

Order of Service, Readings and Prayer

16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 17, 2023

THE GATHERING

Welcome	
Prelude	
New Member Induction	p. 234
*Confession and Forgiveness	p. 10
*Hymn " <i>Awake O Sleeper</i> "	No. 745
*Greeting & Kyrie	p. 28
*Hymn of Praise	p. 29
*Prayer of the Day	Insert

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading – Dale Freeze	Genesis 50:15-21	
Psalms 103 (read responsively)		Insert
Second Reading	Romans 14:1-12	
*The Gospel Acclamation	p. 31	
*Holy Gospel	Matthew 18:21-35	
Children's Message	Rev. Tim Kneuss	
Noisy Sunday – Project Santa		
Children's Church	Karen Overcash	

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

The Message	Rev. Tim Kneuss	
*Hymn " <i>Our Father We Have Wandered</i> "	No. 733	
*The Apostles' Creed	P. 33	
*Blessing of Offerings		
*The Prayers of Intercession	P. 34	
P: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.		
*The Lord's Prayer – Traditional	P. 39	

SENDING

Parish Announcements	
*The Blessing	P. 41
*Sending Song " <i>Go My Children with My Blessing</i> "	No. 721
*The Dismissal	

**The Congregation will stand in reverence.*



Today's Readings

Sunday, September 17, 2023

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day

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.**

First Reading

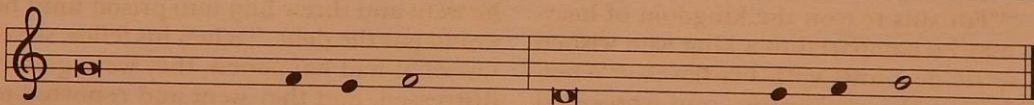
Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?"
¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died,
¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke

to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?
²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Psalm

Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13; tone 6



[Bless the LORD, ¹ O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless God's ¹ holy name.
²Bless the LORD, ¹ O my soul,
and forget not ¹ all God's benefits—
³who forgives ¹ all your sins
and heals all ¹ your diseases;
⁴who redeems your life ¹ from the grave
and crowns you
with steadfast ¹ love and mercy;
⁵who satisfies your desires ¹ with good
things
so that your youth is renewed
¹ like an eagle's.
⁶O LORD, you provide ¹ vindication
and justice for all who ¹ are oppressed.
⁷You made known your ¹ ways to Moses
and your works
to the chil- ¹ dren of Israel.]

⁸LORD, you are full of compas- ¹ sion
and mercy,
slow to anger
and abounding in ¹ steadfast love;
⁹you will not al- ¹ ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- ¹ ger forever.
¹⁰You have not dealt with us
according ¹ to our sins,
nor repaid us
according to ¹ our iniquities.
¹¹For as the heavens are high
a- ¹ bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love
for ¹ those who fear you.
¹²As far as the east is ¹ from the west,
so far have you removed
our transgres- ¹ sions from us.
¹³As a father has compassion ¹ for his children,
so you have compassion

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in

honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, 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. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But 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.’ ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

