

## *Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 19*



*“How often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.” Matthew 18:21-35*

### *Church of Our Saviour*

*“Our Mission: to live out the gospel by transforming lives and neighborhoods in partnership, with innovation, and with compassion.”*

**September 13, 2020**

**10:30 a.m.**

The Rev. Debra Q. Bennett, Rector  
Peter Wright, Choir Director  
Michael McGroarty, Musician

# Church of Our Saviour Episcopal

471 Crosby Street  
Akron, Ohio, 44302  
330-535-9174

We invite you to experience God's love and ours. We are a part of the worldwide Anglican Communion. We are bound together by our common liturgy, not a rigid set of doctrines. So how we sing and pray and relate to one another is very important to us. Wherever you are on your journey, we have a place for you and invite you to make your place with us. Come share our joys and sorrows as we share in yours. God is alive for everyone here regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation or life history. Join singles, couples, partners and families of every description that make up our community of faith. Rejoice with us in our diversity.

## Parish Prayer

Good and gracious God, we pray for all who have yet to know of your love and mercy. May the Church of Our Saviour be so inspired by your Holy Spirit that it may serve as a beacon of hope and a witness to the gospel for all people. Grant that we may continually grow in our own knowledge and love of you as we strive to use all that we have and all that we are to follow and imitate your beloved son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

## Welcome, Guests

If you are joining us online for the first time this morning, we hope you will consider making Church of Our Saviour your church home during this period of suspended in-person worship.

# Liturgy of the Word

## Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 19

♪ Prelude:

Ringing of the “Welcome” Bell

♪ Opening Hymn

Hymnal #400

All creatures of our God and King

*Lasst uns erfreuen*



- 1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us  
\*2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -  
\*3 Swift flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to  
4 Dear mo - ther earth, you day by day un - fold your bless - ings on our  
5 All you with mer - cy in your heart, for - giv - ing o - thers, take your  
\*6 And ev - en you, most gen - tle death, wait - ing to hush our fi - nal  
7 Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in hum - ble -



- 1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing  
2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing  
3 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Fire, so in -  
4 way, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! All flowers and  
5 part, O — sing now: Al - le - lu - ia! All you that  
6 breath, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! You lead back  
7 ness, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God the



1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,  
2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,  
3 tense and fierce - ly bright, you give to us both warmth and light,  
4 fruits that in you grow, let them his glo - ry al - so show:  
5 pain and sor - row bear, praise God, and cast on him your care:  
6 home the child of God, for Christ our Lord that way has trod:  
7 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi - rit, Three in One:



*Refrain*

O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*The refrain may be sung antiphonally, by phrase; all join in the final Alleluia.*

## Liturgy of the Word

### Opening Acclamation

Presider: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

## Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

Response: **Amen**

♪ Hymn of Praise      Hallelujah! We sing your praises!

WLP #784

Hal - le - lu - jah!    We sing your    prais - es!    All our  
Ha - le - lu - ya!    Pe - lo    isa    ro - na,    di    tha -

hearts are filled with glad - ness!    Hal - le - lu - jah!    We sing yo  
bi - le    ka - o - fe - la.    Ha - le - lu - ya!    Pe - lo    ts,

(Continued on next page)

**Fine**

prai - ses! All our hearts are filled with glad - ness!  
ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.

Christ the Lord to us said: "I am wine, I am bread, I am  
Je - sus says to us still: "All who do the Lord's will, all who

wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger!"  
do the Lord's will are my sis - ters and my bro - thers." *D.C.*

Presider: The Lord be with you

People: **And also with you**

Presider: Let us pray

## **The Collect of the Day**

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Response: **Amen**

## **First Reading**          Genesis 50:15-21

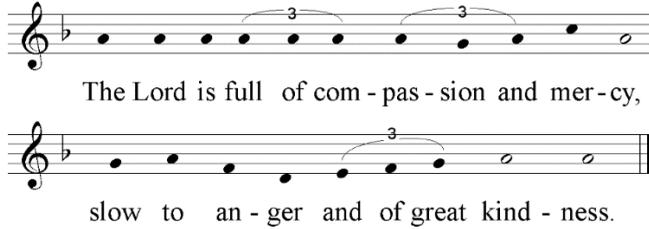
Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime 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.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

Response: **Thanks be to God**

## Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13

The cantor will chant the refrain first and then the congregation will join in



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### *Benedic, anima mea*

1 [Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, \*  
and forget not all his benefits.

*Refrain*

3 He forgives all your sins \*  
and heals all your infirmities;  
4 He redeems your life from the grave \*  
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;  
5 He satisfies you with good things, \*  
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

*Refrain*

6 The Lord executes righteousness \*  
and judgment for all who are oppressed.  
7 He made his ways known to Moses \*  
and his works to the children of Israel.]

*Refrain*

9 He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.  
10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

*Refrain*

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.

13 As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the Lord care for those who fear him.       *Refrian*

**Second Reading**               Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 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. Who are you to pass judgment on servants 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.

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. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 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. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

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. For it is written,

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

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Lector: The Word of the Lord

Response: **Thanks be to God**

**Sequence Hymn**

**Hymnal #516** Come down, O Love divine

*Down Ampney*

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,  
2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn  
3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;  
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, with - in my heart ap - pear,  
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
for none can guess its grace, till Love cre - ate a place

(Continued on next page)

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.  
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.  
 where - in the Ho - ly Spi - rit makes a dwell - ing.

