

**Seventeenth Sunday
After Pentecost
September 20, 2026**

Multi-Layered Forgiveness

**Genesis 37:3-8, 17b-22,
26-34, 50:15-21**

The Narrative Lectionary: Year 3



Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 20, 2026, 10:00 AM

Welcome to Worship!

*Indicates standing in body or in spirit

Prelude *Bach Aria from Goldberg Variations* **Dotson Hsing**

Welcome **Pastor Alex**

*** Call to Worship** (*bold in unison*) **Larry Williams**

We gather in the name of our God, who instills within us the desire to do good.

We are here to worship the God of grace and forgiveness, and who is with us through every joy and hardship.

Even when jealousy divides, fear overwhelms, and the future seems precarious, we can be assured that God is among us.

The God who accompanies Joseph through betrayal and suffering also brings healing and reconciliation.

What others intended for harm, God transforms for good.

We trust in God's grace, and we recommit ourselves to follow Christ as shown through forgiveness, hope, and peace. Let us worship the Lord!

*** Hymn of Praise** *Great is Thy Faithfulness* **#140**

*** Passing of the Peace**

Meditative Hymn *Spirit of the Living God* **#393**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

Responsive Hymn

On Eagle's Wings

#143

Children's Message

Prayer for the Illumination of Scripture (*in unison*)

Lord, open our understanding by the power of your Holy Spirit so that we may receive your everlasting Word of life. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 37:3-8, 17b-22, 26-34, 50:15-21

*** Hymn of Preparation**

Grace Greater than Our Sin

#365

Gospel Reading

Luke 6:35

Sermon

Multi-Layered Forgiveness

Pastor Alex

Offertory Prayer (*in unison*)

Steadfast God, your mercy and forgiveness overflows. Use these gifts of our lives to strengthen our own capacity for mercy and forgiveness. May we work to uphold your witness in a hurting world and bring reconciling efforts wherever they are needed most. Our unity proclaims your grace. Amen.

*** Doxology**

#94

Call to Engage in Ministry

Pastor Alex

*** Hymn of Sending Forth**

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

#402

*** Benediction**

Postlude

Blessed Assurance

Dotson Hsing

We invite you to stay seated for the playing of the Postlude.

Today's altar flowers provided by Judy and Bonita Merritt to welcome Dr. Bessie Hamilton, our Church Vitality Specialist

All are welcome for an enhanced Fellowship Hour TODAY following worship as we brainstorm ideas for ministry with Dr. Bessie Hamilton, a Church Vitality Specialist of our Baltimore-Washington Conference!



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5910 Goldsboro Road
Bethesda, MD 20817-6034
(301) 229-3383

www.csachurch.org
csaumc@gmail.com