ACOLYTE ----- Albert Hogue

*** THIS WEEK AT MOUNT OLIVE ***

TODAY WORSHIP -----9:00 A.M.
ADULT BIBLE CLASS/ZOOM----- 10:20-11:20 A.M.
CONFIRMATION CLASS----- 10:30 A.M.
VOTERS ASSEMBLY ----- 11:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ----- 10:00 A.M.
MIDWEEK WORSHIP ----- 6:00 P.M.
SATURDAY BLOOD DRIVE ----- 7:30 A.M.-NOON
SUNDAY WORSHIP -----9:00 A.M.
ADULT BIBLE CLASS/ZOOM----- 10:20-11:20A.M.
CONFIRMATION CLASS----- 10:30 A.M.

Praying for Our Parish in 2020

Let us remember each other in prayer during the week that we celebrate the anniversary of one's Baptism.

September 14
Noah Lorang

ALTAR FLOWERS — Today's flowers are given by Paul and Jill Clausen in honor of their wedding anniversary.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR — Adult Bible Class and Fellowship will take place today at 10:20 in Luther Hall. It can also be joined via a Zoom meeting. The link to do that is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3912069426> Meeting ID is 391 206 9426.

CONFIRMATION CLASS — Confirmation class will meet on Sundays from 10:30 a.m.-noon beginning today. Any questions should be directed to Galen Behr at 402-981-2667.

VOTERS MEETING — Our September Voters Meeting will meet today in person at 11:30 a.m. in Luther Hall. You may also attend through our Zoom link (listed above).

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS — Pastor Moorhead offers a Wednesday morning Bible Study in Luther Hall at 10:00 A.M. All are invited.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE — In addition to our regular Sunday service, an evening worship service with Holy Communion is now available every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

OMAHA MARATHON — Next Sunday, the Omaha Marathon will take place. As in years past the route encircles our building. Please allow extra time to get to the building. For more information and a map of the course please check the September *Messenger*.

DEVOTIONALS AND MAGAZINES — New issues of *Daily Devotions* (for families), *LWML Quarterly*, *Our Daily Bread* and *The Lutheran Message* are available on the table at the back of the church. We have also received notification that *Hope-Full Living* has ceased publication.

MEN'S GROUP — The Men's Group will begin meeting soon. Contact Tim Lorang at 402-578-8338 for details.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY — Back by popular demand! Women's Bible Study met on Wednesday, September 9th and will meet again on September 23. We are switching to the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. You are not required to read. You may chime in and take part as little or as much as you want. We generally start at 6 p.m. and try to wrap things up by 7:30 p.m. If you've been wanting to check the Women's Bible Study out, this is a great opportunity. No worries if you cannot slide in right at 6, we usually start off with a connect question. If you want more information regarding the study, please do not hesitate to contact Dixie Gerhart at 402-453-6707.

SUNDAY SCHOOL — At this time the decision has been made to postpone the beginning of Sunday School until Sunday, November 1. This corresponds with what Omaha Public Schools is doing. Any changes will be publicized in the bulletin, weekly e-mail and monthly newsletter.

CHOIR POSTPONED — Due to Covid-19 the choir season will be postponed. A tentative start date of November has been set.

YOUTUBE — Sunday services and other videos will be available on the Mount Olive YouTube channel. Subscribe to our channel (Mount Olive Lutheran Church Omaha) on YouTube or by visiting our Facebook page. Our YouTube channel can also be found at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3HE6an5bZa1Ba0sQRIJCmQ>