

Christ Lutheran Church

127 N. Spring St., Klamath Falls, OR 97601

(541) 884-1635 www.lutherankf.org

October 2019

You have probably seen "NO TRESPASSING" signs posted on the boundaries of people's property. Sometimes there is an added warning: "Trespassers will be fully prosecuted under the law."

We often trespass the boundaries God has set for us. He gives His Commandments, telling us what we must do and not do, with the added warning: "If you cross the line, you will be fully prosecuted." If we trespass even once, His Law demands eternal punishment of hell.

Thankfully, God's Gospel tells how He sent His Son to take our place under that Law. In His entire earthly walk, Jesus stayed within the bounds of God's Law, for our credit. Then on the cross, He was fully prosecuted and punished under the Law for our every trespass (Isaiah 53:5).

Therefore, Jesus teaches us to pray confidently: "*Our Father who art in heaven... forgive us our trespasses.*" For we have His promise in Jesus' name: "*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness*" (1 John 1:9).

God has removed our sins as far as the east is from the west – infinitely far (Psalm 103:12). He has cast them all into the unfathomable depths of the sea of His forgiveness (Micah 7:19). Though we remember our sins, the all-knowing God treats us as one who remembers them no more (Jeremiah 31:34).

As Jesus has us basking in the warmth of God's boundless forgiveness and grace, He teaches us to add these words to our petition: "*...as we forgive those who trespass against us.*"

If we truly take to heart the perfect forgiveness God gives us, it can only follow that we will want to forgive others. God has removed our sins that were piling over us like Mount Everest, setting us free from

their condemnation. In our newfound freedom in Christ, how could we not see to forgive the little molehill of trespasses another commits against us?

Imagine in one breath praying, "Dear God, thank You for releasing me from the horrible prosecution of hell, which my immeasurable trespasses against You deserved"; only to turn and in the next breath say to a fellow sinner: "But your few offenses against me are unforgivable; you deserve to suffer the full prosecution!" Such an unforgiving spirit is incompatible with faith. How could such a person be truly thankful for God's forgiveness in Christ? How could one expect his prayer to be heard when he mocks God's forgiveness?

But true faith, basking in the warmth of God's boundless forgiveness and grace, responds: "*and we on our part will heartily forgive and readily do good to those who sin against us.*"

We cannot do this by our own strength. But in this petition, we are asking for God's help to forgive. Included in our prayer are such thoughts as: "Lord, I am having a hard time forgetting what so-and-so did. Help me not to hold that sin against him. Lead me not into

temptation, but deliver me from evil. For my part, help me to do what is right. Help me to share the forgiveness and love you have shown me in Christ."

As the Holy Spirit reminds us of the immeasurable and unconditional grace of God in forgiving our sins, He empowers us to forgive those who hurt us. He leads us to pray as Jesus did, when He suffered hurt for our sins: "*Father, forgive them...*" (Luke 23:34). As the Spirit leads us to pray this petition with Jesus, He fills our hearts with true joy and peace, for we really know His forgiveness and love!

In His grace,
Pastor Glenn Smith

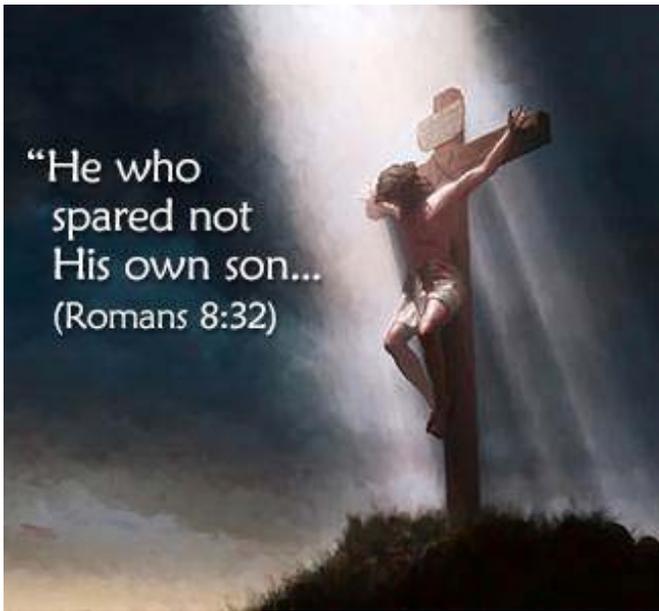
The Lord's Prayer Fifth Petition:

*"And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who
trespass against us."*

Catechism explanation:

What does this mean?

