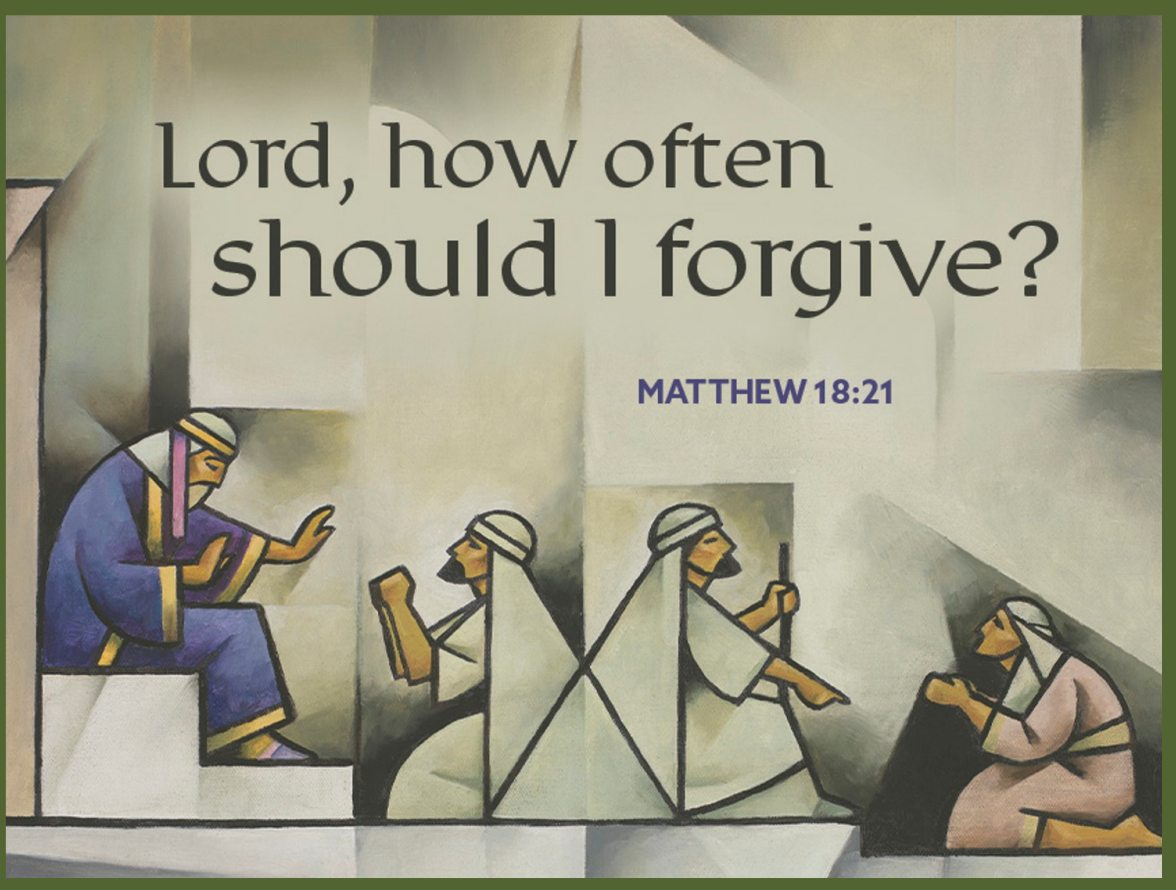


Lord, how often
should I forgive?

MATTHEW 18:21



16th Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME TO ST. ANDREW

Welcome to long-time Lutherans, Christians from every tradition, and people new to the faith.

Welcome to all who have no church home, want to follow Jesus, have doubts, or do not believe.

Welcome to new visitors and old friends.

Welcome especially to all who have ever felt unwelcome in the church.

Welcome to believers, questioners, and questioning believers. This is a place where you are welcome to celebrate and grieve, to rejoice and recover.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. This is a place where lives are made new.

HOW WE WORSHIP

When we gather for worship, we rejoice in God's grace through songs, prayers, scriptures, and the sacraments. The history of Christian worship is rich with traditions and rituals formed by generations which help to connect our lives with Christ.

