

Joseph – “Christ-like Forgiveness”



The Story of Joseph

Week 10

September 20, 2026

9:30 a.m.

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the Living God, the Heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in Heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the Mediator of a New Covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better Word than the blood of Abel.

Hebrews 12:18–24

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread . . . For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My Body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup, after supper, saying, "This Cup is the New Covenant in My Blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1 Corinthians 10:16–17; 11:23–29

Who receives this sacrament worthily? Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

Luther's Small Catechism: The Sacrament of the Altar

Falsely are our churches accused of abolishing the Mass; for the Mass is retained among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved . . . For ceremonies are needed to this end alone: that the unlearned be taught what they need to know of Christ . . . The people are accustomed to partake of the Sacrament together, if any be fit for it, and this also increases the reverence and devotion of public worship. For none are admitted except they be first examined.

Augsburg Confession XXIV: Of the Mass

A Welcome to Our Visitors

Welcome to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are glad that you have joined us this morning to receive from our gracious God and to offer Him your prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. If this is your first visit to St. Paul, or you have never received the Lord's Supper from Pastor, we ask that you speak with him or one of the elders before receiving Holy Communion. Children and adults who are not permitted to the Sacrament of the Altar may come forward and cross their arms against their chest to indicate they would like to receive a blessing at the rail. We offer gluten free wafers, please advise Pastor Ermeling as he comes by during communion.

As We Gather

Today we come to God's house to honor and praise Him for all He has done for HIS people. This is week number ten of our series on the life and times of Joseph. Each week we look at a stage of his life and see what we can learn from him that applies to us today.

Our life application for today focuses on forgiveness: Forgiving others is not optional in our relationship with God. In fact, if we fail to forgive, we will never know the pleasures of God.

God bless your worship with us today.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Call to Worship

Stand

Hymn

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

904 *sts. 1, 3*

Invocation

based on Psalm 143

P In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P O Father, Who creates and sustains all life,

C may Your Word keep us mindful of Your unfailing love.

P O Son, Who restores life to us by His own death and resurrection,

C may Your Word keep us mindful of Your unending love.

P O Spirit, Who daily regenerates life within us,

C may Your Word keep us mindful of Your renewing love.

✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the Name of the Lord,

C who made Heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P O Almighty God, Merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your Beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 116:12–13, 15–16; antiphon: v. 17

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

What shall I render to the LORD
for all his benefits to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.

Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his saints.

O LORD, I am your servant;

I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

Kyrie

C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

This Is the Feast

A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.
C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.
Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and
hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your people and kindle in us the fire of Your love as we begin to practice forgiving others as you have forgiven us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with You and the Father are one God, our Triune God, now and always. Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Sit

Old Testament

Genesis 45:1-11

(God has a surprise for Joseph's brothers – forgiveness!)

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, "Have everyone leave my presence!" So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it.

Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still living?” But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come close to me.” When they had done so, he said, “I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

“So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. Now hurry back to my father and say to him, ‘This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don’t delay. You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me—you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.’

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!

**Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

Epistle

Ephesians 4:31-32

(Paul reminds us that God wants us to be compassionate and forgiving to one another.)

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia & Verse

Ephesians 2:8

Alleluia. By grace you have been saved through faith.

And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 17:3-5

(Jesus tells us of the importance of rebuking and forgiving our brothers and sisters in Christ.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 17th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

So watch yourselves. "If your brother or sister sins against you, rebuke them; and if they repent, forgive them. Even if they sin against you seven times in a day and seven times come back to you saying 'I repent,' you must forgive them."

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ!

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose Kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in One Holy Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

843

Sermon

Offering

Stand

Offertory



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

At the end of each petition:

P Let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

✠ ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION ✠

Preface

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

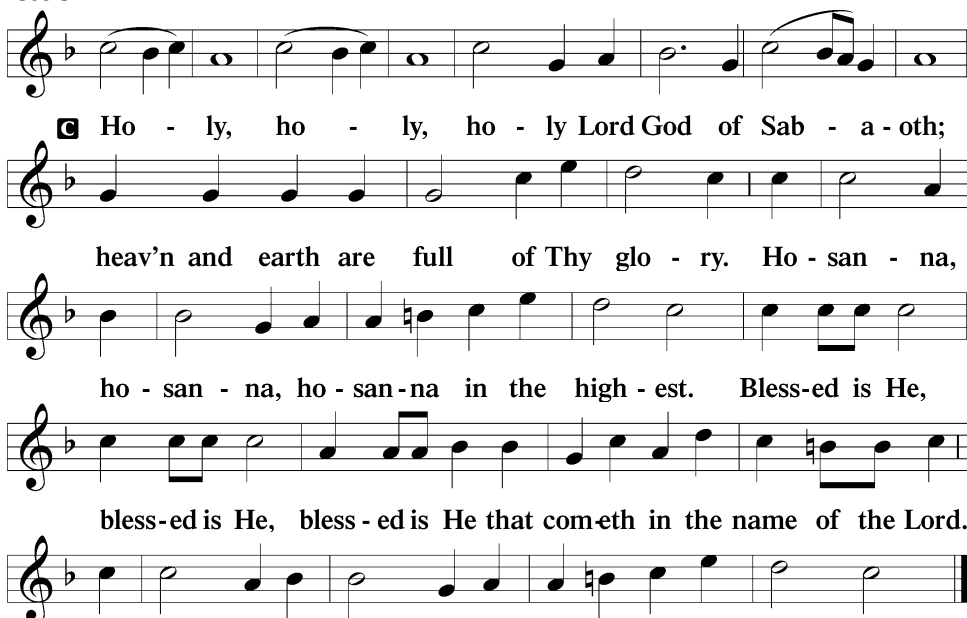


C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The 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 Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My ✠ Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



