

September 11, 2011 – 11:00am

Welcome to Worship

We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation: *In response to God's love we invite and welcome all, worship and celebrate, teach and learn, serve and share.* (Marin Lutheran Church Mission Statement)

Visitors with us are most welcome! Please fill out your name and contact information on the yellow welcome card in the hymnal rack in front of you, and let us know how we can serve you. We **welcome everyone** in the name of our risen Christ and we pray that during this time of worship, you will sense God's presence and hear God's message of healing love. **Children are welcome** and may join in children's time when a special message is presented. Let us worship together!

During our service:

- Today we give praise to God using **ELW** (the red book). You will need this book and the bulletin to guide you through this service. You will find "page" numbers at the bottom of the page in the front of the book, & hymn, "#s" by the title line.
- **The Sacrament of Holy Communion** will be celebrated. We believe that Christ's sustaining & forgiving presence are found in the elements of bread, wine & grape juice. Here at Marin Lutheran Church, all are welcome to come forward to receive this sacrament. Children are welcome to commune or to come forward for a blessing.
- **Assisted Listening Devices** are available in a basket in the entrance foyer.
- **Child Care** – through age five – is available each Sunday in the lower level of this building, just below the church.
- **Children's Bulletins** are available. If you would like one please ask the usher.
- **Special Prayer Requests** If you have special prayer requests, please write them on the back side of the yellow welcome card found in a pocket folder in the hymnal rack in front of you. The ushers will collect them during the hymn following the sermon.

If you are a first time worshipper, Marin Lutheran Church information packets are available on a table in the entrance foyer.

Christian Education Sunday School & Adult classes are held between services from September through May.

Marin Lutheran Church
649 Meadowsweet Drive
Corte Madera, CA 94925
(415) 924-3782

The Rev. Thomas Gable, Pastor
The Rev. Kathryn Gulbranson, Pastor
David Shepard, Director of Music Ministries
Marilyn Davis, Asst. to Director of MM
Michele Jacobs, Director of Sunday School

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 11, 2011 11:00 a.m. Service

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

GATHERING

As you enter the church, or at any point during the service, we invite you to come forward to the Baptismal font, light a small candle from the Christ candle and place it securely in one of the containers with sand. We do this as we remember the events of September 11, 2001 and as we recognize that Christ is the light which no darkness can overcome.

PRELUDE *Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her* Zachau
(From Heaven above to Earth I Come)

Please stand as you are able and face the cross at the back of the church

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN *A Hymn of Confidence in God*
We celebrate our coming together as God's family.

This hymn was written in response to 9/11 by Gareth Hill, a British minister.

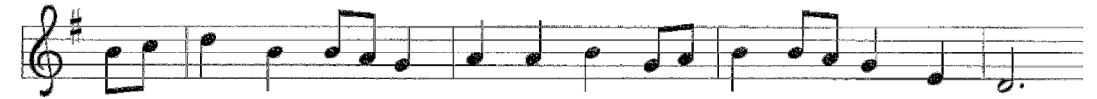


1. When moun-tains that we thought se - cure lie crum-bled where we stand
2. God is our strength and re - fuge still though all the earth give way;
3. There is a place of ho - li - ness where God makes war - fare cease.

(Cont'd)



and pain and help-less - ness en - dure, all from a - no - ther's hand.
 our help at eve - ry time of ill, the light of our dark day.
 There is a day of hope - ful - ness, a prom-ised time of peace.



Help us to bear the pro-phet's mark, to stand a - part from hate
 And as God's peo - ple in the world we bear the scars of grief,
 So, here to - day, we bear the pain of in - hu - ma - ni - ty,



and wit - ness the Cre - a - tor's call for jus - tice in the land.
 but e - cho faith's re - sound-ing note and still for jus - tice pray.
 but pledge our lives to live for truth so jus - tice may in - crease.

Words: Gareth Hill
 Music: KINGSFOLD

GREETING

P: May the God of hope fill you with the fullness of peace, and the Lord of life be with you all.
C: **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria

We give praise to God.



