



**St. Luke's
Lutheran Church**



4801 Anderson Ave
Manhattan, KS 66503
www.stlukesmanhattan.org

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

Sunday, September 13, 2026 – 11:00 AM

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor
William Prann, Director of Christian Education
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music*

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
(Series A)**

WELCOME

We are glad you are here to worship our Savior with us. Please remember to turn your cell phone to silence. Restrooms are on the west side of the sanctuary. Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office through email, office@stlukesmanhattan.org, or by calling 785-539-2604. On Communion Sundays, if you need non-gluten wafers at communion, or need to have communion brought to you, please notify the elder who is serving. We hope you will join us again so that you may experience Jesus.

AS WE GATHER

The Scriptures today confront us with the immeasurable mercy of God and the costly calling to forgive as we have been forgiven. Joseph speaks kindly to the brothers who betrayed him, Paul reminds us that whether we live or die we belong to the Lord, and Jesus tells a parable that exposes both the enormity of our debt and the danger of withholding forgiveness from others. In Christ, God has canceled our impossible debt and made us His own, freeing us to forgive from the heart without counting the cost. As we gather, we pray that the Spirit would soften our hearts, deepen our repentance, and shape our lives with the same mercy that has saved us, so that forgiveness received may become forgiveness given in Christ's name.

IMAGE ON THE COVER

If you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. *Matthew 6:14*

PRELUDE

(Please use this time to prayerfully prepare your hearts to enter into the presence of Jesus.)

✠A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE✠

WELCOME

OPENING SONG - "Shine Down on Me" Psalm 31:16

1 From every mountain and over the sea
 I shout out Your name, Lord, and You're here with me
 When Your Spirit falls it sets me free
 When I let, let Your love shine down on me

2, 4, 6, 7 Shine down on me, shine down on me
 Let the light of Your love shine down on me

3 When burdens are heavy I give them all to You
 It's Your peace that guides me, that pulls me through
 When Your Spirit falls it sets me free
 When I let, let Your love shine down on me

5 When your Spirit falls it sets me free
 When I let, let Your love shine down on me

(Chris O'Brien, Maria Abraham, Margaret Davis & Carrie Ann Petrillo ©1995, arr. ©1997 Maranatha!
Music, Chris O'Brien & Wett Woo Music/MIR Music CCLI #288089)

Stand

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** Bless the Lord, who forgives all your iniquity and heals all your diseases.
- C** **He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.**
- P** Joseph said to his brothers, “You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good.”
- C** **So we live and die to the Lord, for we are the Lord’s.**
- P** Peter asked, “How often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him?”
- C** **Jesus answered, “Not seven times, but seventy times seven.”**
- P** The Lord forgives our immeasurable debt.
- C** **Therefore we forgive our brothers and sisters from the heart.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Beloved in the Lord, we come before God as those who are sinful by nature and who daily sin in thought, word, and deed. We confess not only the sins we remember and regret, but also the sins we have forgotten, the sins hidden from our own sight, and the corruption that clings to us as children of Adam. Trusting in the mercy of the God who forgives our immeasurable debt in Christ, let us draw near to Him in repentance and faith.
- P** O Lord, You have shown mercy without measure, yet we have measured out our mercy in small portions and withheld forgiveness from the heart.
- C** **Forgive us, Lord.**
- P** You bring good from what others intend for evil, yet we have turned the sins of others into reasons for resentment and anger.
- C** **Forgive us, Lord.**

P You teach us that whether we live or die, we are Yours, yet we have acted as judges over our brothers and sisters, forgetting that each of us will stand before Your throne.

C **Forgive us, Lord.**

P You have forgiven our endless debt in Christ, yet we have counted the debts of others and refused to release them.

C **Forgive us, Lord.**

P And, O Lord, we confess the sin that clings so closely—our sinful nature, our hidden faults, our secret sins, and all that rises from hearts not yet fully conformed to Your will.

