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Christmas Worship Experience
Sun., Dec. 15, 6-8 pm
WS South Sanctuary

Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.



Come join us
TONIGHT, 6:30 pm, WSS
Children's Christmas Pageant
"A Christmas Star"



THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE:
Choosing Grace

Matthew 18:21-35 (NIV)

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" ²² Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. ²³ "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. ²⁶ "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' ²⁷ The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. ²⁸ "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. ²⁹ "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.' ³⁰ "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. ³² "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. ³⁵ "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

It's a boy!



Join us in honoring Chad & Stephanie DeLeon at a baby shower: Sat., Dec. 14, 1:30-3:30 pm, WSN lobby. They are registered at Target. Instead of a card, please bring a new or used book signed by you. Please RSVP today on our webpage or call the church office 509.946.4656.

Join us for a Chili Cookoff
Dec. 11, 5:15 pm, WSN



and Christmas Carols

WEST SIDE YOUNG ADULTS
CHRISTMAS PARTY
SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 14th
6:00PM
 THE DOTSON'S HOUSE
 3101 MT GRANITE CT. WEST RICHLAND
[FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/WESTSIDEYOUNGADULTS/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/westsideyoungadults/) // (253) 670-0707

Christmas Offering



Missionary Babies

Financial data: Jan. 1, 2019 Beginning Balance \$59,595; 2019 YTD Income \$859,520; 2019 YTD Expenses (\$931,978); Ending Balance Oct. 31, 2019: (\$12,863).

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Dec. 8, 2019 • 11:15 am

Prelude

Janet Bell

Greetings & Life in the Church

Kristin Jackson

Reception of New Members

Rick Pratt

Call to Worship

Leader: How blessed we are that God forgives us and loves us!

People: For all those times when we have fallen short of what God would have us be, we have been forgiven.

Leader: God sets us free and makes us new!

People: Now is the time to joyfully accept the freedom and newness of life which God offers to us.

Leader: Come, let us worship and be thankful.

All: Let us open our hearts to the peace and joy of God. AMEN.

Songs of Worship & Praise

Of The Father's Love Begotten

No. 240

Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light

No. 264

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 130

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Song of Thanksgiving

Joy To The World

No. 270

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

Message

Choosing Forgiveness

Ben Downey

Song of Response

Handbell Choir

Offering

Child Of Mary, Son Of Heaven

Adult Choir

Doxology & Celebration of Life

Benediction

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Choosing Forgiveness

SERMON NOTES

- I. Home is . . .
- II. We all have pain
 - It does not help to compare our pain with others
- III. Matthew 18:21-35
 - Jesus doesn't want you to keep track
 - Forgiveness is a process
 - Forgiveness doesn't mean there aren't consequences or boundaries that need to be put in place
- IV. We want justice
 - What was done to us often blocks out what was done for us
 - The cross is the key
- V. Luke 17:4-6
 - It's not the quantity of our faith, but the kind that matters
 - Let Jesus do the work

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Sharing Life Together

1. Krispy Kreme or Spudnuts? Or something else?
2. What do you think about when you hear the word "home"?
3. Do you have, or have you had, a pet that you consider/ed part of your family?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS - cont

Reflecting on the Message Together

1. There is a lot about forgiveness that didn't get named in the message. What comes to mind? Take some time to talk about and reflect on those other aspects?
2. Read Matthew 18:26-27. Did the master give the servant what he asked for? What can we conclude about the nature of our Master?
3. What do you think caused the first servant to react the way he did once his debt was cancelled? We all, at some time or another, have behaved like that servant did. For you, why do you think that is?
4. Do you agree with the idea that the act of forgiving others is a process? Why or why not?
5. Read 1 Peter 2:24. Justice, indeed punishment, has already been poured out. How do we reconcile our desire for justice for what was done to us with the fact that justice has already been served?
6. In Luke 17:4-6, Ben didn't talk about the fact that Jesus is instructing a response to a brother or sister who asks for forgiveness. What about someone who doesn't ask for forgiveness? Does Jesus' point still apply? Why or why not?
7. Our ability to forgive begins where we recognize how much we've been forgiven. To keep this in view, we must continually come to Jesus, to the cross, to be reminded of his loving forgiveness. What pain do you need to bring to the cross so you can receive the gift of forgiveness that will overflow out of your heart and into your home?
8. Everyone is different. Everyone's pain is different. What we have in common is that we all have pain. What might be the first (or second or third or fourth, etc.) step for you in the process of forgiving?
 - a. Is there anything for which you need to seek forgiveness from someone else?