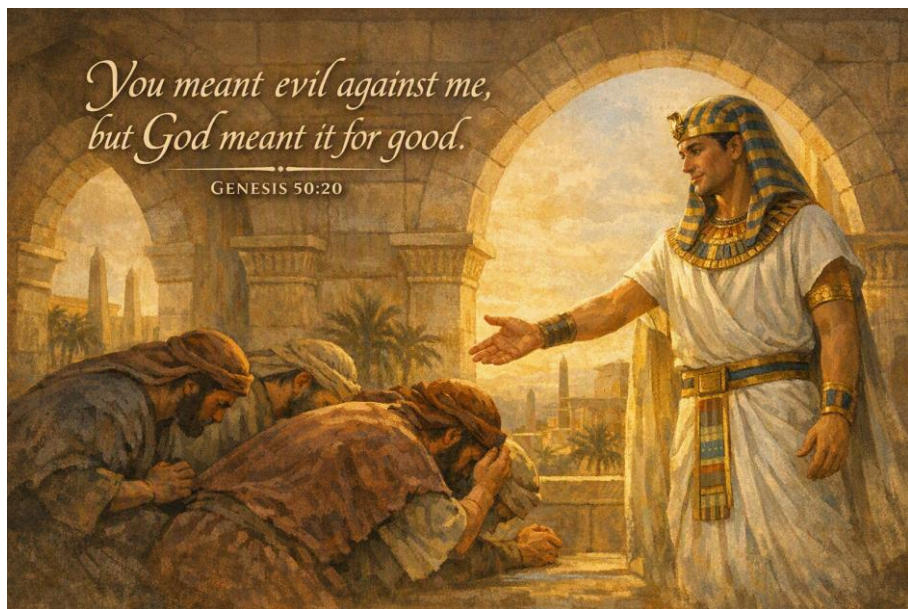




Sunday, September 13, 2026
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Service Theme
FORGIVENESS IS FOR ME

Forgiveness does not come naturally to us. We defend ourselves, lash out when attacked, hold grudges, and bite back — so when we hear that we are forgiven, we may even be suspicious. Today Jesus tells a parable that sets the forgiveness of God against our own unforgiving nature. God forgives our huge debt. Who can comprehend such unexpected mercy? Have mercy on us, Lord, and teach us to forgive like You!



Divine Word
Evangelical Lutheran Church

1081 Greenbank Rd.,
Ottawa, ON., K2B 5A8
613-825-1629
www.divinewordottawa.ca

733 Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

CW 733

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

you taught us, Lord, to pray, but you a - lone can
 the un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and
 the truth we dim - ly knew: how small are oth - ers'
 and bid re - sent - ment cease; then, bound to all in

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!
 bonds of love, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt. Tune: A Supplement to Kentucky Harmony, Harrisonburg, 1820, ed. Ananias Davisson
 Text: © 1969 Oxford University Press. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719723 Tune: Public domain

The Service

Setting Three (page 188)

Invocation

CW 188

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 189

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count
against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,
we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed what we have devised and
desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your
holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not
have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we
should have done.**

Have mercy on us, Lord!

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

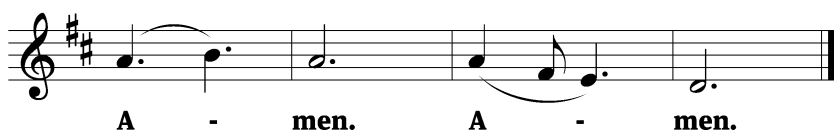
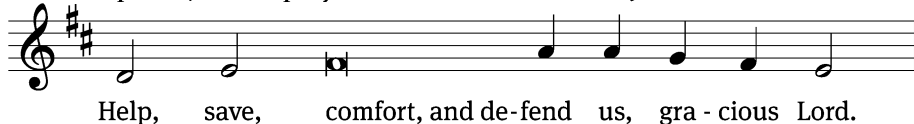
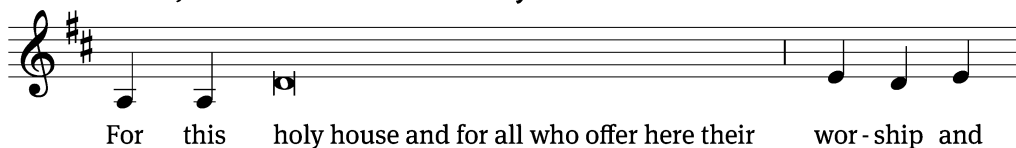
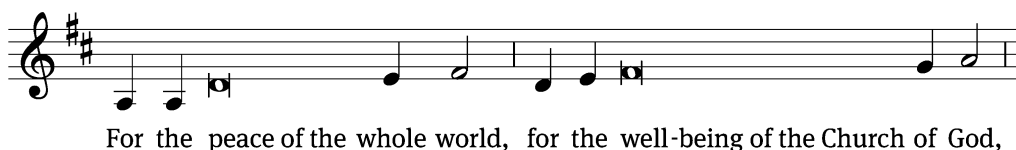
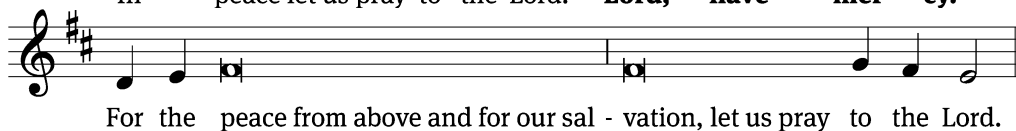
Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190



