

Sunday, September 14, 2008  
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 19

The Music

Opening Hymn: Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature #383

Gradual Hymn: In the Garden #LEVAS 69

Post Communion Hymn: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace  
(Pew Rack) verses 1,2, refrain, 3

Closing Hymn: Holy Father, great Creator # 368

The Lectionary

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. *Amen.*

The 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

The Psalm—Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13 *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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 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.

- 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.

The 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

THE GOSPEL—Matthew 18:21-35

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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."

*After the Gospel, the Priest says: The Gospel of the Lord.  
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## The Announcements

**SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES TODAY!!** Youth of all ages are invited to join our Church School Classes! Pre-Kindergarten–4th grade meet downstairs; grades 5-8 in the Parish Hall & Sr High in the back of the Parish Hall. The Nursery is open to parents and young children. Feel free to contact Jennifer Martin or Patricia Harbin with any questions about Sunday School.

**IT'S SUNDAE MORNING!** In honor of our Youth and the First day of Church School, everyone is invited to join us for Sundaes after the 10:00 am service.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** Any children interested in receiving First Holy Communion are invited to stay after the 10:00 am service to meet with Father for a brief time of instruction. The children will be recognized and 'officially' welcomed to Communion next Sunday at the 10:00 am service.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL-TODAY!!!** Come visit the Prince of Peace booth at the Dallas Harvest Festival today from 1-6 pm. Volunteers are still needed, please see Dan Plashinski or Terry Martin if you would like to help

**BASKET RAFFLE** The baskets which will be auctioned off at our Harvest Festival booth will be displayed here on Sunday morning. Tickets will be available for \$1.



A special PENN STATE basket with 2 tickets to the Penn State vs. Indiana football game on November 14th and fan gear, will also be available. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

The EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN will meet on Wednesday, September 17, at 10:30 am. All women of the parish are invited to come, bring new ideas and interests to share with our parish and community. Fellowship will follow with "going out to lunch".

**'ARTSY TEA'** The Artsy Tea Group planning committee will meet on Wednesday, September 17 at Prince of Peace at 6:30 PM in the church hall to discuss further plans for the art show and tea to be held on October 25.

**THE LAYING-ON-OF-HANDS FOR HEALING** The "Laying-On-Of-Hands for Healing" is offered during communion at the 10am service. Chris Sutton will be in the back of the church for anyone who wishes to receive the laying on of hands and prayers. Simply go to her and tell her what kind of healing you want. She will then lay her hands on you and offer a prayer to our Lord.

**4GIVEN**, a Contemporary Christian Quartet will perform for us on Wednesday, September 24. We will begin with a service of Compline at 7:00pm and the performance will follow. A free-will offering will be taken at the performance.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS** The Church Office is open Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 9 am–2 pm and Fridays from 10am–2 pm. Other times by appointment. Father Stevenson is in the office on Tuesdays and/or Fridays. Calling ahead to verify his availability is recommended.

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS** will be held on Saturday, October 4 (the observance of Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals) at 7:00 pm. The service will be held in the church yard, weather permitting (in the event of rain it will be held in the Parish Hall). All animals are welcome, but must be properly restrained.

**PRAYER LIST** Please remember to keep those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit in your prayers this week, especially...

Therese	Henry	Jackie
Heather	Sarah	George
James	Shane	Patti
Jack	Sandy	Debbie

*The Altar Flowers are dedicated to the glory of Almighty God by Jim & Georgia Besecker in memory of their son, John Frederick.*

*The Sanctuary Candle is dedicated to the glory of Almighty God by Bill & Barb Wentz in memory of their Grandson Brad.*

## Ministers

Celebrant / Preacher	The Reverend James Stevenson
Lector / Intercessor	Chris Sutton
Eucharistic Minister	TBA
Acolytes	TBA
Ushers / Oblationers	Bonnie Hiscox, Kim Jacobs
Altar Guild	Barbara Wentz, Beverly Cushner
Vestry Counter	Terry Martin