



The Stories
**Jesus
Tells**

13th Sunday
after
Pentecost

August 30, 2020

*Please continue to care for yourself and your neighbor
by wearing your mask and maintaining safe social distancing
during worship.*

Welcome

Prelude

Greeting

*L: 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.

Psalm of Praise

*L: O sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.*

**C: The Lord has made known his salvation;
has revealed God's righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

God remembers his steadfast love and faithfulness . . .

**All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

*Sing praises to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of melody.*

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.**

*Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.*

**Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the Lord,**

for he is coming to redeem the earth.

**God will rule the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.**

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray:

C: Gracious Lord, You have always been merciful and compassionate to Your people. As You have shown mercy and compassion even to us, inspire us to respond with thanks, following your example in our relationships with each other, and, thereby, witnessing to the Gospel of Your Son, Jesus the Christ, which transforms our lives. Amen.

Entrance Hymn

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*1. O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
**Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with
praise.***

*2. O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.*

*3. We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice,
That opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.*

*4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are
wise,
Tell all who mourn; outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.*

*5. O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
**Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will
cease.***

[Joseph, of the special many-colored coat fame, was sold into slavery by his brothers, but eventually he became one of the rulers of Egypt. His brothers were afraid that Joseph had not taken revenge on them because he did not want to upset his father.] 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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

*The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*

**He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.**

*He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.*

**For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

as far as the east is from the west,

so far he removes our transgressions from us.

**As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.**

Gospel Acclamation

L: Listen now for the Gospel;

All: Alleluia!

It is God's word that changes us;

Alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit,

**melt and break our hearts of stone
until we give our lives to God and God alone.**

Come, Holy Spirit,

**root in us God's living word,
that we may show the faithfulness of Christ our Lord.**

Come, Holy Spirit,

**bind the broken, find the lost,
confirm in us the fire and love of Pentecost.**

Listen now for the Gospel;

Alleluia!

It is God's word that changes us;

Alleluia!

Zimbabwean liturgical acclamation

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel

Matthew 18: 21-35

Then 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 because the kingdom of heaven is like a man, a king, who wished to organize all his matters concerning his slaves. But, in making rulings on how to settle these matters, a slave who was indebted to him for ten thousand talents was brought to him. And since the slave could not

repay the debt, his lord ordered him and his wife, and his children and all that he had to be sold and the proceeds handed over.

The slave, fell down to worship him saying, 'Have patience on my account, and I will hand back all!'

And the Lord, being caused to be compassionate toward that slave, released him and forgave him the debt.

But then that slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and the slave seizing his debtor by the throat, and said, 'Hand back what you owe.'

Then the fellow slave fell down pleading with him saying, 'Have patience on my account, and I will hand back to you *what I owe!*'

But *the first slave* did not wish this, but leaving, he threw *the second slave* into prison until he would hand back the indebtedness.

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 evil slave. I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And was it not necessary for you to have mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?"

And in becoming angry his lord handed him over to the Inquisitor until he would hand back all the debt.

And, thus, my heavenly Father will also do to you, if you do not forgive each brother or sister from your heart."

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

1. Called as partners in Christ's service,
Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring

To fulfil God's chosen end.

*2. Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering,
Reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
All God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together
Gracious gifts from God unfold.*

*3. Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
In a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens,
Breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
Words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action
Make us colleagues, free and fair.*

*4. So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life
Then surround each person's sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace.*

Apostles' Creed

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**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.**

Offering is Presented

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us Pray

C: In thanks for all the blessing of life, for work and rest, for food and shelter, for love and laughter, for beauty and harmony, we return these offerings to You, O God. We pray that our thanks is pleasing in Your sight, that what we offer is used again for sustenance and growth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

*L: May the love of the Father,
the tenderness of the Son,
and the presence of the Spirit,
gladden your heart
and bring peace to your soul,
this day and all days,
C: Amen.*

Dismissal

Grace's Congregation Council has affirmed that Grace will be following the new NYForward Phase requirements, maintaining the closure of the building other than for Sunday Worship and cancelling and postponing all Grace Events at least until the Mid-Hudson Region reaches Phase 4. Grace will continue to abide by

the requirements for Mask-wearing and Social Distancing imposed by NY State.

Grace Lutheran Church

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