



PLEASE FORGIVE

— GENESIS 50:15-21 —

Sunday, September 17, 2023, 11:15am

Please Forgive

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Yesterday on the Church calendar (September 16th), the Bishop Cyprian of Carthage is remembered.

As a Church leader in the 3rd century, a time of Roman persecution, Cyprian had to deal with the problem of Christians who denied the faith under persecution but later wanted to be restored to the fellowship of the Lord.

Cyprian helped craft a response to the situation that was based on forgiveness, allowing a lapsed Christian to be reinstated after a time in which they lived out their restored faithful confession.

His own faithfulness unto death was fully demonstrated as he was executed by Roman authorities for his Christian beliefs in AD 258.

Speaking words of forgiveness and living them out can come with a price, but is Christlike in every way!

Opening Praise Song

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

C: sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!

P: Say to God, “How awesome are Your deeds!

C: All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name.”

P: Come and see what God has done:

C: He is awesome in His deeds toward the children of man.

P: Bless our God, O peoples;

C: let the sound of His praise be heard.

P: Let us confess our sins to God, our merciful Father.

C: O most gracious God, I admit and confess my sinfulness. I know that I am by nature sinful and unclean. Every day I have done things I should not have done and have not done that which I am to have been doing as Your faithful child. I have been unforgiving, loveless, and careless in the stewardship of Your creation. I deserve Your punishment. Trusting in Your mercy, I come

to You for forgiveness. My trust is not in myself but in Your Son, my Savior, Jesus. Have mercy on me, O God. Grant me forgiveness of all my sins and guide me into a renewed life that reflect Your goodness and love.

P: God is indeed gracious and merciful and hears our prayers. By the command of Jesus as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Together, we pray,

C: O God, You are always ready to hear our prayers. Grant that we may with all boldness and courage bring You our petitions with the assurance that for the sake of Jesus You will hear them, forgiving our sins and granting us Your guidance in this life and every blessing in the life to come. This we ask through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

Children's Time

Genesis 50:15–21 [Sermon Text]

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Romans 14:1–12

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

(Matthew 18:21-35)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

P: In the Second Article of the Creed, we confess Jesus to be the Savior, the One who fulfills God's promises and brings us forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

C: I believe 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.

P: What does this mean?

C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Sermon Praise Song

The Sermon *Please Forgive*

The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes

The Prayers of His Children

P: Lord, in Your mercy **C: hear our prayer**

P: ... who taught us to pray,

C: Lord's Prayer...

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

The Words of our Lord

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

The Distribution of Holy Communion

God's Benediction

Sending Praise Song

Ministry Announcements