

## Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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### Forgiveness



If you stop and think about it, if any relationship has undergone strain or stress, especially a relationship that has one person doing “something” to the other person in the relationship, it will stand to reason that there needs to be something done that will happen in order to restore the relationship back to its original glory or it will crumble.

A relationship can get broken in any number of ways. We might say something that offends. We might have spoken out of turn. We might have done something that another finds offensive. We can find ourselves hurting relationships often than not because of things we might willfully say or do, and even things we do or say that we are totally clueless about.

Forgiveness is the vehicle that gets the job done. Usually, it means one party in a relationship recognizes things aren’t going all that smoothly and they go to the other party and make apologies, amends, and ask for forgiveness. Again, when that forgiveness is granted, relationships find the common ground they need to be able to continue to grow and prosper. We simply need to share that forgiveness back and forth.

The cross of Christ is the “vehicle” for the believer’s forgiveness process. Christ went to the death that we might find our broken relationship with God repaired and as such we can live with God in a brand new and shiny relationship, not one tainted by lies and deceit. God grants us the forgiveness because of the work of His Son Jesus and as such, we are forgiven. It is God’s heart to forgive.

It’s not up to us to be as judgmental as we are at times. Perhaps we simply need to forgive!

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

## OUR WORSHIP TODAY

### GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME

Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements

### CONFESSIONAL PRAYER

In this Pentecost Season, we confess to You, O Lord – our division, for we are not gathered together as Your people in one place; our fear of the rush of your Spirit in our lives and what it might call us to do or to be; our desire for a monolingual society, even when you allowed the early church to transcend all language, not favoring one over another; our actions that can be like the crowds that taunt and torment, mocking those who are filled with your Spirit that burns like fire and rushes like wind. For the times we have done this, we know we need to offer our confession to Almighty God:

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

### ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In this Pentecost season, Lord – help us to let down our barriers to your Spirit; guide us over to live lives filled with joy, abandon, and faithfulness; and create in us new hearts to be new people who worship only You. As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Go and sin no more, that the rest of your life might be pure and holy and modeled after our Lord Jesus in all we say and all we do, we pray and celebrate this Easter joy in His Holy Name, **Amen**.

### HYMN 10 O Worship The King 1,4

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): **God, our Maker and Redeemer, you have made us a new company of priests in order to bear witness to the Gospel. Enable us to be faithful to our calling to make known your promises to all the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Alleluia! Let your priests be clothed with righteousness, and let your saints shout for joy. Alleluia!**

**FIRST LESSON** 1 Kings 21:1-21

New Living Translation (NLT)

Now there was a man named Naboth, from Jezreel, who owned a vineyard in Jezreel beside the palace of King Ahab of Samaria. One day Ahab said to Naboth, "Since your vineyard is so convenient to my palace, I would like to buy it to use as a vegetable garden. I will give you a better vineyard in exchange, or if you prefer, I will pay you for it."

But Naboth replied, "The Lord forbid that I should give you the inheritance that was passed down by my ancestors." So Ahab went home angry and sullen because of Naboth's answer. The king went to bed with his face to the wall and refused to eat!

"What's the matter?" his wife Jezebel asked him. "What's made you so upset that you're not eating?" "I asked Naboth to sell me his vineyard or trade it, but he refused!" Ahab told her. "Are you the king of Israel or not?" Jezebel demanded. "Get up and eat something, and don't worry about it. I'll get you Naboth's vineyard!"

So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, sealed them with his seal, and sent them to the elders and other leaders of the town where Naboth lived. In her letters she commanded: "Call the citizens together for a time of fasting, and give Naboth a place of honor. And then seat two scoundrels across from him who will accuse him of cursing God and the king. Then take him out and stone him to death."

So the elders and other town leaders followed the instructions Jezebel had written in the letters. They called for a fast and put Naboth at a prominent place before the people. Then the two scoundrels came and sat down across from him. And they accused Naboth before all the people, saying, "He cursed God and the king." So he was dragged outside the town and stoned to death. The town leaders then sent word to Jezebel, "Naboth has been stoned to death."

When Jezebel heard the news, she said to Ahab, "You know the vineyard Naboth wouldn't sell you? Well, you can have it now! He's dead!" So Ahab immediately went down to the vineyard of Naboth to claim it.

But the Lord said to Elijah, "Go down to meet King Ahab of Israel, who rules in Samaria. He will be at Naboth's vineyard in Jezreel, claiming it for himself. Give him this message: 'This is what the Lord says: Wasn't it enough that you killed Naboth? Must you rob him, too? Because you have done this, dogs will lick your blood at the very place where they licked the blood of Naboth!'"

"So, my enemy, you have found me!" Ahab exclaimed to Elijah. "Yes," Elijah answered, "I have come because you have sold yourself to what is evil in the Lord's sight. So now the Lord says, 'I will bring disaster on you and consume you. I will destroy every one of your male descendants, slave and free alike, anywhere in Israel!'"