Glory to God in the Highest

CW 191

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score consists of 14 staves of music. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For

you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the
 Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus
 Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it in the
 glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.
 Glo-ry to God in the high-est, glo-ry to
 God, and peace to his peo-ple on earth,
 and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman

Tune: © 2010, 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719723

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, you graciously forgive us all our sins and abundantly provide for all our needs of body and soul. Give us confidence in your mercy, and teach us also to be merciful to our neighbor, that we willingly forgive all people, and judging only ourselves, lead blessed lives to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Genesis 50:15–21

Joseph was quick to forgive his brothers.

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and will pay us back in full for all of the evil that we did to him."

¹⁶They sent the following message to Joseph: "Before he died your father commanded us, ¹⁷'You are to tell Joseph, "Please forgive the offense of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you."' Now, please forgive the offense of the servants of the God of your father."

Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down in front of him, and they said, "See now, we are your servants."

¹⁹Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring this to pass and to keep many people alive, as it is this day. ²¹Now therefore, do not be afraid. I will nourish you and your little ones." He comforted them and spoke to them in a kind way.

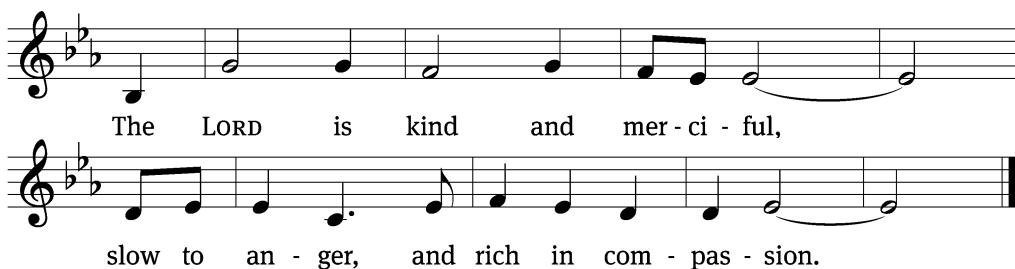
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

103A The LORD Is Kind and Merciful

Psalm 103A

Refrain



Tone



Praise the LORD, / my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his / holy name—
who forgives / all your sins
and heals all your dis- / eases,
who redeems your life / from the pit
and crowns you with love and com- / passion,
who satisfies your desires / with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the / eagle's. *Refrain*

The LORD is compassionate and / gracious,
slow to anger, abound- / ing in love.
He does not treat us as our / sins deserve
or repay us according to our in- / iquities.
For as high as the heavens are a- / bove the earth,
so great is his love for those who / fear him;
as far as the east is / from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions / from us.
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:29—5:2

Kindness, compassion, and forgiveness are marks of God's Church.

²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come from your mouths. Say only what is beneficial when there is a need to build up others, so that it will be a blessing to those who hear. ³⁰Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Get rid of every kind of bitterness, rage, anger, quarreling, and slander, along with every kind of malice. ³²Instead, be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ has forgiven us.

¹Therefore, be imitators of God as his dearly loved children. ²And walk in love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Colossians 3:13

Alleluia, alleluia.

Bear with each other and forgive one another.

Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 18:21–35

The ability to forgive others comes from the Spirit enabling us to understand how much God has forgiven us.

²¹Then Peter came up and asked Jesus, “Lord, how many times must I forgive my brother when he sins against me? As many as seven times?”

²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but I tell you as many as seventy-seven times. ²³For this reason the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle them, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵Because the man was not able to pay the debt, his master ordered that he be sold, along with his wife, children, and all that he owned to repay the debt.

²⁶“Then the servant fell down on his knees in front of him, saying, ‘Master, be patient with me, and I will pay you everything!’ ²⁷The master of that servant had pity on him, released him, and forgave him the debt.

²⁸“But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began choking him, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’

²⁹“So his fellow servant fell down and begged him, saying, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back!’ ³⁰But he refused. Instead he went off and threw the man into prison until he could pay back what he owed.

³¹“When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were very distressed. They went and reported to their master everything that had taken place.

³²“Then his master called him in and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt when you begged me to. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴His master was angry and handed him over to the jailers until he could pay back everything he owed.

³⁵“This is what my heavenly Father will also do to you unless each one of you forgives his brother from his heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

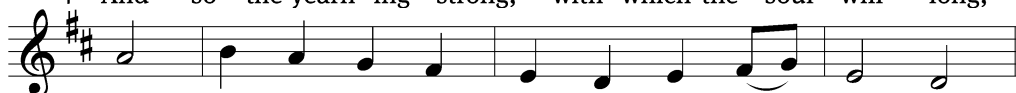
Praise be to you, O Christ!

