

# The Readings for September 13, 2020

## Genesis 50:15-21

15Realizing 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?" 16So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 17'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. 18Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." 19But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? 20Even 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. 21So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

## Psalms 103:[1-7] 8-13

1Bless the Lord, | O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.  
2**Bless the Lord, | O my soul,  
and forget not | all God's benefits—**  
3who forgives | all your sins  
and heals all | your diseases;  
4**who redeems your life | from the grave  
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy; R**  
5who satisfies your desires | with good things  
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.  
6**O Lord, you provide | vindication  
and justice for all who | are oppressed.**  
7You made known your | ways to Moses  
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.  
8**Lord, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love; R**  
9you will not al- | ways accuse us,  
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.  
10**You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,  
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.**  
11For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,  
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.  
12**As far as the east is | from the west,  
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.**  
13As a father has compassion | for his children,  
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O Lord. **R**



## **Romans 14:1-12**

1Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. 2Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 3Those 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. 4Who 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.

5Some 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. 6Those 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.

7We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 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, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

10Why 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. 11For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

12So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

## **Matthew 18:21-35**

21Peter 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?"

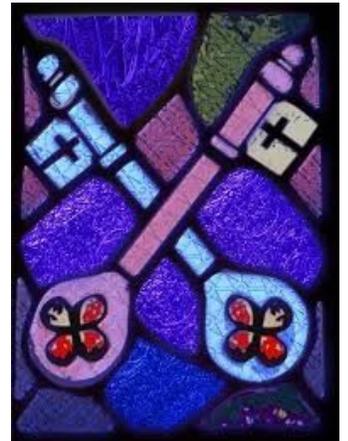
22Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. 23"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to

a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 25and, 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. 26So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28But

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.' 29Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'

30But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."



# Hymns for September 13, 2020

## O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "O Holy Spirit, Root of Life". It is arranged in three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next three lines. The third system contains the final three lines. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

1 O - Ho - ly Spir - it, root of life, cre -  
2 E - ter - nal vig - or, Sav - ing One, you  
3 O ho - ly Wis - dom, soar - ing pow'r, en -

a - tor, cleans - er of all things: a - noint our wounds, a -  
free us by your liv - ing Word, be - com - ing flesh to  
com - pass us with wings un - furled, and car - ry us, en -

wak - en us with lus - trous move - ment of your wings.  
wear our pain, and all cre - a - tion is re - stored.  
cir - cling all a - bove, be - low, and through the world.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Hildegard of Bingen, 1098–1179  
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621; arr. hymnal version  
Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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## Where Charity and Love Prevail



- 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.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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## Open Your Ears, O Faithful People



- 1 O - pen your ears, O faith-ful peo-ple, o - pen your ears and hear God's word.
- 2 They who have ears to hear the mes-sage, they who have ears, now let them hear;



O - pen your hearts, O roy - al priest-hood, God has come to you.  
they who would learn the way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.



*Refrain*  
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



Hal-le-lu-jah!  
To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!



To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra, hal - le - lu - jah!  
God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: Hasidic traditional; Willard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, English version

Music: YISRAEL VORAITA, Hasidic tune

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