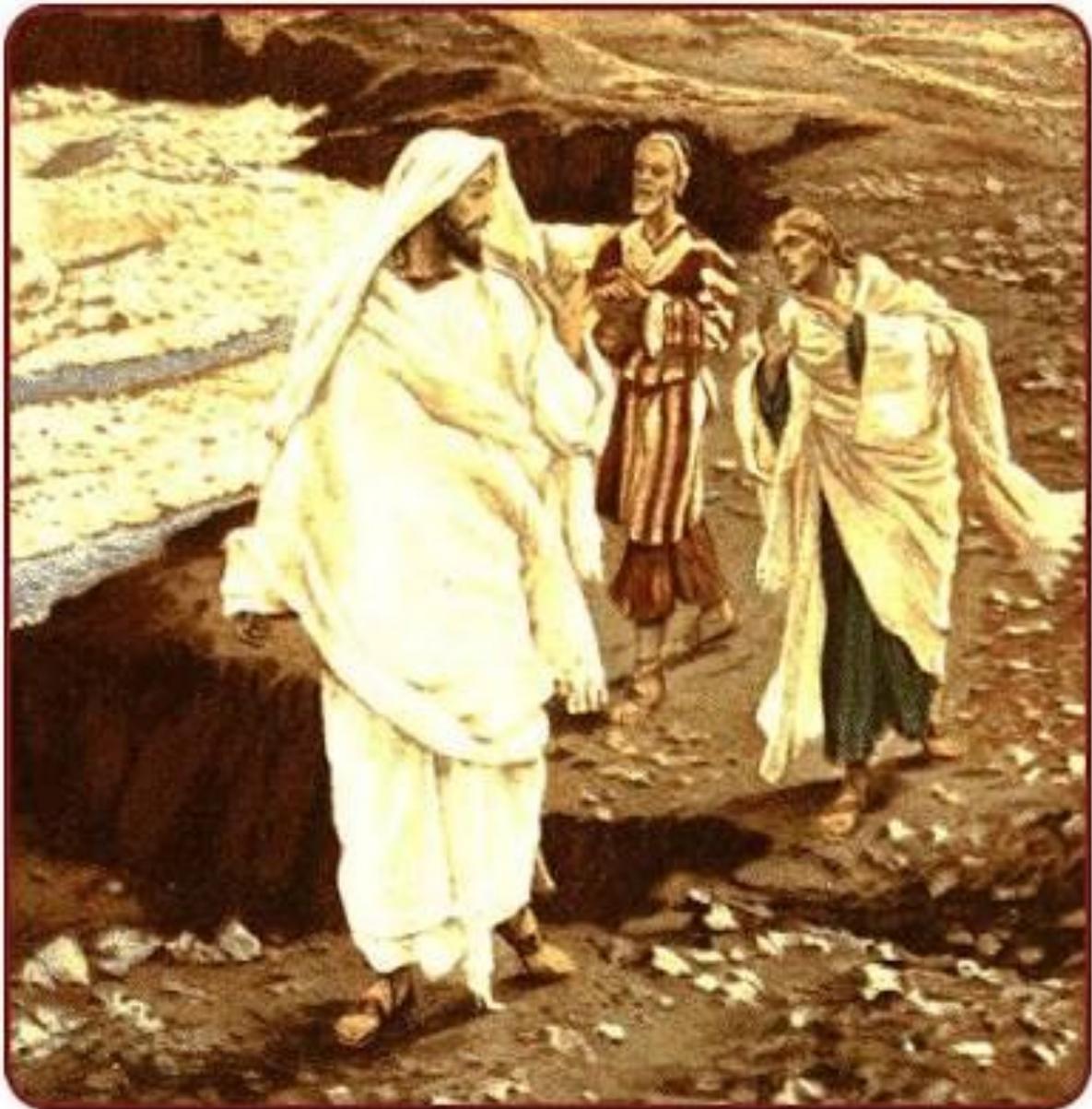


St. Matthew 18:22

Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times."



