



seventy *times* seven

70 x 7

**MATTHEW 18:21-22**

Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?

**The Lord replied.**

Not seven times I tell you, but seventy times seven.

# WELCOMING OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

## GATHERING

### Prelude

#### PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

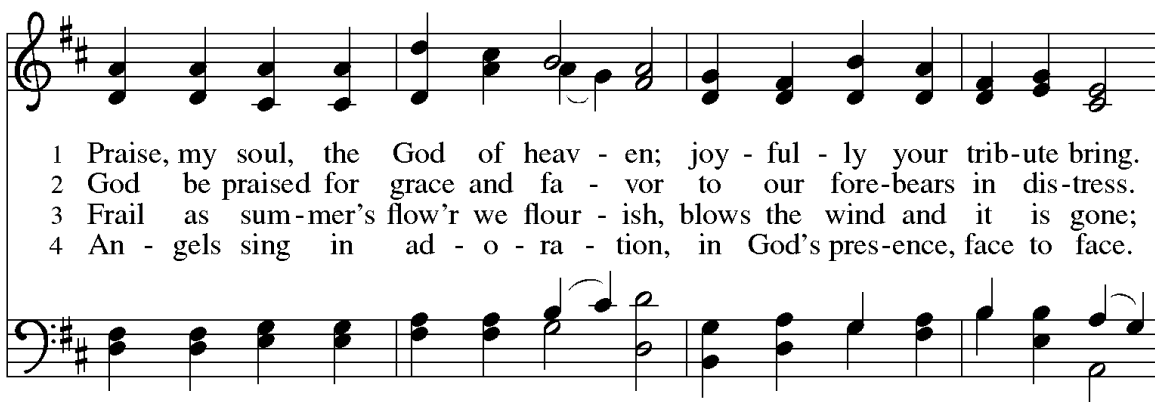
P We gather in the name of God: Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen!

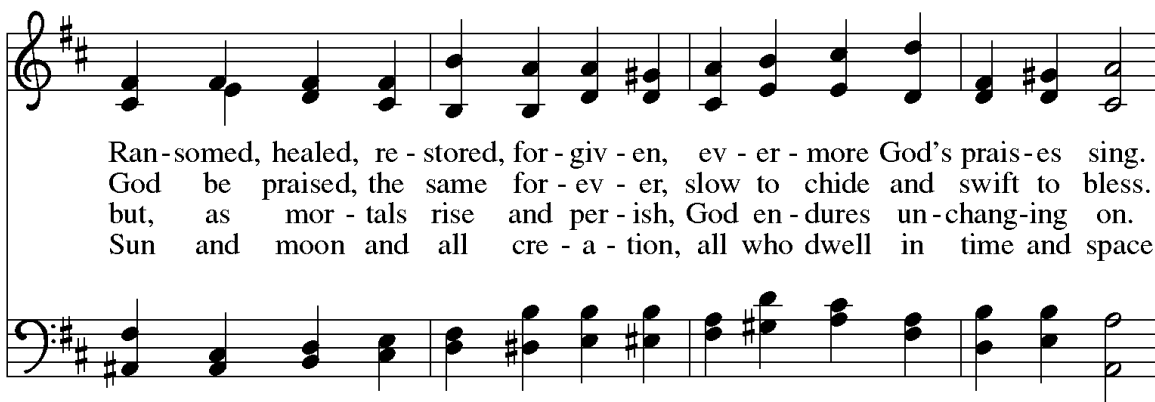
### HYMN

#### *Praise, My Soul*


*ELW 864*



1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.  
2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.  
3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;  
4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.  
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.  
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en-dures un-chang-ing on.  
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

## THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

---

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Together we pray,

**C Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy. Amen.**

P God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Live the gift of God's mercy: as you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

**C Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

## FATHER, I ADORE YOU

W&P 37

---



1 Fa - ther,  
2 Je - sus, I a - dore you, lay my life be -  
3 Spir - it,



fore you; how I love you.

## THE GREETING

---

P 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

---

P Together we pray,

**C O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **WORD**

---

### **FIRST READING**

*Genesis 50:15-21*

<sup>15</sup>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?" <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>'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. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>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 God.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### **SECOND READING:**

*Romans 14:1-12*

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>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. <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>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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.

<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.

L The word of God.

C Thanks be to God.

**PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**

Musical notation for the first system of the hymn. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Chords are indicated above the staff: G, C, Am7, D, C/G, G. The lyrics are: 1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;

Musical notation for the second system of the hymn. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Chords are indicated above the staff: G, C, Am7, D, C/G, G. The lyrics are: al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL**

*Matthew 18:21-35*

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>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?”  
<sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.  
<sup>23</sup>“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>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.’ <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

**P** The Gospel of our Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON**

Pastor Armen

**PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;  
 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;  
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;  
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.  
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.  
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.  
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.  
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