Glo - ri - a In ex - cel - sis De - o, sing - Glo - ri - a, sing to God on high.



Glo - ri - a In ex - cel - sis De - o, sing - peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Verse 1: Cantor/Choir

Lord God, who reigns above almighty God our Maker,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Refrain: Congregation

Verse 2: Cantor/Choir

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Creator.
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the God of Love:
receive our prayer.

Refrain: Congregation

Verse 3: Cantor/Choir

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit
in the Glory of God almighty. Amen.

f Refrain

Glo-ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, sing_

Glo-ri - a, sing to God on high. Glo-ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, sing_

peace to God's peo - ple on earth. Sing_ peace to God's peo - ple on earth. ___

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We focus our attention on our relationship with God.

A: O Lord God, merciful judge,

C: you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of
stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing
your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Please be seated

CHORAL OFFERING

True Light
Robyn Greene – soloist

Hampton

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

We hear an ancient writer tell us about God active in this world: After Jacob's death, the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

PSALM: Psalm 103: 1-13 (sung responsively)

¹Bless the LORD, ¹O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's ¹holy name.

²Bless the LORD, ¹O my soul,
and forget not ¹all God's benefits—

³who forgives ¹all your sins
and heals all ¹your diseases;

⁴who redeems your life ¹from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast ¹love and mercy;

⁵who satisfies your desires ¹with good things
so that your youth is renewed ¹like an eagle's.

**⁶O LORD, you provide ¹vindication
and justice for all who ¹are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your ¹ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- ¹dren of Israel.

**⁸LORD, you are full of compas- ¹sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in ¹steadfast love;**

⁹you will not al- ¹ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- ¹ger forever.

**¹⁰You have not dealt with us according ¹to our sins,
nor repaid us according to ¹our iniquities.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high a- ¹bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for ¹those who fear you.

**¹²As far as the east is ¹from the west,
so far have you removed our transgres- ¹sions from us.**

¹³As a father has compassion ¹for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear ¹you, O LORD.

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

A contemporary of Jesus writes about how Jesus can affect us: This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.

²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

A: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able.

G OSPEL VERSE

A: Alleluia, Alleluia

Congregation

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation is on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It begins with a forte (f) dynamic marking. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.' written below the staff.

A: Lord to whom shall we go?

Congregation

Al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation is on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia.' written below the staff.

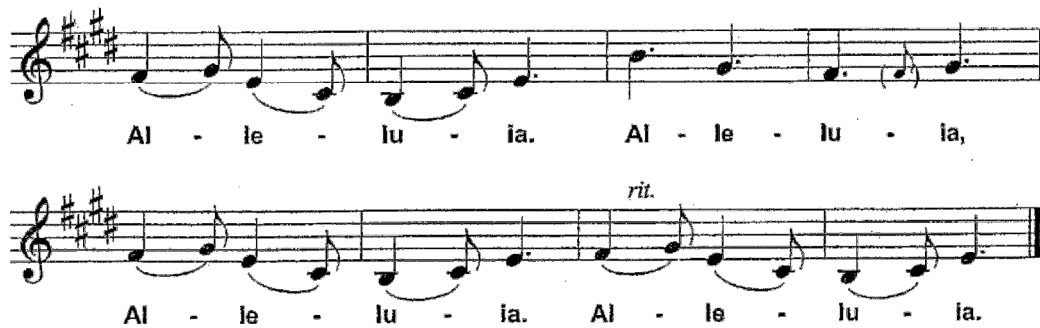
A: You have the words of eternal life.

Congregation

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation is on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of two phrases of the Alleluia melody, with the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.' written below the staff.

(Cont'd)



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.
 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

The Good News of how Jesus fits into our lives: When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.
²³For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But 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.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

P: The Gospel of the Lord
 C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Be seated

As the children come forward for the children's message you are invited to bring your school backpacks forward with you. If any adults have a briefcase or work bag, you may bring these forward as well. A blessing will be put upon all of these.

CHILDREN'S TIME (Children are invited to come forward for a message.)
The Good News is shared with our children.

SERMON

Pastor Gulbranson

God's word is explained and applied to our daily lives.