C **Forgive us, Lord.**

P Almighty God, in His boundless compassion, has forgiven your immeasurable debt through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. As the master released his servant, so your Father releases you from every sin, every burden, and every debt. By the authority of Christ and in His stead, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P He who began this good work in you will bring it to completion on the day of Christ.

C **Amen.**

INTROIT

Psalm 143:1-2; antiphon: v. 9

P Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!

C **I have fled to you for refuge!**

P Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

C **In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!**

P Enter not into judgment with your servant,

C **for no one living is righteous before you.**

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!

C I have fled to you for refuge!

KYRIE (*Greek for “Lord, [have mercy]”*)

P In peace let us pray to the Lord,

C Lord, have mercy.

P For hearts that trust Your saving purpose, O Lord, who brings good from what others intend for evil, that we may rest in Your gracious will; let us pray to the Lord,

C Lord, have mercy.

P For faith to confess that whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s, and for strength to stand before Your judgment seat in the righteousness of Christ; let us pray to the Lord,

C Lord, have mercy.

P For mercy to forgive our brothers from the heart, as You have forgiven our immeasurable debt in Christ, that Your compassion may shape our life together; let us pray to the Lord,

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O Lord of mercy, You have forgiven our immeasurable debt in Christ and, according to Your saving purpose, have brought good out of what others intended for evil. Grant us hearts that gladly forgive as we have been forgiven, welcoming one another in Your grace until we stand before You in joy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

HYMN OF PRAISE - "O Praise Him"

- 1 Turn your ear to heaven and hear
 The noise inside
 The sound of angels' awe
 The sound of angels' songs
 And all this for a King
 We could join and sing
 All to Christ the King
 How constant, how divine
 This song of ours will rise
 O, how constant, how divine
 This love of ours will rise, will rise
- 2, 4, 5, 9 O praise Him, O praise Him
 He is Holy, He is Holy
- 3 Turn your gaze to heaven and raise
 A joyful noise
 The sound of salvation come
 The sound of rescued ones
 And all this for a King
 Angels join to sing
 All for Christ our King
- 6, 7, 8 Oh la, la, la, la, la, la
- 10 How infinite and sweet
 This love so rescuing
 O, how infinitely sweet
 This great love that has redeemed
 As one we sing
- 11, 12 Alleluia, alleluia
 He is Holy, He is Holy

(David Crowder Band © 2003 Sparrow Records/sixsteprecords. Manufactured by EMI Christian Music Group CCLI #288089)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 50:15-21

("Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin.")

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 103:1-12; antiphon: v. 13

L ¹³ As a father shows compassion to his children,

C so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

L ¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!

L ² Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C and forget not all his benefits,

L ³ who forgives all your iniquity,

C who heals all your diseases,

L ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit,

C who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

- L** ⁵who satisfies you with good
C so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- L** ⁶The LORD works righteousness
C and justice for all who are oppressed.
- L** ⁷He made known his ways to Moses,
C his acts to the people of Israel.
- L** ⁸The LORD is merciful and gracious,
C slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- L** ⁹He will not always chide,
C nor will he keep his anger forever.
- L** ¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins,
C nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- L** ¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
C so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- L** ¹²as far as the east is from the west,
C so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- L** ¹³As a father shows compassion to his children,
C so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

EPISTLE

Romans 14:1-12

(Each of us must give an account before the Lord our God.)

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If 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. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

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

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

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Matthew 6:14

P Alleluia. If you forgive others their trespasses,

C Your heavenly Father will also forgive you. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

("Forgive your brother from your heart.")

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, *"I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven."*

²³*"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."*

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

P We confess our faith together, using the words of the Apostles' Creed,

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

Sit

LAMB'S MESSAGE

SERMON

VOTUM

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

OFFERING

There are several ways to give.

