

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



September 17, 2023 | 10:30 a.m.

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church
308 North Third Street
Milan, Minnesota*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to worship at Kviteseid Lutheran Church... In the words of the Israelites: "The Lord is ... the reason for [our] song, because he has saved [us]" (Exodus 15:2, CEV).

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN "Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death" ELW #452

INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

**CALL TO WORSHIP

P People of God, bless the Lord, *Ps. 103:1*

C **bles God's holy name.**

P For as the heavens are high above the earth, *Ps. 103:11*

C **so great is God's steadfast love for us.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Let us confess our sins to God who forgives and saves.

C **Gracious and loving God,
you lived for us—we have not lived for you.** *Rom. 14:7–9;
Matt. 18:28–30*

You have forgiven us—we have not forgiven others.

**You have loved us—we have not loved ourselves
nor have we loved one another.**

Take pity on us and forgive us, God.

Help us to forgive. Help us to live for you.

Help us to love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

P People of God, our sins are forgiven. *Rom. 14:7–9;
Matt. 18:27, 33*

God is merciful and gracious and is Lord of us all.

Reconciled to the God who loves us,

let us live and love through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" ELW #834

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C **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.**

LESSON: Genesis 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

PSALM 103:8-13

L ⁸LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

C ⁹**you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.**

L ¹⁰You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

C ¹¹**For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.**

L ¹²As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

C ¹³**As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.**

LESSON: Romans 14:4-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive"

ELW #605
(Alt. tune: ELW #632)

INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

APOSTLES' CREED

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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 Pilot,
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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P Merciful God,

C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

ELW #186

****OFFERING PRAYER**

C Almighty God, receive these gifts that we offer with grateful hearts and use our lives for the ministry of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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C 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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS	“Lamb of God”	page 154
	“We Come to the Hungry Feast”	ELW #479
	“Come, Let Us Eat”	ELW #491
	“For the Fruit of All Creation”	ELW #679

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and † give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

ELW #864

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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