We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look upon our sins, nor on their account deny our prayer; for we are not worthy of anything we ask, neither have we deserved it. But we pray that He would give us everything by grace, for we daily sin much and deserve nothing but punishment; and we on our part will heartily forgive and readily do good to those who sin against us.



“He who
spared not
His own son...
(Romans 8:32)

If there is a God, why do bad things keep happening?

There is no shortage of evil in the world in which we live! Mass shootings, murder-suicides, drugs, rape... and the list goes on.

Two friends, one an unbeliever and the other a Christian, were enjoying their morning coffee together. They began to discuss the latest news and how much evil there was in the world. After discussing several news events one of the ladies gasped, “If there is a God why is there so much evil in the world? Why doesn’t He do something about it?”

Her friend, a Christian, was ready with the answer! She reassured her friend that God was real and that He does care and that He has done something about it. Using a few Bible accounts and verses she explained how and why she believed it to her friend.

She recounted the creation story from Genesis 1 and pointed out that everything God had created was perfect. **“Then God saw everything that he had made, and indeed it was very good. Genesis 1:31”** She next turned to

Genesis chapter 3 and recounted how Adam and Eve had disobeyed God, thereby ushering sin into the world. From that point on sin, with all its evil, would negatively affect the lives of every living being. Pain, suffering, and death would be a part of every person’s life.

Once again, the question came, “Why didn’t God do something about it?” “He did!” came the resounding answer. He promised to send a Savior into the world to save the world from all sin. He sent His Son to earth to live as one of us. He lived His life perfectly without sin. He did so on our behalf as God demands that we live a perfect life but cannot. Then according to God’s timing His Son, Jesus Christ, died on the cross thereby paying for all the sin in the world. He rose from the dead three days later. Everything that Jesus promised was and is true including this promise. **“He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not will be condemned” Mark 16:16.**

The unbelieving friend, still not sure, countered, “Did God really do all that?” The Christian friend quickly quoted Romans 8:32, **“Indeed, he who did not spare his own son, but gave him up for all us – how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?”** Amazed, the unbelieving woman asked her friend where she could learn more. Her Christian friend gladly invited her to go to church with her; stating that, “God has much more for us to learn.”

That same invitation stands for you, “Please join us for church this Sunday.”

(From our Evangelical Lutheran Synod's Board for Home Outreach)

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).</i></p>		<p>1</p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Cade Harrington</i></p>	<p>2</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Jesus Cares Ministry for Special Needs 2:00 PM</p>	<p>5</p>
		<p>6 <i>Pentecost 16</i></p> <p>Worship with Communion 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Rogue River Place Outreach Event 2:00 PM</p>
<p>13 <i>Pentecost 17</i></p> <p>Worship 9:30 AM New Member Reception / Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	<p>17</p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Elizabeth Karp</i></p> <p>CLWMS Meeting 4:30 PM</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 <i>Pentecost 18</i></p> <p>Worship with Communion 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Pastors Meeting Myrtle Creek</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Neal Eberlein</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p>Regional Reformation Service Our Savior Lutheran Grants Pass, OR (Service at 1:00 PM, followed by a meal)</p>
<p>27 <i>Pentecost 18 / Reformation</i></p> <p>Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 10:45 AM Worship at Crystal Terrace 1:00 PM <i>Happy Birthday Steven Caldwell Happy Birthday William Morrow</i></p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Virgil Teigland</i></p> <p>Youth Catechism 4:00 PM</p>	<p>31</p> <p><i>Reformation Day</i></p>		

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