## Holy Gospel – The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew

People’s Response before the Gospel Proclamation: **Glory to You, Lord Christ**

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 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. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 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.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 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. Then his lord summoned

him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

People’s Response following the Gospel Proclamation: **Praise to You, Lord Christ**

### **The Sermon**

*The Creeds are statements of our basic beliefs about God” (BCP p. 851).*

We say these words as a gathered community to affirm our belief in God as creator, redeemer, and sustainer of all creation, as the source of life and holiness. God has blessed humanity with relationships and community which are part of God’s own essence as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We do not say these words as some sort of litmus test but as an invitation to wrestle with the mystery and complexity of God with generations of Christians who have gone before us and with generations who will come after us.

### **The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen

### **Prayers of the People**

Intercessor: Central to every gathering of Christians for worship is intercessory prayer. Our prayer is always for the church and the world.

Intercessor: With the whole people of God in Christ, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence*

Intercessor: Speak kindly to your whole church, O God. Give us tongues that speak words of welcome and acceptance. Bless and strengthen our

Presiding Bishop Michael, our bishops Mark, William, and Arthur and our priest Debra in their proclamation of the gospel. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: Shower us with your gifts, O God. Give us hands that share the wealth of your creation and that tend to its keeping. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: Make your ways known to us, O God. Hold us upright as we work for justice in our neighborhoods and communities, our nation and the world. Guide our leaders with your strength and wisdom as they search for common ground. We pray for peace in those areas where there is strife and for the President, his advisors and members of all branches of the U.S. government and our state and local government. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: Satisfy us with good things, O God. Give healing to those who suffer in mind, body, and soul, give respite to those who care for them, and hope for all those who worry (especially... Christopher, David, Pam, Susan, Christine, Joe, Chris, Derwood, Ruth, Judy, Glynn, Patricia, Patty, Tom, Danny, Emily, Rob, Jeff, Mikey, Anthony, Norma, Clarence, Dan, Steve, Leslie, Nancy R., Marilyn M., Bill, Anne M., Marsha, Roger, William, Mitchell, Helen, Richard S., Bob, Kym, Anna, Preston, Kelly, Stephanie, Joslyn, Mia, Virginia, Michelle, Chris D., Randy and Helen, Raymond, Katie, Robin, the Silvey family, Fred, Susan S., Judy, Richard and Joyce Metz, Shirley W., Sandy, Ramon, Jessica, Tim, Dianne, Phyllis, Kylie, Nakiim, The Merton Family, Nancy, Hannah, Mary, Julie, Amy, David, Karly, the Jones family, Mid, Christina, Ann Marie, Jeff, Richard D., Tammy, David S., Michael D., Scott, Karen, Daisy Lee & Desirée, Chuck, Mike, Ebony & the First Energy crew, Linda & Bill & family, Aunt Abbie, the city and people Beirut, the victims of tornadoes and Hurricane Isaias, Eve & Katie, the People of El Salvador, Linda & family, the Cooper family, Elvera and the Coteat family). Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: Bring comfort and grace to all those affected by the COVID-19 contagion, especially parents of children home from school, people dependent on food pantries, the homeless, students & teachers, health care workers & first responders, daycare workers and funeral directors. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: We pray for our seminarians Megan and Jon and all seminarians as they continue their discernment toward ordination. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: O God, you care for all your people, watch over all those serving in the military. May they feel your peace and protection. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: Silence our quarreling, O God. Hold us accountable to one another as brothers and sisters and make us eager to reconcile and quick to forgive. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor says: (*You may add other intercessions - silently or aloud*), Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Intercessor: You, O God, are the Lord of the dead and the living. Hold us together with all the saints, in your redeeming and steadfast love today and all days. We pray for all the faithful departed, let light perpetual shine upon them. Hear us, O God,

*People: For your mercy is great.*

Presider: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever.

*People: Amen*

## **Confession of Sin**

*The Presider says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen`

## **The Absolution**

*The priest says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*

# Hymn After the Absolution

Hymnal #397 Now thank we all our God

*Nun danket alle Gott*

1 Now thank we all our God, with heart, and hands, and voic - es,  
2 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us!  
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,

who won - drous things hath done, in whom his world re - joic - es;  
With ev - er - joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;  
the Son, and him who reigns with them in high - est hea - ven,

who from our mo - ther's arms hath blessed us on our way  
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when per - plexed,  
e - ter - nal, Tri - une God, whom earth and heaven a - dore;

with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.  
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be, ev - er - more.

*The priest says*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen*

**The Peace**      “The Peace of Christ be always with you”

**Response:** “And also with you”

### **Commemorative Prayers**

*The priest offers prayers for birthdays, anniversaries, and other significant events*

### **Announcements**

#### **The Lord’s Prayer**

*People and Presider*

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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

### **Prayer for an Election**

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States (*or* of this community) in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Blessing**

# ♪ Closing Hymn

## Hymnal #603

When Christ was lifted from the earth

*St. Botolph*

1 When Christ was lift - ed from the earth, his  
 2 Still east and west his love ex - tends and  
 3 Where gen - er - a - tion, class, or race di -  
 4 Thus free - ly loved, though ful - ly known, may

arms stretched out a - bove through ev - ery cul - ture,  
 al - ways, near or far, he calls and claims us  
 vide us to our shame, he sees not la - bels  
 I in Christ be free to wel - come and ac -

ev - ery birth, to draw an an - swering love.  
 as his friends and loves us as we are.  
 but a face, a per - son, and a name.  
 cept his own as Christ ac - cept - ed me.

## Dismissal

Response: **Thanks be to God**

## ♪♪Postlude

**Today's Lectors:** Kathi K., Jon C.

## Birthdays This Week:

September 13—Jim Simon, September 14—Steve  
Kay, September 19—Ryan Esselburn