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 2020

Prelude

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

by Larry Shackley

*Be Still, My Soul*

\*The Processional Hymn

*Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

(SBH) No. 551

(Second Tune)

\*The Confession and Forgiveness

(ELW) page 94

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

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

\*The Apostolic Greeting

(ELW) page 138

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

\*The Kyrie (*sung response*)

(ELW) page 138

P: ....., let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

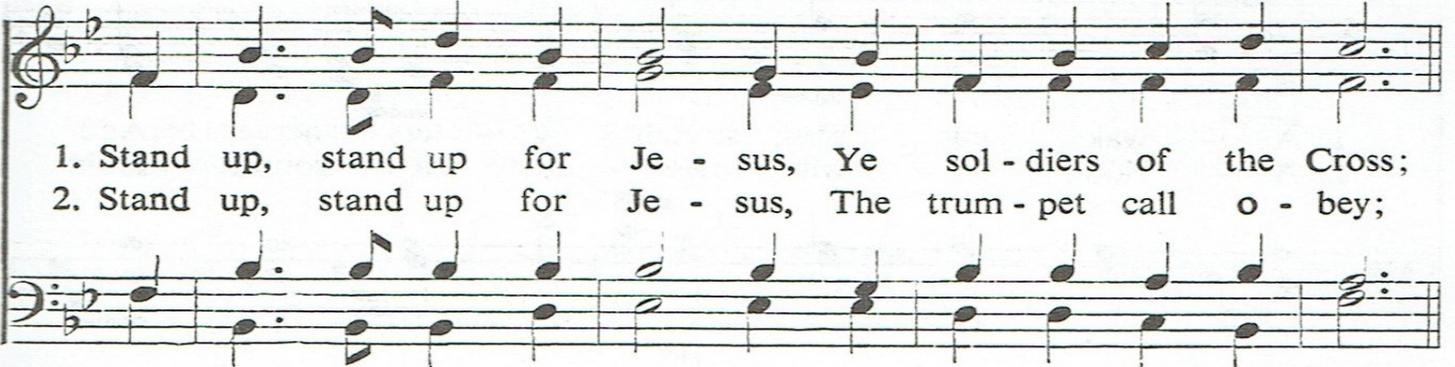
P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