587 Come Down, O Love Divine

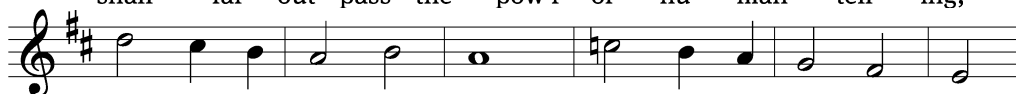
CW 587



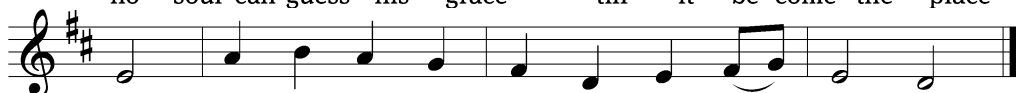
1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
 3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,
 4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing.
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
 shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear,
 and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,
 no soul can guess his grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes his dwell - ing.

Sermon

Genesis 50:15–21

The LORD's mercy moves us to say:

- 1) "I'm sorry."
- 2) "I forgive you."

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Installation of Sunday School Teachers

Prayer of the Church

Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the globe on which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.

Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.

Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion, and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.

Take away our love of sinning, and restore us each day by your grace.

The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.

Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.

Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.

Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.

Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. [Especially bless . . .] Pour out your compassion on the grieving, and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

583 God Loves Me Dearly

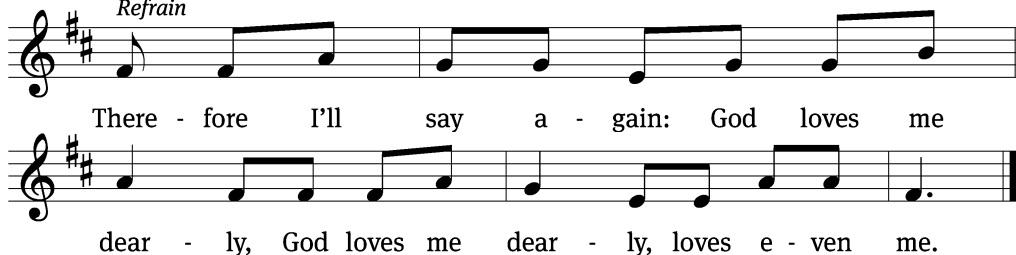
CW 583



1 God loves me dear - ly, grants me sal -
 2 I was in slav - 'ry, sin, death, and
 3 He sent forth Je - sus, my dear Re -
 4 Je - sus, my Sav - ior, him - self did
 5 Now I will praise you, O Love e -

va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, loves e - ven me.
 dark - ness; God's love was work - ing to make me free.
 deem - er, he sent forth Je - sus and set me free.
 of - fer; Je - sus, my Sav - ior, paid all I owed.
 ter - nal; now I will praise you all my life long.

Refrain



Text: August Rische, 1819–1906; tr. composite Tune: German Text and tune: Public domain

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

579 His Mercy Is More

CW 579

1 What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?
2 What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam,
3 What rich - es of kind - ness he lav - ished on us;

Om - ni - scient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum;
what Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home!
his blood was the pay - ment, his life was the cost.

thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore,
He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor;
We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford;

our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.

Refrain

Praise the Lord! His mer-cy is more!

Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn; our

sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more!

The refrain for stanza 3 is sung three times (twice, with no break between, then a final time).

Text: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983 Tune: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983

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Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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Announcements

Church Cleaners

September 20 - Mark / September 27 – Thomas

Seniors for Christ

On Thursday, September 24, at 10:00 AM. Pastor Geoff Cortright from Saviour of the Nations in Vancouver, BC, will be presenting on his ministry at St. Paul Lutheran Church downtown. Everyone is welcome!

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (13) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am First Fellowship
12:00 pm Divine Sisters Meeting
- Tu (15) 7:00 pm Elders Meeting
- Fr (18) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Class
- Sa (19) 10:00 am Communicating Christ Bible Class
- Su (20) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion
12:00 pm Evangelism Meeting
3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore
4:00 pm Youth Confirmation in Poltimore
- Fr (25) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Class
6:30 pm Friday Night Fellowship
- Sa (26) 10:00 am Communicating Christ Bible Class
- Su (27) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Class**
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Voters' Meeting

Ottawa Valley Golf Tournament
September 20 at 12:30 p.m.

Come out for a day of **golf, fellowship, and fun** with friends and fellow members of our church. Whether you're an experienced golfer or just looking to enjoy a day together, we would love to have you join us!

Cost:

1. \$63 to walk the Executive Course
2. \$20 extra for a golf cart

Payment must be made in advance.

We hope you can join us for a great afternoon on the course and a wonderful opportunity to enjoy some Christian fellowship together!

Please sign up and make your payment in advance to reserve your spot. Scan the QR code or sign up at: <https://tournaments.pineview.com/abidingword26>