1. Please **send** your offerings to
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
4801 Anderson Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66503
2. **Electronic Funds Transfer**
Sign up through the church office.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: Romans 14:7 – “For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself.” We just don't belong to ourselves — we belong first of all to God, and through Him, we belong to our neighbors. We are here to serve God in our service to one another. God has called you to this service through your vocation: as a Christian you serve others in the church, as a neighbor you serve others in society, and as a son or daughter, husband or wife, father or mother, you serve your family.

OFFERTORY - “I Need You”

- 1, 2, 4 Lord, look upon my need
 I need You, I need You
 Lord, have mercy now on me
 Forgive me, O, Lord, forgive me
 And I will be clean
- 3 O, Lord, you are familiar with my ways
 There is nothing hid from You
 O, Lord, You know the number of my days
 I want to live my life for You
 (Used by permission CCLI #288089)

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Gracious King, You have forgiven us an impossible debt through the mercy of Your Son. Soften our hearts toward one another, that we may gladly forgive as we have been forgiven. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, bless Your Church throughout the world, and especially our Synod, its president, our district president and leaders, and all who serve in Your name. Unite us in the truth of Your Word and in the proclamation of Christ's saving mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord of all nations, lead the enemies of Your Church to repentance and faith. Turn their hearts from hatred to hope, from persecution to praise, that they may confess Christ as Lord and receive the life He gives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful God, You sent the greater Joseph, Christ Jesus, to forgive His brothers and reconcile those who sinned against Him. Build our homes upon that same mercy, that husbands and wives, parents and children, brothers and sisters may live together in peace and reflect Your gracious ways. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty Lord, raise up among us leaders like Joseph—wise, courageous, and compassionate. Grant them hearts that forgive, minds that discern, and strength to preserve order in a fallen world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord of life and death, You hold all who suffer in Your hands. Strengthen, heal, and comfort those in need, (*especially [names]*). Remind them that whether we live or die, we belong to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Faithful Father, as our congregation prepares for the Capital Stewardship Campaign beginning next Sunday—*Faith in Christ, Building Our Future*—grant us willing hearts, joyful generosity, and unity of purpose. Prepare us to receive the vision set before us, and bless our efforts to strengthen the ministry entrusted to us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Holy Lord, give us hearts eager for reconciliation, that we may stand before You forgiven and united in faith, doctrine, and life. Make us quick to forgive, slow to anger, and steadfast in love, that Your mercy may be seen in all we do. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful Master, You are always ready to forgive, though we deserve only punishment. Press the proclamation of Your eager love deeply into our hearts, that we may sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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
forever and ever. Amen.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

P Let us pray.

Lord of mercy, You have forgiven us an unpayable debt through the compassion of Your Son. Grant that, having received His grace, we may live in forgiveness toward one another and reflect Your reconciling love in all our ways. Keep us steadfast in Your Word, eager in prayer, and joyful in service, until the day we stand before You in perfect peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

GREET ONE ANOTHER

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "The Lord be with you," "Peace be with you," or "The peace of the Lord be with you".

CLOSING SONG - "My Lighthouse"

- 1 In my wrestling and in my doubts
 In my failures You won't walk out
 Your great love will lead me through
 You are the peace in my troubled sea, oh
 You are the peace in my troubled sea
- 2 In the silence You won't let go
 In the questions Your truth will hold
 Your great love will lead me through
 You are the peace in my troubled sea, oh
 You are the peace in my troubled sea
- 3, 5, 10 My lighthouse, my lighthouse
 Shining in the darkness, I will follow You
 My lighthouse, my lighthouse
 I will trust the promise
 You will carry me safe to shore
 Safe to shore
 Safe to shore, safe to shore
- 4 I won't fear what tomorrow brings
 With each morning I'll rise and sing
 My God's love will lead me through
 You are the peace in my troubled sea, oh
 You are the peace in my troubled sea
- 6, 7, 8, 9 Fire before us, You're the brightest
 You will lead us through the storms

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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