



Peace Lutheran Church

**205 Tennessee Valley Road
Mill Valley, California 94941
415-388-2065**

Bulletin – www.bulletin.plcmarin.org

Website – www.plcmarin.org

E-mail – pastor@plcmarin.org

Pastor Ricky Adams

Pastor's Office - (415) 388-2065

E-mail – pastor@plcmarin.org

Mission Statement

To help all people know, believe and follow Jesus Christ

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

Welcome to Peace Lutheran Church!

Whether you're a first time visitor or a long-time member, we welcome you to worship this morning! If you are visiting, we look forward to meeting you and hope you will join us again, soon. **We would appreciate your signing our guestbook before you leave.**



Some Helpful Information

Please Feel Free To Sit At Anytime During The Worship Service: During the worship services at Peace Lutheran there are many times when the people stand. Sometimes the standing can be quite lengthy. We do not want to place any undue burden on anyone worshipping with us. Therefore, please feel free to sit whenever you desire. Thank you and Christ's blessings.

Restrooms – A restroom is located to the right just as you leave the sanctuary and enter the entrance hall. Restrooms for men and women are also located at the top of the stairs in the Parish Hall. Go into the lounge, turn right and continue up the stairs.

Fellowship and Refreshments – Immediately following worship, coffee and other refreshments and treats are served in Luther Lounge (the lounge just off the entrance hall). Come relax with us and enjoy the company as we will certainly enjoy your company.

Please join us again next week!

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 17, 2017

As We Gather

The Readings for today focus on living together in the love of God. Joseph forgave his brothers, even though they had sold him into slavery. Paul urges us not to quarrel over opinions about earthly matters, but to honor the Lord in all we do. Jesus tells a parable about God's overwhelming forgiveness and how such forgiveness leads us to forgive others. We can live in the love of God only because He has forgiven our sins. In Jesus, God has removed our sins as far as the east is from the west. We practice such forgiveness with one another, living together as the family of Christ. Thank you for worshipping at Peace Lutheran Church today!

Prayer Before Worship - O God, our righteousness, restore the broken relationships in Your Church, especially between family members. Provide reconciliation and peace where Satan has sown division and discord, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Pre-Service Music

Ringling Of The Bell

Welcome

Invocation And Psalm For The Day (Please stand)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

Pastor: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

People: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits

Pastor: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

People: who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

Pastor: who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

People: The LORD works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.

Pastor: He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

People: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Pastor: He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.

People: He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

Pastor: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

People: as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

Pastor: As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

Entrance Hymn - Today Your Mercy Calls Us (LBW #304, please remain standing)

1. Today your mercy calls us
to wash away our sin.
However great our trespass,
whatever we have been,
however long from mercy
our hearts have turned away,
your precious blood can wash us
and make us clean today.

2. Today your gate is open,
and all who enter in
shall find a Father's welcome
and pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten,
a present joy be giv'n,
a future grace be promised,
a glorious crown in heav'n.

3. Today our Father calls us;
his Holy Spirit waits;
his blessed angels gather
around the heav'nly gates.
No question will be asked us,
how often we have come;
although we oft have wandered,
it is our Father's home.

4. O all-embracing Mercy,
O ever-open Door,
what should we do without you
when heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us,
to drive us to despair,
we know one gate is open,
one ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816-1878, alt.

Confession And Forgiveness (Please remain standing)

Pastor: The Lord works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. Joseph's brothers cast him into a pit, sold him into slavery, and then lied to their father about what had happened.

People: We, too, are guilty of sinning against our own families. We have harmed our brothers and sisters. We have lied to our parents. We have covered up our sins, hoping to get away with evil.

Pastor: We turn to our heavenly Father, who is merciful and gracious, and repent of our sins. - Silence for reflection - As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear Him. He showed compassion to us by sending His Son, Jesus Christ, who died for our forgiveness and rose again to bring us new life. Because of Jesus, God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. As far as the east is from the west, so far does God remove our transgressions from us.

Passing the Peace of Christ (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Now is the time to share Christ's love and forgiveness with one another. Let the Christ in you greet the Christ in another with signs of peace and reconciliation. (We share Christ's peace with each other)

Hymn - O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate (ELW #722, please be seated)



1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar-row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

Text: Herman C. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007. Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche, 1833. Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-713958.