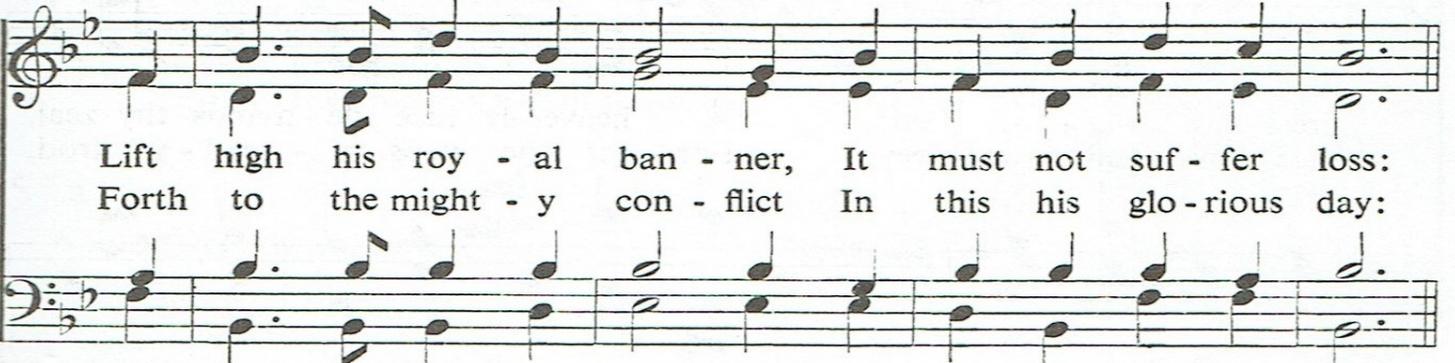
\*The Hymn of Praise

*Out of the Depths I Cry to You*

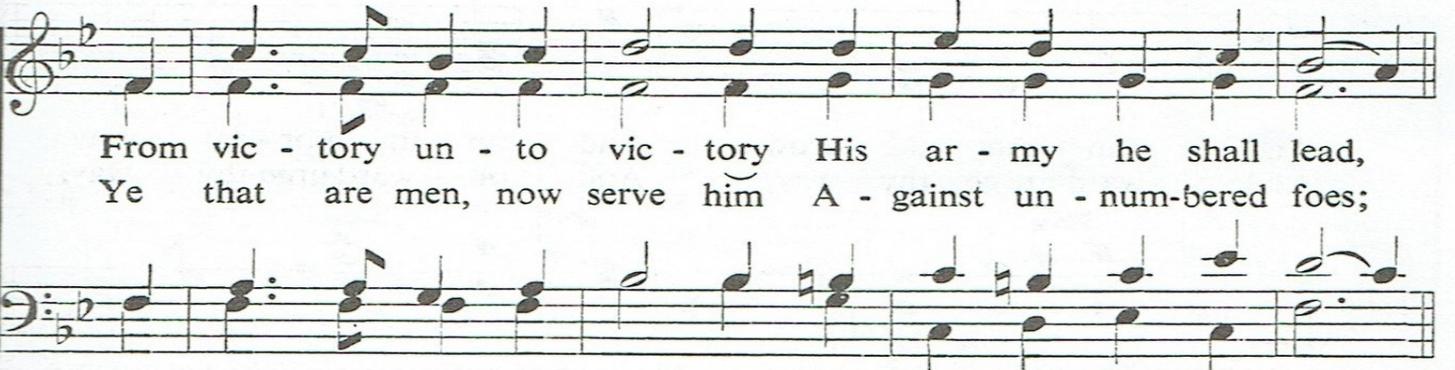
(ELW) No. 600



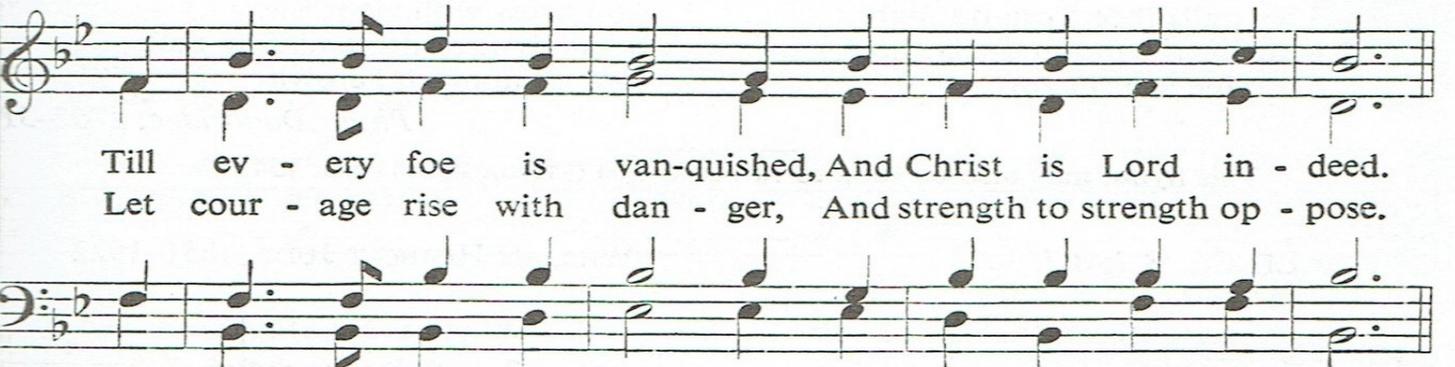
1. Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol - diers of the Cross;  
2. Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, The trum - pet call o - bey;



Lift high his roy - al ban - ner, It must not suf - fer loss:  
Forth to the might - y con - flict In this his glo - rious day:



From vic - tory un - to vic - tory His ar - my he shall lead,  
Ye that are men, now serve him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;



Till ev - ery foe is van - quished, And Christ is Lord in - deed.  
Let cour - age rise with dan - ger, And strength to strength op - pose.

3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
Stand in his strength alone;  
The arm of flesh will fail you,  
Ye dare not trust your own:  
Put on the gospel armor,  
Each piece put on with prayer;  
Where duty calls or danger,  
Be never wanting there.

4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
The strife will not be long;  
This day the noise of battle,  
The next the victor's song:  
To him that overcometh  
A crown of life shall be;  
He with the King of Glory  
Shall reign eternally.

## Out of the Depths I Cry to You



1 Out of the depths I cry to you; O Lord God, hear me call - ing.  
 2 All things you send are full of grace; you crown our lives with fa - vor.  
 3 In you a - lone, O God, we hope, and not in our own mer - it.  
 4 My soul is wait - ing for you, Lord, as one who longs for morn - ing;



In - cline your ear to my dis - tress in spite of my re - bel - ling.  
 All our good works are done in vain with - out our Lord and Sav - ior.  
 We rest our fears in your good Word and trust your Ho - ly Spir - it.  
 no watch - er waits with great - er hope than I for your re - turn - ing.



