

“TAKE 10 - Worship While Away” (Sunday, September 13, 2026)

Share:

We bow with the rolling rocks.

God is our strength and our salvation.

We sing with the roaring rivers.

God is our justice and our joy.

We will never stop telling God's story.

God is the hope of our ancestors.

We bless God's holy name.

God forgives, heals, and transforms with steadfast love.

With all that we have and all that we are, we say:

God is so good!

Read these words from a hymn:

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

'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.

How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart,
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?

In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:
what trivial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls, and bid resentment cease;
then, by our mercy reconciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Read this scripture from worship:

Genesis 50:14-21, *The Message*

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ After burying his father, Joseph went back to Egypt. All his brothers who had come with him to bury his father returned with him. After the funeral, Joseph's brothers talked among themselves: "What if Joseph is carrying a grudge and decides to pay us back for all the wrong we did him?"

¹⁶⁻¹⁷ So they sent Joseph a message, "Before his death, your father gave this command: Tell Joseph, 'Forgive your brothers' sin—all that wrongdoing. They did treat you very badly.' Will you do it? Will you forgive the sins of the servants of your father's God?" When Joseph received their message, he wept.

¹⁸ Then the brothers went in person to him, threw themselves on the ground before him and said, "We'll be your slaves."

¹⁹⁻²¹ Joseph replied, "Don't be afraid. Do I act for God? Don't you see, you planned evil against me but God used those same plans for my good, as you see all around you right now—life for many people. Easy now, you have nothing to fear; I'll take care of you and your children." He reassured them, speaking with them heart-to-heart.

Matthew 18:21-35, *The Message*

²¹ At that point Peter got up the nerve to ask, "Master, how many times do I forgive a brother or sister who hurts me? Seven?"

²² Jesus replied, "Seven! Hardly. Try seventy times seven."

23-25 “The kingdom of God is like a king who decided to square accounts with his servants. As he got under way, one servant was brought before him who had run up a debt of a hundred thousand dollars. He couldn’t pay up, so the king ordered the man, along with his wife, children, and goods, to be auctioned off at the slave market.

26-27 “The poor wretch threw himself at the king’s feet and begged, ‘Give me a chance and I’ll pay it all back.’ Touched by his plea, the king let him off, erasing the debt.

28 “The servant was no sooner out of the room when he came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him ten dollars. He seized him by the throat and demanded, ‘Pay up. Now!’

29-31 “The poor wretch threw himself down and begged, ‘Give me a chance and I’ll pay it all back.’ But he wouldn’t do it. He had him arrested and put in jail until the debt was paid. When the other servants saw this going on, they were outraged and brought a detailed report to the king.

32-35 “The king summoned the man and said, ‘You evil servant! I forgave your entire debt when you begged me for mercy. Shouldn’t you be compelled to be merciful to your fellow servant who asked for mercy?’ The king was furious and put the screws to the man until he paid back his entire debt. And that’s exactly what my Father in heaven is going to do to each one of you who doesn’t forgive unconditionally anyone who asks for mercy.”

Talk Together:

- ✂ Where in your life are you keeping score, and what might it mean to hear Jesus’ invitation to “stop counting?”
- ✂ When have you found it hardest to forgive someone?
- ✂ What has God forgiven you that changed the way you forgive others?
- ✂ How does God transform us?
- ✂ How will you join God’s transformative work in and around you?

Pray together:

Spirit of mercy, we come to your fountain of forgiveness to begin again. You offer a fresh drink, a new life. Though we are often critical of others and of ourselves, help us to accept that we are accepted. Meet us here in ways that we can understand, that we may be filled with the life only you can offer. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.