

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 27, 2020  
Half Past Ten o'clock in the Morning



## PREPARING FOR THE WORD OF GOD

VOLUNTARY

*Hymn to Joy*

Hal Hopson

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 103, 1-5, 22 Inclusive Bible

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
**and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.**  
Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
**and do not forget God's many blessings.**  
For the One who forgives all your sins,  
**is also the One who brings healing and wholeness.**  
The One who redeems your life from the Pit,  
**also crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**  
satisfying you with good as long as you live,  
**so that your strength is renewed like the eagles.**  
Yes, bless the Lord, O my soul,  
**and let all that is within me, bless God's holy name.**

HYMN

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
center of unbroken praise.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.*

*All thy works with joy surround thee;  
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;  
stars and angels sing around thee,  
center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to  
rejoice in thee.*

*Mortals, join the happy chorus  
which the morning stars began,  
Love divine is reigning o'er us,  
joining all in heaven's plan.  
Every singing, march we onward,  
victors in the midst of strife.  
Joyful music leads us sunward  
in the triumph song of life.*

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

**Lord, I am forgiven, reconciled, healed –  
thank you God for your amazing grace!  
But now you ask me to forgive others in the same way –  
but that's a very hard thing to do.  
Because there are those who have hurt me,  
or those I love,  
and those wounds run deep.  
It doesn't seem fair to forgive them,  
and I'm not sure I'm ready to give up my resentment,  
But I also know, Lord, this anger is eating me up.  
So for your sake, for their sake, and for my sake.  
Grant me the will to want to forgive.  
If not now, then soon. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Psalm 103:10-13, Inclusive Bible

You are tender and compassionate, O God –  
slow to anger and always loving.  
You never treat us as our sins deserve;  
and you don't repay us in kind for the injustices we do.  
For as high as heaven is above the earth,  
that's the breadth of your love for all who revere you.  
As far as east is from the west,  
that's the lengths you go to remove our sins from us!  
As tenderly as parents treat their children,  
that's how tenderly you treat us, your children, O God!

RESPONSE TO PARDON

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

*Thou art giving and forgiving,  
ever blessings, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living,  
ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our father, Christ our Brother,  
all who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine.*

MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OUR LORD'S PRAYER *(Collectively)*

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

*You are invited and encouraged to honor your financial commitment to the ongoing ministry  
of Peace Memorial [electronically](#) or by postal mail.*

OFFERTORY

(Online Worship)

*The Greatest of These*  
Rebecca Futral-Anderson, soprano soloist

Linda and Bill Cates

(In-Person Worship)

Text: Based on I Corinthians 13  
*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

Gilbert Martin

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH LM

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

HYMN

*Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

DETROIT

*“Forgive our sins as we forgive,”  
you taught us, Lord, to pray,  
but you alone can grant us grace  
to live the words we say.*

*In blazing light your cross reveals  
the truth we dimly knew:  
that broods on wrongs and will not let  
old bitterness depart?*

*How can your pardon reach and bless  
the unforgiving heart  
that broods on wrongs and will not let  
old bitterness depart?*

*Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls  
and bid resentment cease.  
Then, by your mercy reconciled,  
our lives will spread your peace.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON | Matthew 18:21-35

Common English Bible

Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, how many times should I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Should I forgive as many as seven times?” Jesus said, “Not just seven times, but rather as many as seventy-seven times.”

Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle accounts, they brought to him a servant who owed him ten thousand bags of gold. Because the servant didn't have enough to pay it back, the master ordered that he should be sold, along with his wife and children and everything he had, and that the proceeds should be used as payment. But the servant fell down, kneeled before him, and said, 'Please, be patient with me, and I'll pay you back.' The master had compassion on that servant, released him, and forgave the loan.

"When that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred coins. He grabbed him around the throat and said, 'Pay me back what you owe me.' "Then his fellow servant fell down and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I'll pay you back.' But he refused. Instead, he threw him into prison until he paid back his debt.

"When his fellow servants saw what happened, they were deeply offended. They came and told their master all that happened. His master called the first servant and said, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you appealed to me. Shouldn't you also have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?' His master was furious and handed him over to the guard responsible for punishing prisoners, until he had paid the whole debt. So my heavenly Father will also do the same to you if you don't forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

SERMON

The Gift – and the Price – of Forgiveness  
*(Life Together in the Church – Part 3)*

Rev. Scott

## **WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD**

CLOSING PRAYER

I release you from my hurt feelings.

I free you from my reading of your motives.

I withdraw my "justified" outrage and leave you clean and happy in my mind.

In place of censure, I offer you all of God's deep contentment and peace.

I will perceive you singing, with a soft smile of freedom and a glow of rich satisfaction.

I bless you my brother / my sister.

You are a shining member of the Family of God.

And I will wait patiently for this truthful vision to come honestly to my mind.

*(from "The Quiet Answer" by Hugh Prather)*

HYMN

*Amazing Grace*

AMAZING GRACE

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!*

*Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come:  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we've first begun.*

INVITATION AND BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

*Hymn to Joy*

Paul Manz



Assisting in the leadership of worship are  
Rev. Bob Scott, Senior Pastor; Rev. Dr. Dawn M. Haeger, Associate Pastor;  
Rebecca Futral-Anderson, soprano soloist  
Timothy Belk, Director of Music Ministries.

The Chancel flowers are presented to the glory of God  
by Liz McBride in loving memory of Dr. Martha Coachman McBride.  
This weekend would have been her 81st birthday.

Choristers (Online Worship)

Beth Daniels, Soprano	Keith McMullen, Tenor
Rebecca Futral-Anderson, Soprano	Kevin Nickorick, Tenor
Krysten Richards, Alto	Chris Lewis, Bass

Cover art

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