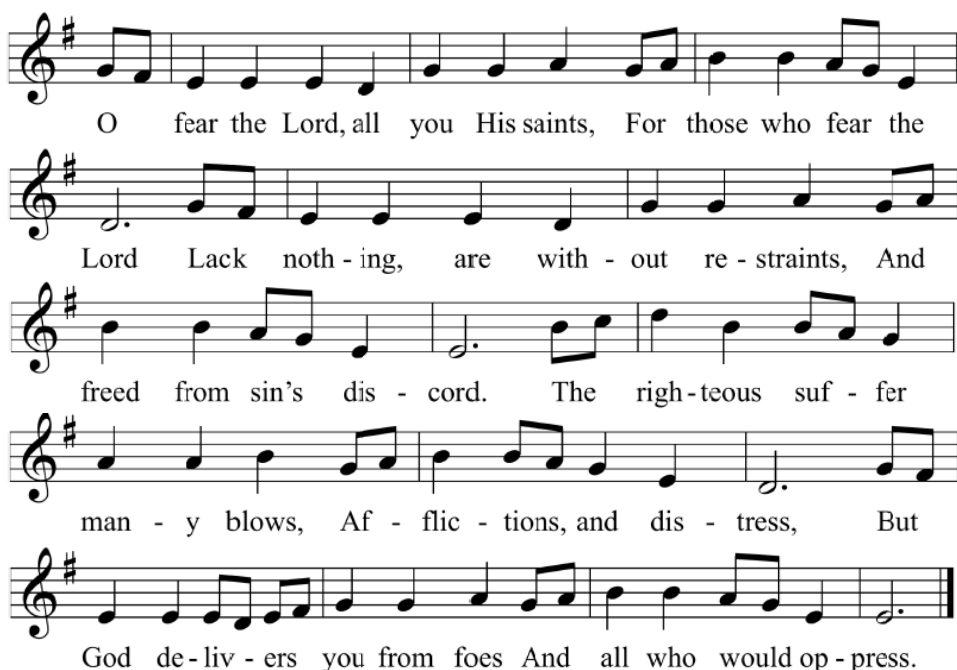
First Reading - Genesis 50:15-21 (Please remain seated)

After Jacob's death, the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

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, ¹⁷Say 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.

Gradual – O Fear The Lord, All You His Saints (Tune: LBW #391 Please remain seated)



O fear the Lord, all you His saints, For those who fear the
 Lord Lack noth - ing, are with - out re - straints, And
 freed from sin's dis - cord. The righ - teous suf - fer
 man - y blows, Af - flic - tions, and dis - tress, But
 God de - liv - ers you from foes And all who would op - press.

Text: Andrew R. Jones. Copyright © 2017 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.; Tune: KINGSFOLD, English. Adapted and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams 1872-1958. Public Domain.

Second Reading - Romans 14:1-12 (Please remain seated)

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

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.

Verse - If You Forgive When Others Wrong (Tune: LBW #144, please stand)



Text: Andrew R. Jones. Copyright © 2017 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Tune: GELOBT SEI GOTT, Melchior Vulpinus, c. 1570-1615

Gospel - Matthew 18:21-35 (Please remain standing)

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

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.”

Hymn Of The Day - Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

(Tune: LBW #464, please be seated)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 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:
how trifling others' debts 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. |

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-1987, alt.; Text © Oxford University Press 1969

Message

The Freedom Of Forgiveness Matthew 18:21-35

Hymn Of Response - Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

(ELW #843, Please remain seated.)



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955. Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813. Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company. Carol Stream. IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-713958.

Sharing The Gifts Of God (Please remain seated as the offerings are received)

Confession Of Faith - Apostles Creed (Please stand and confess together)

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

Prayer Of The Church (Please remain standing)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. – Brief Prayer - Dear merciful God, look with favor upon the individuals of the world, especially those suffering from disease, famine and loss caused by war, conflict, and natural disasters. Be their peace and healer. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Merciful God, You have made us the light of the world. Help us bring Your light and love to our workplaces. Direct us to treat our employers, employees, and co-workers with fairness and grace, forgiving wrongs as we have been forgiven in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, You have given us the wonderful gifts of families and friends. Look with favor upon our relationships. Bring reconciliation where there is division. Bring love where there is anger. Bring hope where there is despair. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, send Your forgiveness to all those who are weighed down by guilt. Bring Your resurrection hope to all those who hide their sins in shame. Remind them of the baptismal waters, which give them a new identity: child of God. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, we pray for all those who are sick. Heal their diseases, and redeem their lives from the pit. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, we rejoice today with those who celebrate. Thank You for all the benefits You have shown. We bless Your holy name for Your continued compassion and steadfast love. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, be with all those who are grieving the loss of loved ones. Comfort them with the power of Your resurrection hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Additional Prayers

Pastor: Finally, Lord, bless Your Church here and scattered throughout the world. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Keep us mindful of Your gracious forgiveness shown to us, the family of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: All these things we bring before You, O Lord.

