

${f W}$ elcome to Beautiful Savior!

5631 North Adams Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304 248.646.5041 www.bslcmi.org

FORGIVENESS - "How to Receive Forgiveness?" January 9, 2022 9:00 a.m.

Sometimes, one of the hardest things about forgiveness is receiving it. When we know that we've harmed someone, we may find ourselves dwelling in the past and refusing to believe that we have been forgiven. This week, we will consider people in the Bible who struggled with this same challenge and how they rediscovered peace.

P: Pastor C: Congregation A: Assistant Minister

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING WORSHIP MUSIC

"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

Wilbur Held

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(Please kneel as you are able during a time of silence for reflection and self-examination.)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Most merciful God,

- C: we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.
- P: Rejoice in this good news: In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

C: Amen.

(Please stand as you are able.)

THE 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.

- 1 As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.
- 2 Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR MISSION STATEMENT

- P: Although as individuals we are unique in many and various ways, we gather as a congregation for a common mission.
- C: In Jesus's name, we:

Bring Glory to God through fulfilling worship,

Serve God's people, both within our congregation and without,

Learn about the Lord's will for us through sharing and teaching, and

Connect within our membership and reach out to connect with others.

(Please be seated.)

INTRODUCTION TO THE READINGS

Bob Hoffman

WORSHIP THEME PROVERBProverbs 17:9

A: Together, let us recite Proverbs 17:9:

C: One who forgives an affront fosters friendship, but one who dwells on disputes will alienate a friend.

FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15-21

A: The first reading is from the book of Genesis, the fiftieth chapter.

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?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, '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. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even 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. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 John 1:5 - 2:2

A: The second reading is from the first book of John, the first and second chapters.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Karyn Parker, Interim Children's Ministries Coordinator

(Please stand as you are able.)

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate" vv. 1-3 **ELW 722**

- O Christ, your heart, compassionate, bore ev'ry human pain. Its beating was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast domain. The heart of God, the heart of Christ combined in perfect rhyme to write God's love in human deeds, eternity in time.
- 2 As once you welcomed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind, so may all bruised and broken lives through us your help still find. Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep alone, and help us bear another's pain as though it were our own.
- 3 O Christ, create new hearts in us that beat in time with yours, that, joined by faith with your great heart, become love's open doors. We are your body, risen Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield that through our life and ministry your love may be revealed.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

P: By the Holy Spirit, you gather your church and send it out in mission to share the good news of Jesus. Inspire your faithful people to be fervent in prayer and service, that all people know they are precious in God's sight. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: You reveal your love and power through water and the Spirit. Guard rivers, seas, and all bodies of water from destruction and pollution. Secure access to clean water for all, and protect the land from drought and flood. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Establish among the nations the blessings of peace. Raise up leaders who will protect vulnerable people in their care. Strengthen advocates who risk reputation or retaliation for the sake of mercy and justice. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

P: You protect us through the fires and troubled waters of this life. Assure us that we will not be cut off from you by illness or despair, anxiety or pain, confusion or weakness. Comfort all who are in need (especially). God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

- P: We are joined in baptism to Christ and to one another. Bless those who are newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism. Help us to be faithful in fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and justice-seeking. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: You created each of your saints for your glory. We give thanks for those you have called by name into your eternal embrace (especially). Comfort us in grief and release us from fear. God of grace,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
- C: Amen.

(Please be seated.)

OFFERING "Amazing Grace" Douglas E. Wagner

Ringers: Marilyn Lochner and Julie Steinmayer
Accompanist: Joe Walters

(Please stand as you are able.)

OFFERING PRAYER

- P: Together, let us pray:
- C: Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

- P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.
- C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...
- 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.

(Please be seated.)

What is Holy Communion?

Holy Communion is a meal instituted by Jesus Christ that involves the receiving of God's forgiveness in a tangible form – we receive Jesus's life-giving body and blood in the presence of bread and wine (or grape juice). The meal is a time of remembrance and celebration.

Who can take part?

Holy Communion is something that not one of us has earned, so we receive it as God's free gift of life. The Church traditionally recommends that people be baptized before taking part, but all that is required is simply a heart that believes in Jesus Christ. If a person of any age wishes to be baptized, please let us know.

How does Holy Communion take place?

If you wish to take part, come forward as directed by the ushers. You will receive the wafer from the Pastor and the wine/grape juice from the communion assistant. If you wish to come forward for a blessing only, please cross your arms across your chest. You may also remain seated if you so wish.

HOLY COMMUNION

POST HOLY COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

(Please stand as you are able.)

PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

- P: Together let us pray:
- C: We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

BLESSING

- P: May God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, + bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.
- C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"How Firm a Foundation" vv. 1, 2, 4

ELW 796

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word! What more can he say than to you he has said who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
- 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed, for I am your God and will still give you aid; I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."
- 4 "Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love; and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn, like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C: We will! Thanks be to God!

P: And next time ...

C: ... we'll invite a friend!

POSTLUDE

"Allegro" from Nr. 1 Concerto

Johann Gottfried Walther

We thank you for worshiping with us	today.
We hope to worship with you again in the	near future!
Many thanks to all those on our tech	i team

for making this livestream service possible.

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HELPFUL INFORMATION

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES – The 9:00 & 11:15 a.m. worship services will be livestreamed through our website and YouTube pages. People can gather with us in the Sanctuary at 9 a.m. to worship in a more traditional style in person. We offer a more contemporary style worship service at 11:15 a.m. People can also worship in their homes with the livestream at 9 or 11:15 a.m., as well as access the recording of either service any time after worship concludes.

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