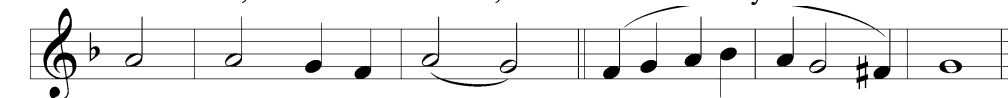
world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution Hymns

Oh, How Great Is Your Compassion

559

In Thee Is Gladness

818

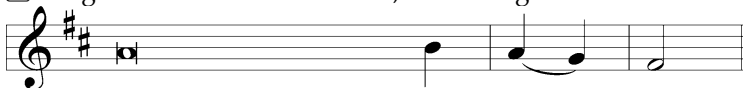
Nunc Dimittis



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

P O give thanks unto the LORD, for He is good.



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

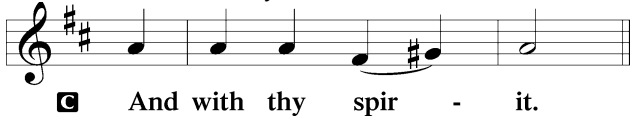
P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

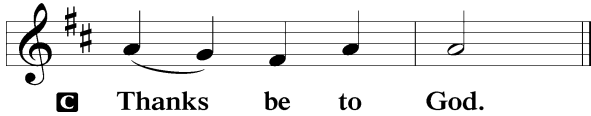


Salutation and Benedicamus

P The Lord be with you.



P Bless we the Lord.



Benediction and Blessing

P The Lord bless you and give you peace.

C May His peace be with you and with us. Thanks be to God!

P To God be the Glory!

A In the name of the Father, the Son ✠ and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

803 sts. 1, 3

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"To Shine Forth the Light of God's Love into Our World"

BULLETIN NEWS

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunday, September 20	9:30am	Divine Service	Sanctuary
	11:00am	Spanish Worship Service	Sanctuary
		Adult Bible Class	Irmer Hall
		Sunday School	Library
	12:30pm	Spanish Bible Study	Irmer Hall
Friday, September 25	6:30pm	Spanish Family Bible Study	Irmer Hall

BIRTHDAYS

09/25 – Dawson Oravec
09/25 – Jan Stash

BAPSTIMAL BIRTHDAY

09/24 – Sabrina Wininger

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Twelve Weeks of Life-Changing Character Studies on Joseph

Week 11 - *Why Joseph Received...*

Week 12 - *How to Reach Your...*

If you miss a Sunday, you can watch the recorded service on YOUTUBE at [St. Paul Lutheran Church Phoenix](#).

LUTHERAN CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Become an LCRL Champion and stand with a clear Lutheran voice for religious liberty in our nation. Your support strengthens faithful advocacy and equips Christians to engage today's challenges with courage and conviction. See www.LCRLFreedom.org/champions.

UNANSWERED BIBLE QUESTION

Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio, will have Pastors Bryan Wolfmueller and Brian Kachelmeier respond to your unanswered Bible questions. You can submit your question via email: talkback@issuesetc.org; Facebook: facebook.com/issuesetc; X: @IssuesEtc or the Issues, Etc. Comment Line: (618) 223-8382. You can listen to the interview at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and with a favorite podcast provider.

LET US PRAY FOR...

Please keep this list available for your daily devotions. *For prayer requests Church office (623) 846-2228, or email at info@stpaulslutheran-az.com. Prayer requests are removed after three weeks.*

IMMEDIATE CONCERN:

Wayne Bartels, recovering from a fall and undergoing rehabilitation.

ON-GOING CONCERNS:

Dorothy Paxton – recovering from a fall.

Jorge Jimenez – fighting cancer

Nicholas Jimenez – health issues

Suzi Riley – health issues

Wayne Bartels – ongoing health issues

Jim Rucker – health issues

Pray for everyone affected by the recent disaster in Nepal. Homes and farms have been destroyed by massive landslides and flooding. Lives have been lost, and thousands of people who survived have lost everything and may be displaced for a long time.

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY ST. PAUL:

Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram and wife, Joan, serving in Japan.

PSWD Missions

PRAY FOR ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH/THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD:

The Rev. Vernen Ermeling and family

Sunday School teachers & children

Maryvale Preparatory Academy families & staff

The Rev. Ramón Cabrales and Deaconess Carmen

LCMS officers, congregations & schools

Achieve Academy families & staff

OUR NATION: For all elected and appointed public servants, and all who labor to maintain peace and order.

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (*members, friends, or relatives*):

Jackson Buffington (*Ahrens*), **Maxwell Buffington** (*Ahrens*), **Andy Smiley** (*Parker*)

OUR SHUT-INS: Anne Smith

Acknowledgments

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