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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | September 13th, 2020 – 10:30am Springfield Presbyterian Church Order of Worship   Announcements   Lighting the Christ Candle Leader: Whenever we light this candle we proclaim: **People: Christ is the Light of the world and center of our lives.**   Gathering of the People Leader: The Lord be with you! **People: And also with you!** [Greetings and Announcements]   Call to Worship Leader: Every day your mercies are born anew, **People: In joy, in proclamation, we are here to worship You.** Leader: With hope, with thanksgiving, **People: We come here to learn what you have to teach us.** Leader: In our humanity, we seek renewal with you, **People: So that our sins are forgiven, and we might be so wise as to forgive.** Leader: In our reading, in the teaching, in the singing, **People: May we glorify you.** **ALL: Let us worship God!**    \* Hymn Be Thou My Vision   Prayer of Confession (Unison) [Bill Wessner]  **O Lord we seek your mercy... yet we ourselves look for payback when we are wronged. We think it “only fair” and “what is right” when we retaliate and use harsh words and withdraw from relationship. The forgiveness you offer on our account is larger than we can comprehend, still we withhold forgiveness and carry the grudge over petty items. We are eager to do your judging. And the worst: we conspire our inner thoughts to secure your forgiveness while avoiding honest repentance. Forgive us Lord for the sins we know in our hearts. Save us Lord from the sins we hide. Amen.**   Silent Prayers of Confession   Words of Assurance (responsive) Leader: Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us, for God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism. **People: We believe this good news and give thanks: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks to be to God! Alleluia and Amen!**   The Peace Leader: The peace of Christ be with you! **People: And also with you!** (You may greet those around you)   The Proclamation of the Word   Prayer of Illumination  Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.   Scripture Lesson Matthew 18:21-35 Forgiveness **21**Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” **22**Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant **23**“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. **24**When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents[[c](https://gmail.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f1606ba25f61bd2fff7873030&id=16867a40d2&e=ea8fc2a60a)] was brought to him; **25**and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. **26**So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ **27**And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. **28**But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ **29**Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ **30**But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. **31**When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. **32**Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. **33**Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ **34**And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. **35**So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”   Time with Young People    Sermon Mercies Upon Mercies   The Response to the Word    \* Hymn God, How Can We Forgive?  Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer  “For this I pray to God” / “For this I give thanks to God.” Congregational Response: “**Hear our prayer, O God.”**   Generous God, ...  And now, in confidence and in gratitude, we say the prayer together that Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, taught us to pray...   **Our Father,** **Who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name** **Thy kingdom come, thy will be done.** **On Earth as it is in Heaven** **And give us this day our daily bread** **And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,** **And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.** **For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**   Offertory Prayer   Hymn There Is a Wideness in God’s Mercy   Charge and Benediction Leader: Because of God’s great love for us, **People: He grants us mercy.** Leader: And so inspired by that mercy, **People: We put on the cloak of grace,** Leader: As we are forgiven and as we forgive, **People: We will live out the great love that Christ has for all of God’s children. Amen.** | | |