**THE SECOND LESSON: Galatians 2:11-21**

**New Living Translation (NLT)**

But when Peter came to Antioch, I had to oppose him to his face, for what he did was very wrong. When he first arrived, he ate with the Gentile believers, who were not circumcised. But afterward, when some friends of James came, Peter wouldn't eat with the Gentiles anymore. He was afraid of criticism from these people who insisted on the necessity of circumcision. As a result, other Jewish believers followed Peter's hypocrisy, and even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.

When I saw that they were not following the truth of the gospel message, I said to Peter in front of all the others, "Since you, a Jew by birth, have discarded the Jewish laws and are living like a Gentile, why are you now trying to make these Gentiles follow the Jewish traditions?"

"You and I are Jews by birth, not 'sinners' like the Gentiles. Yet we know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law. And we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law. For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law."

But suppose we seek to be made right with God through faith in Christ and then we are found guilty because we have abandoned the law. Would that mean Christ has led us into sin? Absolutely not! Rather, I am a sinner if I rebuild the old system of law I already tore down. For when I tried to keep the law, it condemned me. So I died to the law—I stopped trying to meet all its requirements—so that I might live for God. My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not treat the grace of God as meaningless. For if keeping the law could make us right with God, then there was no need for Christ to die.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 7:36-8:3**

**New Living Translation (NLT)**

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to have dinner with him, so Jesus went to his home and sat down to eat. When a certain immoral woman from that city heard he was eating there, she brought a beautiful alabaster jar filled with expensive perfume. Then she knelt behind him at his feet, weeping. Her tears fell on his feet, and she wiped them off with her hair. Then she kept kissing his feet and putting perfume on them.

When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. She's a

sinner!” Then Jesus answered his thoughts. “Simon,” he said to the Pharisee, “I have something to say to you.” “Go ahead, Teacher,” Simon replied.

Then Jesus told him this story: “A man loaned money to two people—500 pieces of silver to one and 50 pieces to the other. But neither of them could repay him, so he kindly forgave them both, canceling their debts. Who do you suppose loved him more after that?” Simon answered, “I suppose the one for whom he canceled the larger debt.”

“That’s right,” Jesus said. Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, “Look at this woman kneeling here. When I entered your home, you didn’t offer me water to wash the dust from my feet, but she has washed them with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You didn’t greet me with a kiss, but from the time I first came in, she has not stopped kissing my feet. You neglected the courtesy of olive oil to anoint my head, but she has anointed my feet with rare perfume.

“I tell you, her sins—and they are many—have been forgiven, so she has shown me much love. But a person who is forgiven little shows only little love.” Then Jesus said to the woman, “Your sins are forgiven.”

The men at the table said among themselves, “Who is this man, that he goes around forgiving sins?” And Jesus said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

Soon afterward Jesus began a tour of the nearby towns and villages, preaching and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom of God. He took his twelve disciples with him, along with some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases. Among them were Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons; Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod’s business manager; Susanna; and many others who were contributing from their own resources to support Jesus and his disciples.

The Gospel of our Lord.

**PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

SERMON “Forgiveness is Hard Work!”

Pastor Jonathon Kosec

**SERMON HYMN: 27 How Great Thou Art 1,2,4**

## OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed (C)

**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 into hell. 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### THE OFFERING:

*After the consecration of the Offering, we will sing the Doxology:*

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

### THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

-PRAYERS OF PRAISE, WORDS OF INSTITUTION, LORD'S PRAYER

### THE DISTRIBUTION

### THE COMMUNION BLESSING

## HYMN 28 O God Our Help in Ages Past 1,2,6

### THE BENEDICTION & THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. **Thanks be to God**

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**WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN!** Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, ***please place your cell phones on muted*** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

**SUMMER NEWSLETTER COMING SOON!** If you have items you'd like included in the next newsletter, by all means please forward them to Jeanne Keyser, who is our newsletter editor. We are thinking it would be published later in June but now would be a good time to get those articles started!

**OUR NEXT BIBLE STUDY** will be taking place on June 22 at 10:00 AM as we will wrap up our discussion on the last two chapters of the book of Galatians. Please come to that with at least those two chapters read. On June 29, we will begin our "Summer of Psalms" Bible study that will feature a number of psalms, some familiar and some maybe not so familiar. Please take time to join us if you are able!

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Please us a prayer request card if you have a specific prayer request this morning. It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

**OUR CHURCH COUNCIL** will meet on Tuesday, June 14th, at 7:00 PM. It goes without saying that we really appreciate their dedication and commitment to their duties. We could not be where we "are" today without them!

**THANKS TO PASTOR TONY** for covering for Pastor Jon this past week while he was away. It is much appreciated!

**Our Savior Lutheran Church, LCMC**

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Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M.

Bible Study Twice Monthly, Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

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