A Together we confess our faith,

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

*each petition concludes ...*

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

**P** Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

## SHARING OF THE PEACE (WORDS ONLY)

---

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

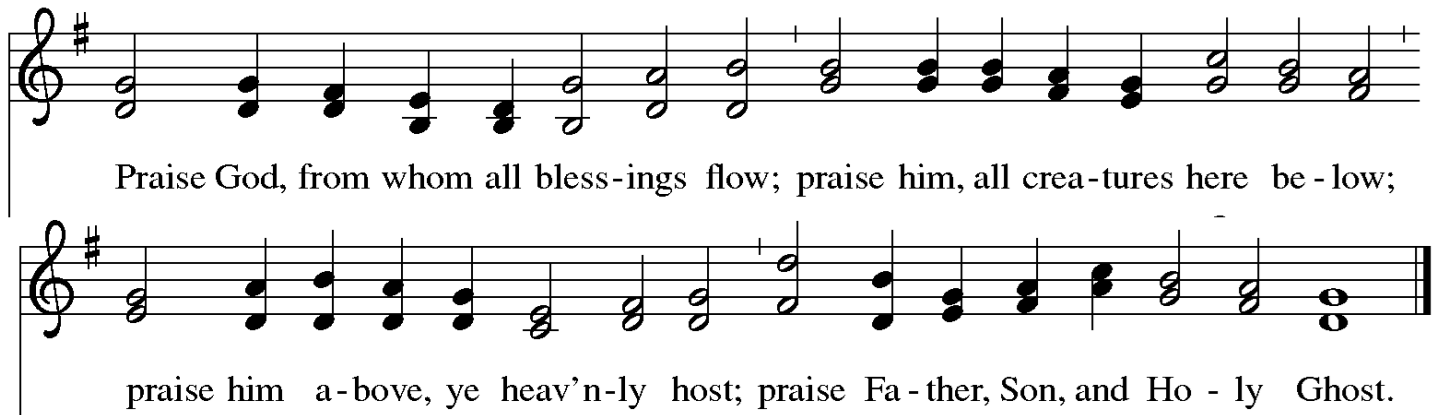
## OFFERING

---

*In thanksgiving for God's blessing, we respond with our tithe and offering*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

ELW 884



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## OFFERING PRAYER

---

**A** Together we pray,

**C** Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

---

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.



After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

---

A Together we 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.**

## DISTRIBUTION

As we celebrate the meal of our Lord, all are invited. If you are a guest and regularly commune at your church, you are welcome to commune here. For those not communing, please keep your hands folded and you will receive a blessing. Both wine (red) and grape juice (white) are available at communion.

If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, notify the server. If you are unable to come to the altar rail and would like to receive communion in your seat, please notify an usher.

*after all have communed*

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**C Amen.**

A Together we pray,

**C We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

**HYMN**

*Lord, Dismiss Us*

*ELW 545*



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.  
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.  
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.  
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

**DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude**

***Faith's Weekly Announcements***  
*Welcome to all of you attending this morning!*

**This May Interest You**

Next Tuesday (September 19), from 10 am till 1 pm, Step Smart is offering a talk about fall prevention for seniors. This will be followed by a Health Fair with free screenings and information. If you are interested, details are on the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**Reserve the Date**

We're planning a fall Church Picnic at the Englewood Garden and Beach Club on Manasota Key. The date is October 29<sup>th</sup>, about 3 to 6 pm, including evening devotions by the Gulf. Please mark your calendars now.

**Food Pantry**

This week the food bank especially needs small bags of rice. All donations should be placed in the bin in the narthex.

**Thanks**

Thanks to all who donated plastic bags to the Chicks. They have all they need, so please don't bring any more.

**Looking Ahead**

We have scheduled a clean-up day for our Memorial Garden on Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 8:30 am. Please come out and join the crew, then stay for coffee and goodies afterward.

**WE PRAY FOR...**

Jerry Marsh  
Joyce Schultz  
Art Hanson

Rosie LaQuay  
Debby Lynn Costello  
Family and friends of Lisa LaQuay

Verna Newlon  
Bruce Grosvenor

## THIS WEEK AT FAITH

<b>Every week day morning</b>	6:30 am	AA meets at church
<b>Monday</b>	8:00 pm	AA meets at church
<b>Tuesday</b>	7:30 am	Work Crew
	9:00 am	Lutheran Chicks
	5:00 pm	Girl Scouts
	6:00 pm	Prayer with Grace

### Serving Today

**Altar Guild:** Linda Hughs

**Lector/ Worship Assistant:** Brian Lindhurst

**Ushers:** Mary Lou Fitzgerald, Jeff Kamm & Bobbie Neilsen

**Attendance last Sunday: 50**

### Your Church Council

Steve Wolfe (President), Jeff Kamm (Vice President), Jeff Petersen (Secretary), Art Hanson (Treasurer), Ellen Lindhurst, Jim Taylor, Gene Newlon, Larry Bennett, Jay Fisher

## Faith Lutheran Church of Rotonda

551 Rotonda Boulevard West – Rotonda West, FL 33947

(941) 697-3313

---

---

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation

Pastor Brian Armen, Cell (814) 248-0133

Secretary: Barbra Davis

Organist: Candace Montesi      Custodian: Cyndy Hoops

---

---

**Secretary Office Hours: 9:00 Am – Noon (M-F)**

**PASTOR'S OFFICE: 10:00 – 1:00 (M-TH) AND BY APPOINTMENT**