

Pastor's Bible Class

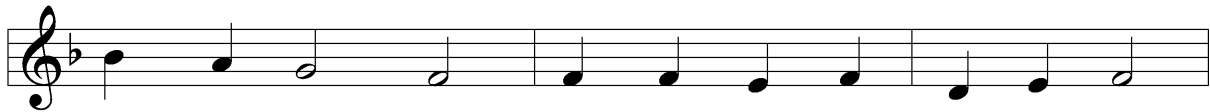
September 6, 2026

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Proper 18

“Jesus Sinners Doth Receive” #609



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -
7 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Al - so I have



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their way
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;
been for - giv - en; And when I this earth must leave,



And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for
Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these
Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His arms that
Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my
I shall find an o - pen heav - en. Dy - ing, still to



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
Him I cleave: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

Read Ezekiel 33:7-9

1. Explain the scenario described in Ezekiel 33:1-5.
2. Explain the scenario described in Ezekiel 33:6.
3. What important context do these verses provide for today's text?
4. According to this reading, what responsibility do we have?

Read Matthew 18:1-20

5. What does the disciples' question in Matthew 18:1 say about them? See also Matthew 20:21 and Luke 22:24.
6. In the ESV translation verse 3 reads, "unless you turn and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." What exactly does this mean?
7. In verse 6, Jesus shifts from talking about little children to little ones. What's the difference and who are the little ones?
8. Why does Jesus speak such stern words of warning in verses 7-9?
9. According to verse 14, what is the will of the Father? See also I Timothy 2:4.
10. Verses 15-20 deal with a very practical application of the theology found in the first 14 verses of Matthew 18. How does Jesus make this all very personal?
11. One scholar writes that this is, "Not necessarily a personal injury or injustice; if a member of the Church sins before my very eyes, then he has sinned against me, he has violated the honor of God, which is the chief concern of the believer. What is done to a believer in Jesus is performed as against Jesus." How does this expand our understanding of a sin against our brother?
12. Briefly describe the process Jesus describes in Matthew 18:15-20. What does this look like in "real life?"
13. What is always the goal of this process?
14. In verse 18, Jesus gives the authority to forgive the sins of the repentant or retain the sins of the unrepentant. We call this authority, "The Office of the Keys." To whom is this authority given (from what you read in verses 19 and 20)?

Devotional Thought from "The Lutheran Study Bible"

"Jesus commands the Church to do all it can to regain an unrepentant sinner. To humbly and lovingly speak to such a brother or sister is to follow the example of the shepherd who searched for one lost sheep. Christ has promised to stand behind the actions of the Church in either forgiving or refusing to forgive sins. We personally need to cherish His gifts and present His Law and Gospel to anyone caught in the grip of sin. Through the precious gift of forgiveness, the door of heaven is opened to each repentant sinner" (TLSB, 1622).

Prayer

Loving Lord, help me to act as my brother's keeper, even as You care for me and keep me by grace. Amen.