

APTOS

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 13, 2026 ~ 10 AM Worship

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Gabe House, Pastor

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Book Club meets this Wednesday at 1:30 PM in the Youth Room. This month's book is *Antique* by Seth Panitch. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Thanks Today to:

Our **Liturgist:** Susan Weeks

Our **Usher:** Peggy Kaysen

Our **Tech Team:** Carolyn Collins

Our **Coffee Volunteer:** Vicki Cull

Our **Altar Flowers:** Given by Keri Swenson

This Week:

Tuesday, 9/15: Alive Now 10 AM, Upper Room Group 7 PM

Wednesday, 9/16: Book Club 1:30 PM

Friday, 9/18: **Tide Deadline**, Scott Group 10 AM

Coming Up:

Monday, 9/21: PACT 10 AM

Aptos UMC sends out a weekly email blast on Saturdays. If you would like to be added to the email list, contact the office at office@aptosumc.org. *If you've given us your email address and aren't receiving the emails, please check your junk or spam folder.*

Online giving is available. Go to aptosumc.org and click on the 'GIVE NOW' button or scan this code using your smartphone.



You are invited to join our Prayer Team. The Prayer Team receives a weekly email with prayer requests. To join the Prayer Team or submit a prayer request, contact the church office.

Order of Worship

Gathering Music

Call To Worship

Followers of Christ, we live in a world where we hurt one another, where sin divides us one from another and makes us enemies instead of neighbors.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

The divisions in our world seem like too much to overcome, and we wonder if this forgiveness thing really works anymore. Maybe it worked for Jesus, but not for us.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

We find ourselves tempted by easy answers and quick solutions, reticent to do the slow and difficult work of reconciliation.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

In this place, may we encounter Christ who meets us in the places where we want to give up, where we despair that life-giving change is even possible, with abundant grace to sustain us on the journey.

God, form us today as people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us. Amen.

Prelude

Opening Prayer

Liberating God, we worship you. We praise and adore you for opening up a new future for us, when your love and compassion, your mercy and grace, became enfleshed in Jesus Christ. We pray that this time of worship will be a true offering of our wonder and praise that you should care for us so deeply and so faithfully. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Announcements

Opening Hymn #89

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Children's Time

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read, and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Scripture

Matthew 18:21-35

Sermon

“Grace”

Pastor Gabe

Hymn #431

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

Prayers of the People

Confession and Pardon

Merciful God, the forgiveness you offer on our account is larger than we can comprehend; still, we withhold forgiveness and carry grudges over petty items. Forgive us, Lord, for the sins we know in our hearts. Save us, Lord, from the sins we hide. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Offering

Doxology #94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn #2184

“Sent Out in Jesus' Name”

Benediction

Postlude

Matthew 18:21-35 NRSVue

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus 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. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But 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.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not

have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."