Do not re - gard my sin - ful deeds. Send me the grace  
 We praise you for the gift of faith; you save us from  
 Your prom - ise keeps us strong and sure; we trust the cross,  
 I hope as Is - rael in the Lord, who sends re - demp -



my spir - it needs; with - out it I am noth - ing.  
 the grip of death; our lives are in your keep - ing.  
 your sig - na - ture, in - scribed up - on our tem - ples.  
 tion through the Word. Praise God for grace and mer - cy!



\*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

**C: O Lord, help Your people to avoid the infection of the evil one, and with pure hearts to follow You, our only Lord. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Special Music

*The Ashoken Farewell*

Stephan Dragan on violin

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalm 103:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

**<sup>2</sup>Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.**

<sup>3</sup>He forgives all your sins and heals all your infirmities;

**<sup>4</sup>He redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with mercy and lovingkindness;**

<sup>5</sup>He satisfies you with good things, and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

**<sup>6</sup>The Lord executes righteousness and judgment for all who are oppressed.**

<sup>7</sup>He made His ways known to Moses and His works to the children of Israel.

**<sup>8</sup>The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.**

<sup>9</sup>He will not always accuse us, nor will He keep His anger forever.

**<sup>10</sup>He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.**

<sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is His mercy great upon those who fear Him.

**<sup>12</sup>As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our sins from us.**

Second Reading

Romans 14:1-12

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\*The Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

**C: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

\* The Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.** (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.** (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

\*The Hymn of the Day

*Chief of Sinners Though I Be*

(ELW) No. 609

\*The Apostles' Creed

**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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting.  
Amen.**

# Chief of Sinners Though I Be

609



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed his blood for me,  
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love! High - er than the heav'ns a - bove,  
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part balm to heal the wound - ed heart,  
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;  
5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford by your Spir - it and your word!



died that I might live on high, lives that I might nev - er die.  
deep - er than the depths of sea, last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty.  
peace that flows from sin for - giv'n, joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,  
all my wants to him are known, all my sor - rows are his own.  
When my way - ward heart would stray, keep me in the nar - row way;



As the branch is to the vine, I am his, and he is mine.  
Love that found me—won - drous thought—found me when I sought him not.  
faith and hope to walk with God in the way that E - noch trod.  
He sus - tains the hid - den life safe with him from earth - ly strife.  
grace in time of need sup - ply while I live and when I die.



\*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

\*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

*Nothing in Between*

arr. Brian Buda

\*The Offertory

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

(ELW) No. 188

\*The 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.**

Announcements

\*The Benediction (*sung response*)

**C: Amen, Amen, Amen.**

\*The Recessional Hymn

*Take My Life, That I May Be*

(ELW) No. 685

\*The Dismissal (*response*)

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\*FLC Sending Hymn

*Be The Love of Christ*

arr. Michael Showalter

Roger Thornhill

Postlude

*Be With Your People*

Pasteur

## Create in Me a Clean Heart

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature. The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff shows a melodic line with some rests and ties. The bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment.

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third system features a more active melodic line in the treble staff, including some sixteenth notes. The bass staff remains accompanimental.

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The fourth system shows a melodic line that ends with a colon, indicating a repeat or a specific phrasing. The bass staff continues with chords and single notes.

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The fifth system concludes the piece with a final melodic phrase in the treble staff and a final chord in the bass staff.

## Take My Life, That I May Be



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;  
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



- take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.



- 5 Take my will and make it thine;  
 it shall be no longer mine.  
 Take my heart, it is thine own;  
 it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
 at thy feet its treasure store;  
 take myself, and I will be  
 ever, only, all for thee.

## **First Lutheran Church**

92 W. Walnut St., Washington, PA

724-225-4040

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website: [www.flcwash.church](http://www.flcwash.church)

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

[revrob@flcwash.church](mailto:revrob@flcwash.church)

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Organist and Music Director: Bobbi Heastings

[barbara\\_heastings@comast.net](mailto:barbara_heastings@comast.net)

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**The Flowers on the Chancel** are given to the glory of God and in honor of her Mother and Father by Joyce Streator to thank God for the blessing of wonderful parents when growing up.

