

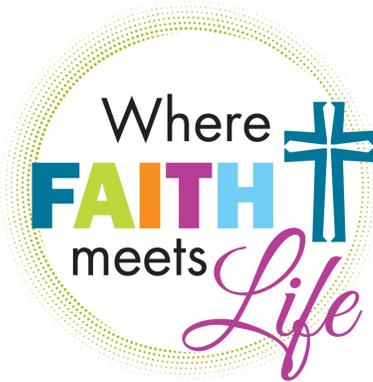
Welcome to worship at Augustana Lutheran Church

March 10, 2019 11:00 am
Liturgical Season: Lent

What does this mean?

Remember in our time month in the season after Pentecost: Pentecost, marked as a time of the Holy Spirit's wild presence, is followed with spiritual growth for both individuals and communities. As we grow this

The forty days of Lent do not technically include Sundays. We therefore say these are Sundays in Lent, not Sundays during Lent. We typically celebrate Sunday as a weekly reminder of Easter; however, these Sundays in Lent still bear the marks of remembrance, austerity, and renewal. We put away our Alleluias until Easter returns. Our purple paraments symbolize both our penitence and Jesus' rightful place as our only king. We take this time to return to God, preparing to receive the ultimate promise of Easter once again.



Today's Theme: Forgiveness

In the context of the church community and in a kingdom of heaven story, Jesus speaks to the challenges of forgiving others, the cost of forgiving others and what happens when we choose not to forgive. In clear and direct teaching we are told how many times we must forgive and the consequences to our souls when we don't extend this powerful gift to others.

Sometimes we find ourselves running late on a Sunday morning and enter worship breathless and distracted.

How might your worship experience change if you set a Lenten practice to be fully present and mindful?

Today, give yourself permission to take a deep breath, acknowledge your busy thoughts, and then set them aside. Think consciously about all five of your senses and how each of them can bring awareness of God's presence in worship.

Opening Song

This is Amazing Grace

J. Farro/
P. Wickham, J. Riddle

Announcements

Temple Talk

Pastoral Intern Eric Nelson

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God

Praise Music

Beautiful One

Tim Hughes

One Thing Remains (Your Love Never Fails)

B. Johnson/
J. Riddle, C. Black

WORD

God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, and song

Jesus used parables, memorable stories using everyday realities, to convey a message of who God is and how we are called to live and show up every day. As you listen to the text and sermon today, be mindful of what Jesus is teaching. Will this parable change your thoughts and actions this week?

Lesson

Matthew 18:15-35

If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Then Peter came and said to him, "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.**"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Questions:

Have you ever gone to a person who has sinned against you in an effort to restore the relationship? Was it easy or was it difficult? How did it change you?

Why is forgiveness so important if we are going to live in community with others?

For Jesus' followers, is there a limit to how many times we must forgive?

*How does verse 35 (see lesson verse in **bold** print) make you feel and what are the consequences to us if we choose not to forgive as God forgives?*

Sermon

I Forgive You

Pastor Mark Aune

Anthem

Forgiveness

arr. Matthew West

RESPONSE AND MEAL

We respond to the Word, and God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

The Prayers

After each portion of the prayers:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Words of Institution

We welcome you to Holy Communion. We extend the hand of Christian fellowship and invite all who believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior to participate as His guest at His table. Communion will be by intinction, meaning that we will hand you a wafer and ask that you dip it into the wine. We have non-wheat wafers available; simply notify the pastor when you come forward. Children who do not yet commune are welcome to receive a blessing. Please indicate your participation in Communion on the Connection Card in the bulletin. If you are unable to come forward to receive Communion, please notify an usher and a pastor will come to you.

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.

The offering is an act of worship where we actively participate in God's work in the world. We are in conversation with God both as individuals and as a community. In this public conversation which is the offering, we give our lives and resources back to God in thanks and praise for God's many blessings.

In our benediction and sending, we hear God's blessings for us and are sent out to share those blessings with others.

What did you learn or experience in worship today that will continue to bless you and inspire you to be a blessing to others this week?

Communion Distribution/Offering

You Are My King (Amazing Love)

Billy James Foote

SENDING

The Holy Spirit sends us into the world

Benediction

Worship Leader:

May the grace of our Lord be with you,

Now and always may you stay blameless 'til he comes.

Congregation:

May the love of our Lord be with you,

Now and always may you stay blameless 'til he comes.

Closing Hymn

This is Amazing Grace

J. Farro/

P. Wickham, J. Riddle

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor Mark Aune

Pastor Megan Torgerson

Pastoral Intern Eric Nelson

Music Director: Lisa Griffin

Band Members: Marcae Bitzer, Ryan Engelhardt, Erik Saxton, Scott Maleska, Nathan Fryett, Dave Hofgren

Media Team: Wayne Worth
Matt Howard

Acolytes: Evan Poeschel
Kayla Matuzak

Lay Reader: Kate Amlee

Following worship we invite you to stop at the Information Center. It is staffed with individuals eager to answer any questions you may have.

You are welcome to pick up our monthly newsletter, Augustana Life, at the Information Kiosk in the Narthex. It is also available online at www.augustana.com, click on RESOURCES.

Augustana uses the Narrative Lectionary as a basis for our weekly Bible readings.

Next week we will read Matthew 20:1-16.

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