By its very nature, Lutheran worship is participatory. The Holy Spirit joins our hearts and voices through songs and prayers that are both ancient and modern, biblical and relevant. Worship leaders guide us through the service and our responses are printed in **bold type**.

We are sent from this gathering into the world where we live on mission for Christ in our daily lives, loving and serving our neighbors and sharing the good news of Jesus with a world in need.

St. Andrew Lutheran Church 7420 FM 2673 • Canyon Lake, TX 78133 • 830 899-2273 • admin@standrewofcl.org www.standrewofcl.org	Rev. Christopher D. Steubing
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PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, **we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✙ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Hymn #835, vs. 1-4

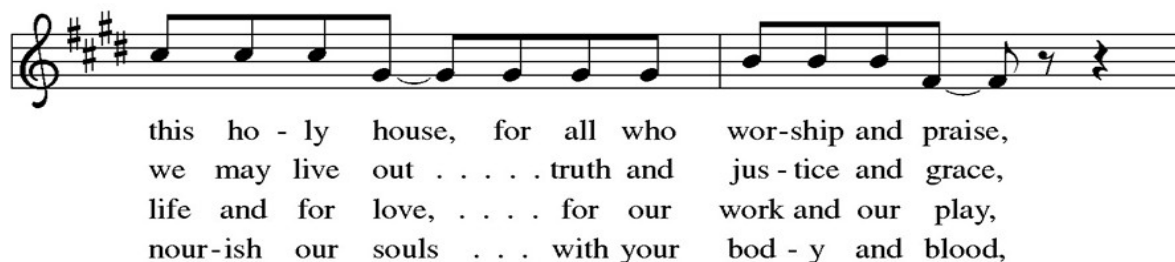
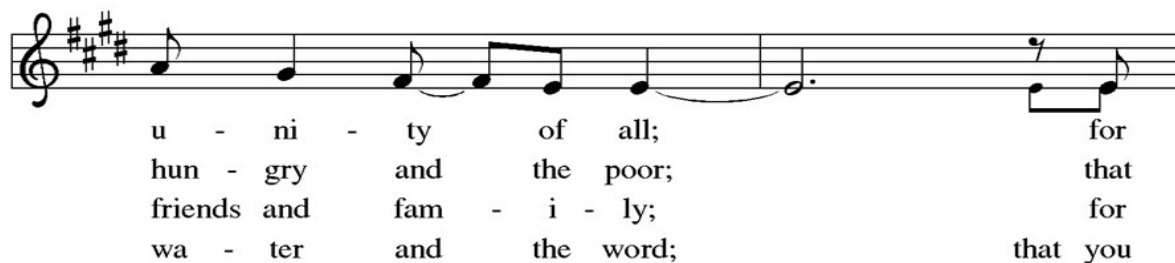
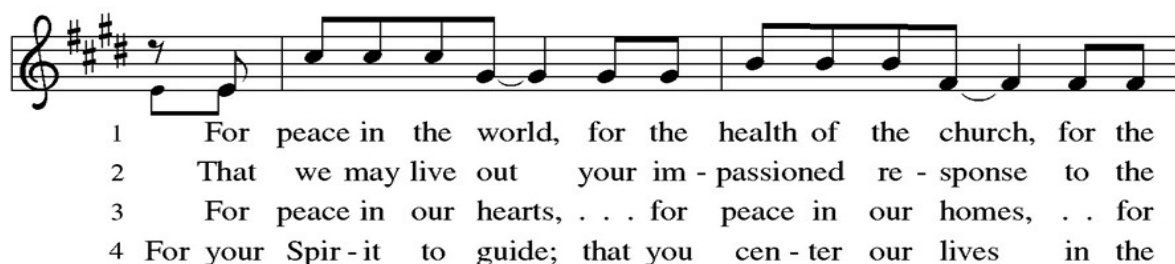
"All Creatures, Worship God Most High!"

GREETING

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

And also with you.

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **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.**

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING 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.

