

How We Should Forgive

Dr. Tim Bruster

Matthew 18:21-22

Traditional Worship

11:00 am

February 4, 2018

WE GATHER

Prelude — O FOR A Thousand Tongues to Sing
Jason D. Payne, arranger

Welcome

Choral Call to Worship

*Call to Worship

Lord, we praise You for once we were lost and felt so far away; now we have been found and welcomed home. Come, let us celebrate Your reconciling, forgiving love!

Lord, let us forgive one another.

God, Your love is lavished upon us forever and we rejoice at the news of forgiveness and new life!

Lord, let us forgive one another.

Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

We worship our God of new beginnings!

*Hymn 66 — Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King!

2. Praise him for his grace and favor
to his people in distress.
Praise him, still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness!

3. Fatherlike he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hand he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows!

4. Angels, help us to adore him;
you behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Word of the Day:
Forgive

Memory Verse:
Forgive one
another.
— Colossians 3:13

Alleluia means
"praise ye
the Lord."

*Affirmation of Faith

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God who has created and is creating,



who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,



who works in us and others by the Spirit.



We trust in God. We are called to be the church.

To celebrate God's presence.

To love and serve others.

To seek justice and resist evil.

To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.



God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

In life beyond death



Amen.

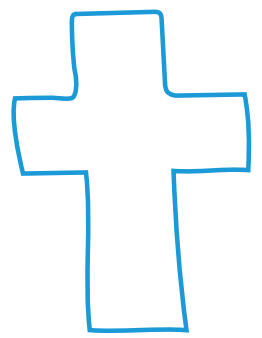
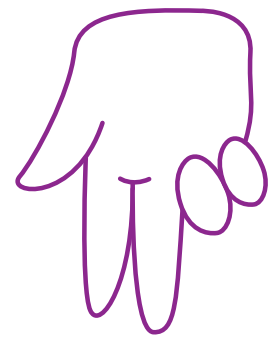
In death



In life



*Gloria Patri
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;



Gloria Patri means "Glory to the Father." This short hymn of praise has been sung by Christians for many centuries.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Please be seated. Ushers will assist in seating at this time.

WE PROCLAIM

Special Music – Welcome
Mark Miller, composer

Scripture – Matthew 18:21-22
God speaks to us through the reading of scripture.
Thanks be to God.

Ushers will pass out the attendance pads at this time. Please register your attendance and then pass the pads back to the end of the pew.

Faith Like a Child

*Passing the Peace

*Hymn – Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive
Sung to O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

"Forgive our sins as we forgive," you taught us, Lord, to pray; but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?

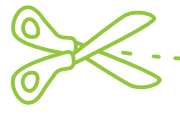
In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew: what trivial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls, and bid resentment cease; then, bound to all in bonds of love, our lives will spread your peace.

Scripture: Each week we read from the Bible – the book of God's love. Its words can inspire you, comfort you, teach you, and challenge you to be your best self – a true servant of God.

You can listen as the scripture is read, or... Find a Bible nearby, look up the scripture, and follow along.

Sermon Snips:
You don't have to "just sit there." Choose one of the sermon snips and let it guide you as you take your relationship with God to the next level.



How We Should Forgive

A large dashed red rectangular box intended for drawing a map of the sermon.

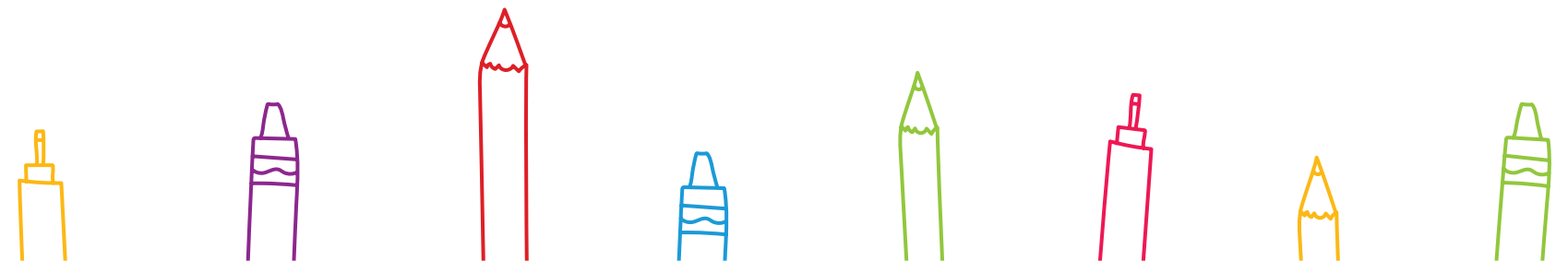
Draw a map of the sermon.
Include the sermon path and all the twists and turns.
Along the way, draw important images or words you hear.

Look around.
What is something you see that helps you know God's love is real?

Did you just hear a word or phrase you don't understand? Write it down and ask your parents about it, or look it up when you get home.

Write a "Thank You" Note to God.

Imagine you are the one giving the sermon. What would you tell everyone?



Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Find the Prayer Cross in your worship kit. The cord has five knots, and there are five parts to the prayer Jesus taught his friends. Hold each knot between your thumb and forefinger as you say the different parts of the 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.

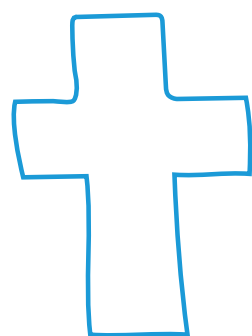
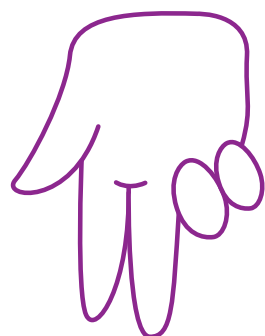
WE RESPOND

A Time of Giving

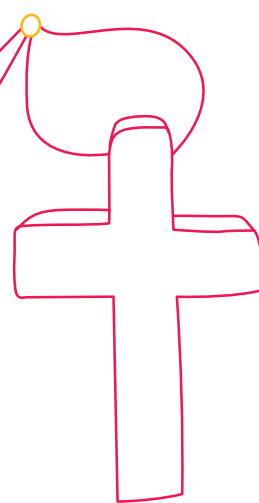
Offertory — More Love
Mark Miller, Composer

*Doxology

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



*Invitation to Christian Discipleship



For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Many years after Jesus went to heaven, the early church added this part of the prayer. Hold the prayer cross close to your heart as you say this part.

*Hymn 560 — Help Us Accept Each Other

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

*Benediction

Our gathering will soon be ended, where will we go, and what will we do?

We will go out to be God's people in the world.

May grace, peace, hope, love, and joy forever accompany you. Amen.

Congregational Closing — Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our Creator, children all are we.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now,

With every breath I take let this be my solemn vow:

To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

*Postlude — Toccata on "St. Anne"

Michael Helman, arranger

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Lisa Grissel Presley by her parents, JoAnne and Jim Grissel.

Worship Leaders:

Dr. Tim Bruster Senior Pastor

Mrs. Erin Ypya, Director of Cornerstone Youth Choir

Mrs. Peggy Graff, Organist/Associate Director of Music and Worship Arts

Liturgists: Rev. Chuck Graff, Dr. Mike Marshall,

Faith Like a Child: Mister Mark, Charlotte Gibbs, helper

Choir: Cornerstone Youth Choir and Alamo Heights Youth Choir, Nona Schwab, Director

Acolytes: Katherine Johnson

Procession: Abby Pratt

*Please stand as you are able.

How are you going to be one of God's people in the world this week?



WORSHIP KIT

↪ INSIDE YOU WILL FIND ↪

TREASURES OF NATURE BOX

One of the best ways we can experience God's power and love is by cherishing God's handiwork in the wonders of nature. Carefully open the box and discover what treasures wait inside.

BLANK CARD

You can use the pencil and crayons to make a *Thank You* note for someone in the Sanctuary who helped make worship feel special to you. It could be a parent, a minister, a choir member, an usher, or someone in the next pew who gave you a friendly wave. After the service, ask your parents to take you to hand-deliver the card.

ANOINTING BALM

Use the anointing balm to bless a friend or family member sitting next to you. Rub a tiny bit of the balm on your thumb and trace the sign of the cross on your neighbor's forehead or back of the hand (whichever they prefer). As you do this, say a simple blessing, such as "God bless you." (It's not just for sneezes.) Or, for a longer blessing, you could say:

*You are a special person.
God loves you, and so do I.
Bless you.*

And don't forget to allow your neighbor the privilege of getting to bless you.

PIPE STEMS

There are so many things you can do with pipe stems. You could:

- Listen to the sermon and sculpt an object you hear mentioned.
- Shape them in the initials of someone you'd like to pray for.
- Look around the Sanctuary and sculpt something you see.
- Sculpt a flower and give it to a family member.
- Make a friendship bracelet and give it to a friend, or to a new member.

PRAYER CROSS

The cross is such a powerful symbol of God's love and hope. Anytime is a good time to hold on to the cross. See inside the bulletin for how to use the prayer cross during the Lord's Prayer.

TANGLE

Listen to a piece of music or a Bible story and mold the tangle to show how it makes you feel.

Does it make you feel:

- Open and ready for God's presence?
- Tangled and confused?
- Wrapped snugly and securely?
- Calm like a gentle stream?
- Not sure?

PENCIL AND CRAYONS

Use these to write notes in your bulletin, draw a prayer, illustrate a story you hear in the sermon, or even ask hard questions.

CLOTH FIGURE

Here are just a few things you can do with the cloth figure:

- Have it act out the events in the Bible story.
- Help it read the bulletin.
- Gently hold it the way God is holding you right now.

EYE SPY CARD AND TELESCOPE

Use the Eye Spy card to identify some of the many meaningful objects and symbols in our Sanctuary. Use the telescope to help you explore.

