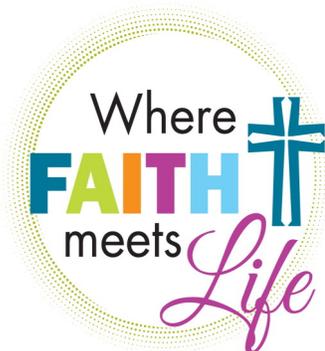


March 10, 2019 8:30 and 9:45 am

Liturgical Season: Lent



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.

Prelude *Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive* Wilbur Held

Announcements

Temple Talk Pastoral Intern Eric Nelson

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God

Opening Hymn *Where Charity and Love Prevail* ELW #359
st. 1,3,4,5

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

And also with you.

Kyrie ELW p. 147

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, and song

Anthem	(8:30)	<i>Come Find Forgiveness and Love</i> Senior Choir with Beth Blackledge, flute	Price/Besig
	(9:45)	<i>Brighter than Snow (Psalm 51)</i> Agape Choir	Ruth Schram

Lesson

Matthew 18: 15-35

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?

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	I Forgive You	Pastor Mark Aune
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Hymn of the Day	<i>Forgive Our Sins, as We Forgive</i>	ELW #605
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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** from the lesson make you feel and what are the consequences to us if we choose not to forgive as God forgives?*

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.

RESPONSE

A time to respond to God with our gifts and prayers

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.

Offering

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me
Beth Blackledge, flute

Donald Busarow

Offertory Response

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW #184

The Prayers

After each portion of the prayers:

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

The Great Thanksgiving

ELW pg. 152

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW pg. 153

Words of Institution

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.

Lamb of God

ELW pg. 154

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Prayer

Tender and Merciful One, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SENDING

The Holy Spirit sends us into the world

Benediction

God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, ✠ bless you and bring you to life everlasting. **Amen.**

Sending

Go in peace. Forgive as you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn

Built on a Rock

ELW #652
st. 1,2,3,5

Postlude

O Christ, Our Hope

Johann Gottfried Walther

✠✠✠

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?

SERVING TODAY

Pastor Mark Aune

Pastor Megan Torgerson

Pastoral Intern Eric Nelson

Kathy Andrews, Choir Director

Janis Aune, Organist

Beth Blackledge, Flute

Lay Readers: 8:30 Kristi Sullivan

9:45 David Ocar

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 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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