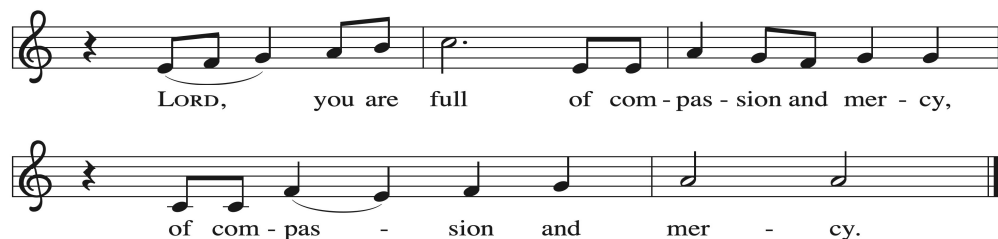
¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive 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. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ 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. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103

103:1-4, 8-13



- ¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
- ² Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—
- ³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;
- ⁴ who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;

Refrain

- ⁸ Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;
- ⁹ you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.
- ¹⁰ You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

Refrain

- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.
- ¹² As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.
- ¹³ As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O Lord.

Refrain

SECOND READING

Romans 14:1-12

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.

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Deacon Darcy Mittelstaedt

Please stand as you are able for the gospel reading.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Matthew 18:21-35

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister 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.

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 was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the 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."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Deacon Darcy Mittelstaedt

HYMN OF THE DAY “*Our Father, We Have Wandered*” Hymn # 606

Please stand as you are able.

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

Together with the whole church, we confess our faith:

**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 Pilate,
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.**

THE PRAYERS

...Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share the peace with one another.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

"Grace Us, O Lord"

Choir Anthem

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (Sung)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

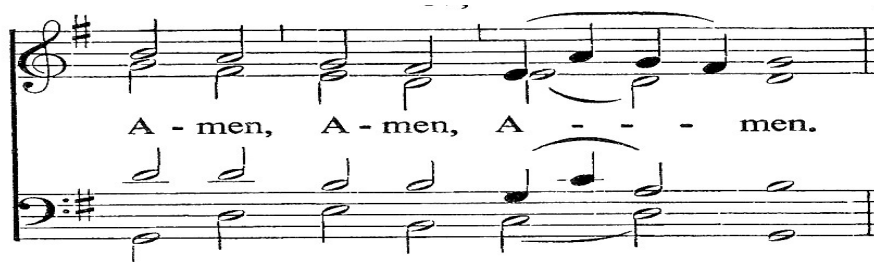
The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.



SENDING HYMN *"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" Hymn #632*

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



Fall FESTIVAL & COUNTRY BAZAR



October 24th, 9 am to 2 pm

Fall is just around the corner with, we hope, cooler weather! That means it's time to prepare for the Fall Festival, and lucky for you, we may have just the opportunity for you to be a part of this annual event:

- CRAFTS - Are you "crafty"? Make something for the Country Store! Handmade items from bird feeders and greeting cards, to embroidered pillow cases, fabric tote bags, and jewelry are sold there. Your contribution is welcome!
- RAFFLE - Can you hand out event flyers and sell raffle tickets for a couple of hours? The raffle sales schedule for 9/22, 10/13, and 10/16 is in the Fellowship Hall and shifts of two people are available at 9-11:30, 11:30-2, and 2-4:30 at Ace Hardware. OR check out the schedule using the QR code for SignUpGenius that is listed below.
- SIGNS - Are you available this Saturday, 9/19 at 9 AM? Then come to the Y.A.C. to help place festival road signs in the area. We'll divide into teams and head out to different areas.
- DON'T FORGET that RUMMAGE SALE items are being accepted now; there are FLYERS you can put on community bulletin boards; and there's RAFFLE TICKET envelopes available in the Fellowship Hall.
- PRAY for our community, our congregation and those preparing the event: "Heavenly Father, we thank you for our church, for this community, and for the opportunity we have to be a true bridge into our community, showing everyone the love of Christ in a real and active way. We lift up our neighbors and friends from all around, and ask You to open their hearts and guide their steps to join us. Prepare our volunteers, our grounds and our facilities to be a place of welcome, warmth, safety, and joy. All glory, honor, and praise belong to You. Amen."