People: Amen.

Lord's Prayer (Prayed together. Please remain standing)

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.

Blessing (Please remain standing)

Pastor: God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Dismissal (Please remain standing)

Pastor: Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn - Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer (LBW #343, please remain standing)

1. Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

2. Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

Serving The Lord With Gladness

Pastor:	Ricky Adams
Organist:	Janet Reese
Coffee Hour:	Vickie McGowan and Betty Erickson
Ushers:	Vickie McGowan
Counters:	Vickie McGowan and Cynthia Smith

Activities This Week:

Sunday – September 17	9:30am	Service of the Word
Tuesday – September 19	9:30-12:30am 4:15-5:45	Stage Door (PH) Kids Music Class(LL)
Wednesday – September 20	Worship Com. 4:15-5:45 6pm 6:30 p.m.	10:30 p.m. Kids Music Class(LL) Stage Door (PH) Council
Friday – September 22	9:30 a.m. 11:00-3:30	German Story Time Tam Parking
Saturday – September 23	8:30-9:30am 9:30a-12:30pm 11:00 – 1:00	Pilates (PH) Stage Door (PH) SF Chinese Academy(LL)
Sunday – September 30	9:30 a.m.	Service of the Word and Sacrament

Announcements For September 17, 2017

Information About Peace Lutheran Church - If you desire to know more about Peace Lutheran Church such as teachings; affiliations, membership or other questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Adams.

Office Phone – (415) 388-2065

Home Phone – (415) 388-7190

Email – pastor@plcmarin.org

Flowers – Flowers this week are given to the glory of God.

Birthdays – Those celebrating birthdays this week are:

Wednesday – Tyler Brenes

Refreshments - will be served in Luther Lounge and surrounding areas following worship today. Guests and members stay and meet one another again or for the first time.

Oktoberfest – Peace Lutheran Church will celebrate Oktoberfest on Saturday, **September 30** from 4:30 to 6:40 p.m. Invite all your friends and family!

Facebook - Like us on Facebook at Peace Lutheran Church Mill Valley or @peacelutheranmill

Sunday Bulletins - for Peace Lutheran church are available online for use during the worship service. The link is <http://bulletin.plcmarin.org>

Weekly Devotional Helps

September 17 – September 23, 2017

Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Evening Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Prayer For The Sick

By your power, great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to the hopeless. Though we cannot command or possess your power, we pray for those who want to be healed. Mend their wounds, soothe fevered brows, and make broken people whole again. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Scripture Readings Through The Week

Monday – September 18

Psalm 133
Genesis 48:8-22
Hebrews 11:23-29

Tuesday – September 19

Psalm 133
Genesis 49:29-50:14
Romans 14:13-15:2

Wednesday – September 20

Psalm 133
Genesis 50:22-26
Mark 11:20-25

Thursday – September 21

Psalm 145:1-8
Nahum 1:1, 14-2:2
2 Corinthians 13:1-4

Friday – September 22

Psalm 145:1-8

Nahum 2:3-13

2 Corinthians 13:5-10

Saturday – September 23

Psalm 145:1-8

Zephaniah 2:13-15

Matthew 19:23-30

Scripture Readings For Next Sunday**Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost****Jonah 3:10--4:11****Psalm 145:1-8****Philippians 1:21-30****Matthew 20:1-16****Commemorations**

September 17 - Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, died 1179: A mystic who was widely influential within the church, Hildegard advised and reproved kings and popes, wrote poems and hymns, and produced treatises in medicine, theology, and natural history. She was also a musician and artist.

September 18 - Dag Hammarskjöld, renewer of society, died 1961: A Swedish diplomat, Hammarskjöld served as the second Secretary General of the United Nations until his death in a plane crash while trying to negotiate peace in present-day Zambia. His journal, published as *Markings*, revealed the depth of his Christian faith.

September 21 - Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist: Matthew (or Levi) was a tax collector in Capernaum for the Roman government. Tax collectors were frequently despised for dishonesty and for assisting the occupiers. Jesus nevertheless showed love for them, and chose Matthew to be a disciple.

Copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009220.