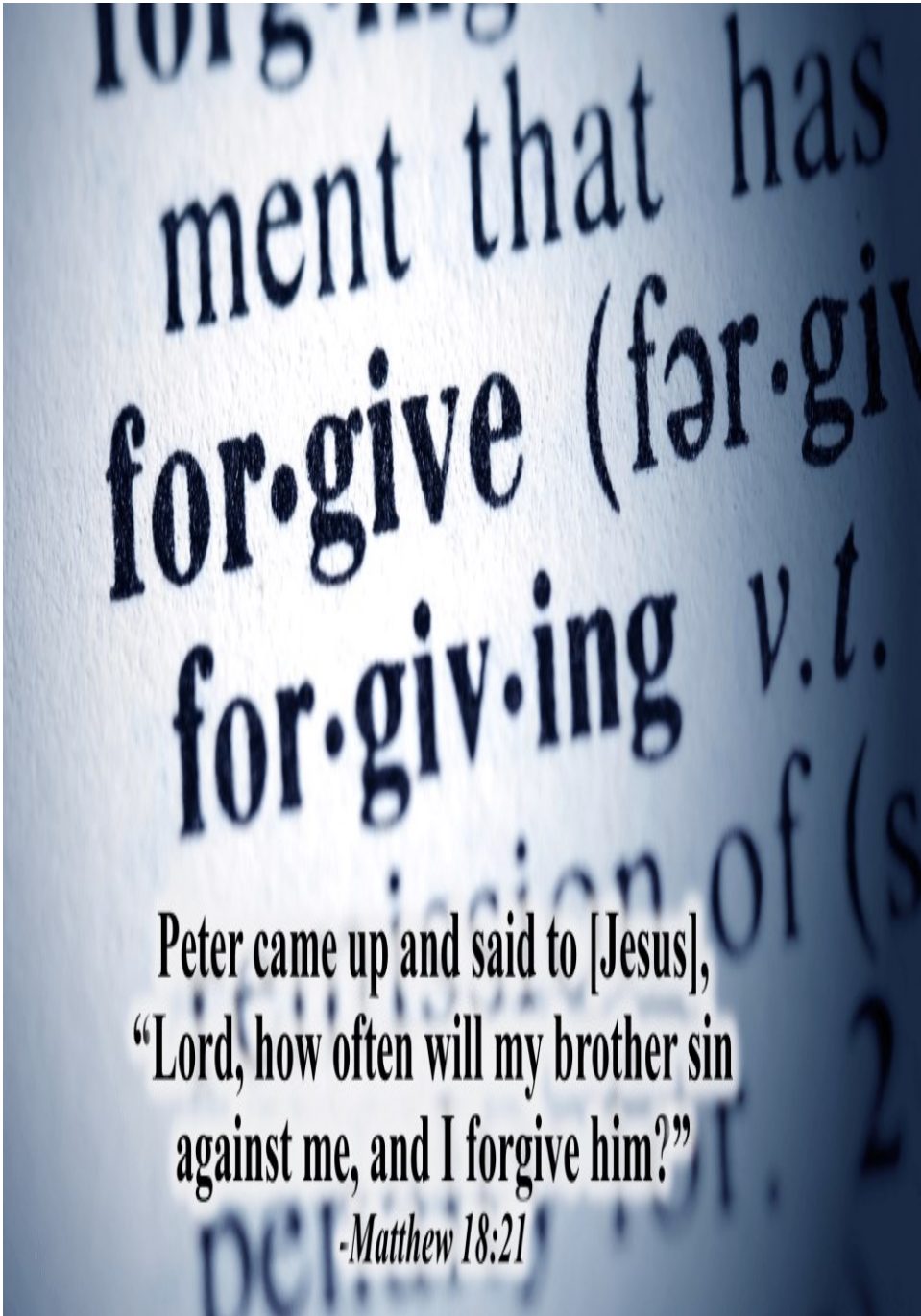


<u>Sunday</u> 10:45 am Hebrews Group	<u>Wednesday</u> 6:00 pm Bells
<u>Monday</u> 6:00 pm Bible Study	7:00 pm Choir
<u>Tuesday</u> 4:30 pm Prayer Gathering	<u>Thursday</u> 10:00 am Women's Bible Study

The Prayer Room is open before, during and after today's service. Members of the Prayer Team are available to pray with you after the Service.

Sermon Notes



AUGUST 27, 2023

Introit

God in Glory - Chancel Choir

***Call to Worship**

***Opening Hymn**

UMH # - 369 –Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine

Announcements

Congregational Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Anthem

God of Grace - Chancel Choir

Prince of Peace, You are Holy

(Offering)

You are Worthy of it All

UMH # 95 Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

***Scripture**

Ephesians 1:3-14

Message

Forgiveness and the Model of Forgiveness

***Closing Hymn**

UMH # 382—Thine Own Way Lord

***Benediction**

***Congregation please stand as able**

Liturgist: **Diana Olsen**

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Arun Paul - arun@decaturgrace.org

(Worship is recorded for T.V. viewing and other social media platforms)

Congregational Prayer

God of power and glory, God of wisdom and might, we come before Your throne today as Your faithful children. We thank You for all the gifts You bestow upon us, but most especially today, we thank You for the healing power of forgiveness in our lives. We remember how much You forgave us at the cross and the high price You paid. Thank You, Lord and Savior, that You don't treat me as my sins deserve.

Although I once was stained with sin, You have washed me white as snow.

God of mercy, as You have forgiven me, help me to forgive others. I want to live with an open heart, unoffended and free from bitterness, flowing with grace and mercy, just as You are. Where I have been wronged, I trust You to make things right. Where I am in pain over past offenses, I ask You to bring healing.

Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Holy Spirit, warm my heart so that I may see others as You see me—as children worthy of love and mercy. Give me the freedom to let go of anger and bitterness. I ask You today for the grace to forgive and understand. I choose to bless my enemy and bless the one who curses me. Spirit of God, show me something wonderful that I can do for one who has betrayed me.

I desire to be an imitator of You, Holy Father, and I know I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.

As a parent embraces a wounded child, so do You reach out and hold close all of us, not caring if our wounds were self-inflicted or received from others, not caring if the scars of mind and body are pitiful and ugly, not caring about what we were as long as we accept Your cleansing, healing, and restoring to wholeness of conscience and soul.

In faith, we come to You now for the wholeness only You can give.

And now, Father God, I commit and trust this work wholly to You. Guide me in ways to be in agreement with Your will and Your intended purposes for my life. Grant this through the name of Jesus Christ, Your own Son and our Savior, as we pray:

Our Father. . .

(The Lord's Prayer follows)