**The Lay Reader** is Kimberly Grewe.

**Counters/Greeters** today are L. Sten,

**Welcome to our Visitors!** The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

**Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church?** Please contact Pastor Grewe.

**Nursery:** We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs for infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

**The Word in Season** for the next quarter is available in the Narthex.

**Bell Choir practice** on Thursday from 7-8 PM.

**The Flower Chart for 2020** is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date. Thank you.

**Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2020.** Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

**Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2020.** Please sign up.

**Please remember to continue contributing donations to our girls in Ethiopia.**  
**Please consider this as a call to help others in need.**

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**Please pray for those in need of healing:**

Janet Burke, Shari Kienzle, Lay Pastor Judd Lacko, Maureen Curry, Eveline Reihner, Rocky, Julie Davis, Amy Verderber, Joanne Reck, Byron Christian, Chiquita Pearson, Maureen Curry, Phyllis Daniels, Patricia Zablotny, Stacy Carrol, Shirley Johnston, Sandy, Colleen & her sister, Tillie Shawin, Bob & Paula Beatty, Maureen, Tim & Sharon, Lisa and Scott, Amie Buel, Billie Sue Serbak, Mike & Diane Burns, Carl Hildreth, Dawn Berkebile, Herb Lindberg, Gloria Sloan, Rhonda Hendrickson, Doug Mazzotti, Laurie Parker, Mary Lou Cotton, Colleen Mancini, Beth McFeeley, John Porter, Amanda Becker, Rich, Fred Dupas, Donald Huttic, Mike White, Terry Divelbliss, Dan, Amy Dash, Penny, Ryan Horan, Karson, Betty Johnson, David Lacko, Bob Hillbery, Bailey Spencer, Joanne Marker, Bruce Kreutze, Leah, Pastor Rod Dondorf, Esther Duncan, Melissa McCabe, Robin Ames, Karrah, Charlotte and Ellie, Brad Schmidt, Lou Washowich, Mary DeCarlo, Isaac Christian, Naval Dr. Matthew Christian, Barbara Mounts, Emogene Salvucci, The Williams Family of Atlanta, Ga., Lynn Hudak, Donna O., Sonie Rea, Allan Zimmerman, The Polana Family, Iva Romano, Mary Mow, Becky Mayer, Frank Kubichar.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS  
FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line  
1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE  
1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE  
724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE  
724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

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**Church Offering Change:** In order to keep everyone safe we have changed how we collect the Sunday Offering. We do not have our ushers pass the plates around. Instead, we have one offering plate located by the last pew and one by the choir loft. Please place your offering in one of those plates. Feel free to place your offering in the plates during our Offertory if you did not do so on the way in.

**Listening for the Promise**  
**Weekly Devotional**  
**Pentecost 15 - September 13, 2020**

Then 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?” - Matthew 18:21 -

Forgiveness is one of the hardest parts of the faith we struggle with, probably because our memories are long. We are capable of harboring a grudge longer than we can stick with most anything else. Good thing for us that God is not like that! He has an even longer memory, to be sure, but his mercy endures forever. We need Jesus to help us in the forgiveness department. When we seem to be unable to pardon someone who has hurt us, sometimes we simply need to give it over to Jesus who will help us let go of the pain of betrayal.

In Jesus' parable of the unforgiving servant, however, Christ shows us our own stubbornness and hard-heartedness, just in case we think we are purely victims of other people's sin. A man who had a huge debt was forgiven but when it came time to forgive another who owed him a debt, he became self-righteous and demanding. Can we put ourselves in his place? The fact is that we have a long memory for being wronged by others but our recollection of times we have injured someone else is fleetingly short. Our emotions get the best of us at times and all we can see are our own injuries and not the ones we have inflicted on others.

Jesus told Peter that forgiving someone who wronged him was something we are called to do repeatedly. Not just seven times, but as many as it takes! The kingdom of God is founded on forgiveness and where there is no forgiveness, there is no kingdom. It's not about our own rights or receiving justice for being wronged. As followers of Jesus it is about pure pardon, grace upon grace, and service to our neighbor. This is a hard pill to swallow indeed, and we can come up with a million reasons why we are exempt from the command to forgive, but Jesus is clear, “If you want to be forgiven, you must practice forgiveness.”

Our Lord modeled this perfectly for us on the cross of Calvary. He forgave those who nailed him to cross between two thieves. He pardoned his friends for abandoning him in his direst hour. He will help us forgive when we are betrayed so that we can be free to live fully in his glorious kingdom. Amen.