Thank you,

Fall Festival Planning Team



SCAN FOR EVENTS PAGE



SCAN TO PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS



SCAN FOR SIGNUP GENIUS

ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH



SO MANY WAYS TO HELP WITH GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS,
WHAT WORKS BEST FOR YOU???

*Join us in worship on **Sunday, September 20th for GWOH Sunday.** Come celebrate the ways
God works through us to serve our neighbors.*

DONATE specific items for New Life or St. Jude's—boxes are in the Fellowship Hall with suggestions—OR, give directly to the church before September 20th designated GWOH, and we'll do the shopping for you.

WORK on a clean up crew for CRRC or Family Promise on September 26th.
Sign up sheets will be available if you think you can help.

SUNDAY, September 20th, we'll have a crew cleaning and organizing the nursery. OR, write cards to shut-ins and young adults. Materials will be provided, but we'll need addresses for the young adults (College student? Military? New job?)



WELCA Bible Study, Wednesday, September 16th
Business Mtg.-9:30 AM Bible Study ~10 AM

Come join us on September 16th in the fellowship hall and participate in the Bible study led by Pastor Chris.

Faith often leads us down paths we didn't expect—into wilderness places, across unfamiliar lands, and through seasons of grief and hope. This three-session study takes us on a journey with Hagar, Ruth and Mary Magdalene, women whose bold faith transformed their unexpected stories. Their encounters with God remind us that we, too, are seen, sustained and sent to carry good news into the world.

Session 1: Encountering God in the wilderness

Scripture: Genesis 16:1–16; 21:8–21

Our meeting begins at 9:30 AM with refreshments and a business session. At 10 AM Pastor Chris leads us in our study. Come, join us!

WELCA

Cheryl Wilder, President
Cathy Peebles, V. President
Sharon VanderBand, Secretary
Kathy Laney, Treasurer

Announcements/Reminders

For children and parents:

There are “busy bags” at the sanctuary entrance to help keep children engaged during services.

There is a cry room in the back of the sanctuary with a changing table and a large nursery space down the hallway past the fellowship hall available for families with young children. Each of the spaces include access to listen to the worship service.

Please join us for fellowship time after worship in our fellowship hall!!!

CONNECTING OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY

Please note the different ways we have to stay in communication with each other. Let us know if you have questions!

PHOTOS



We love sharing photos! If you snap a good picture of a ministry/event/gathering at church or out in the community, please share. You can

- Send them to Kristine at ksbrzoz@gmail.com or
- Share directly on the private facebook page

FACEBOOK



If you are on Facebook please follow our page. facebook.com/standrewofcl

We also have a private FB page, with access by approval only. This provides privacy and a safe space for more personal sharing. Request an invitation on facebook or email ksbrzoz@gmail.com

APP & WEBSITE



You're likely aware of our website, standrewofcl.org, but did you know we have a church app? Use it to watch livestreams, look at the calendar, access the prayer wall, sermons, Bible verses, and more. Access instructions at standrewofcl.org/pages/st-andrew-lutheran-church-app

Fun Fact: the weekly bulletin is available on the website & the app.

ONLINE DIRECTORY



We are in the early process of creating a online church directory with photos and contact information. The system we use is called Breeze. To request access, contact the office. This will allow you to double check your contact information and upload a photo.

This morning

- 9:00 AM—Bible Study in the library**
- 9:30 AM—Choir Practice in the music room**
- 10:00 AM—Worship in the sanctuary**
- 10:25 AM—Sunday School/Children's Time in the fellowship hall**
- 11:00 AM—Fellowship in the fellowship hall**

Calendar This Week

- September 15th—10:15 AM Mutual Ministry Team meeting in the library**
- September 16th—9:30 AM WELCA Bible Study in the fellowship hall**

Church Staff and today's worship leaders:

Today's Preacher—Darcy Mittelstaedt
Pastor—Rev. Chris Steubing
Visitation Pastor—Rev. Judi Miller
Our Reader—Hannah Morris
Our Liturgist—Claire Roberts
Organist/Pianist—Daniel Vauter
Choir and Hand Bell Director—Wendy Kuenemann
Office Administrator—Trista Stubblefield

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