

**GATHERING**

Announcements and Greeting

*Prelude:* "Lord Jesus, You Have Prepared" James Mansfield

Invocation

\*Hymn: #435 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" (see insert)

*Prayer of Confession*

*Assurance of Pardon*

**\*Response:** In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; In the Lord I will rejoice! Look to God: do not be afraid. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near. (#654)

**PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

*Anthem:* Meditation on "Be Thou My Vision" Robert Lau

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Hymn: #444 "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

1. "Forgive our sins as we forgive,"  
you taught us, Lord, to pray,  
but you alone can grant us grace  
to live the words we say.
2. How can your pardon reach and bless  
the unforgiving heart  
that broods on wrongs and will not let  
old bitterness depart?
3. In blazing light your cross reveals  
the truth we dimly knew:  
what trivial debts are owed to us,  
how great our debt to you!

4. Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls  
and bid resentment cease.  
Then, by your mercy reconciled,  
our lives will spread your peace.

*Scripture Reading:* Matthew 18:21-22; Romans 14:4, 7-12

Matthew 18: 21- 22

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

Romans 14: 4, 7-12

<sup>4</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>For it is written,

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

<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Sermon: **The Content of Grace**

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

\*Affirmation of Faith - Apostles Creed (see insert)

The Peace of Christ

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

\*Hymn: #754 "Help Us Accept Each Other" (see insert)