Stand as you are able

HYMN

God When Human Bonds are Broken ELW (red book) # 603

We sing our praise to God.

(During this hymn, prayer requests will be collected and brought forward by the usher.

Prayer request slips (yellow) can be found in a pocket folder in the back of the pew in front of you.)

APOSTLES' CREED

P: There is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism. United in Christ, let us confess the faith we hold in common.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

REMEMBRANCE AND PRAYERS for SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Please refer to the special insert found in each bulletin.

MEAL

SHARING THE PEACE

We greet each other with love and compassion.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Greet one another with a sign of peace.

Be seated

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME AND TALENTS

Our offerings are received

We celebrate the gifts we have received. We acknowledge the ways we use our gifts.

Stand as you are able

OFFERTORY

Congregation
f %

Lord, we of - fer up to
heav - en our sac - ri - fice now. Lord,
op - en thou my lips and my mouth shall sing praise.
1. Oh Lord, we of - fer thanks and praise for

(Cont'd)

D.S. al Fine

bless - ings poured up - on us. Lord, we

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Merciful God,

C: as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

We prepare ourselves to receive the bread & wine of communion which we believe is the body & blood of Christ.

Leader All Leader

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

f Refrain

Sanc - tus, Sanc - tus, Sanc - tus. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly.

Sanc - tus, Sanc - tus, Sanc - tus. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

A: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

C: *Refrain*

A: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Heaven and earth, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

C: *Refrain*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

By eating the bread & drinking the wine we receive Christ into our lives to strengthen & nurture us spiritually.

Be seated

All who believe that Christ comes to us through this bread and wine are invited to the communion table

*The bread and wine will be distributed continuously at the communion rail. Please come forward at the invitation of the usher. **White grape juice** is provided on each tray of glasses. You may take **red wine** or **white grape juice** from the **individual glasses** or drink from the **common cup**.*

LAMB OF GOD

Leader

Lamb of God, who takes a-way the sin__ of the world._ Grant us your peace._

mp Congregation

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world._____ Lamb of God you

take a-way the sin of the world._____

f

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin__ of the

mp **mf**

world._____ have mer - cy, have _ mer - cy,

mp

Lamb of God ___ grant ___ us ___ peace._____

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

MUSIC Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir Zachau
(From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee)

Stand as you are able

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: God our shepherd,

C: you have gathered us again from scattered places and nourished us with rich food in word and sacrament. Go with us now, that we may seek the lost, bind up the injured, and strengthen the weak, until you gather us and all the saints into your eternal feast with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

We are blessed so that we might be a blessing every day of the week.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen

Please turn and face the cross as the cross bearer recesses to the back of the church. This symbolizes that we are following Christ into the world.

SENDING HYMN

We Are Called

ELW (red book) # 720

DISMISSAL

We go out into our daily lives renewed, refreshed and restored for service in the world.

A: Go in peace. The Lord is near.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Her
(All Glory Be to God on High)

Zachau

Worship Assistants

Greeter Janet Foster
Usher Roy Davis
Lector Janet Foster
Communion Assistants Janet Foster & Marie Conrad
Sound Kerry Hansen
Altar Guild Bev Kamphoefner
Counter Janet Foster



The Sanctuary flowers are given by Margot & Ray Gergus in celebration of their anniversary.



We wish to thank Jane McKenzie for hosting coffee hour this morning.

This Week's Calendar

Sunday	Sept 11	9:00am	Worship Service
		10:15am	Rally Day Activities for KOTK Adult Education led by Ted Peters
Monday	Sept 12	11:00am	Worship Service
		2:30pm	Confirmation "Kidnapping" Event
		8:00pm	AA Meeting
			Pastor Tom office hours: 10:00am-2:00pm Pastor Kathryn – day off
		9:30am	OA Meeting
Tuesday	Sept 13	6:30pm	MA Meeting
		7:30pm	Men's Alanon
			Pastors' office hours: 10:00am -2:00pm Marin Writers Group
		10a-5p	Pastors meet with David
Wednesday	Sept 14	10:30am	SLAA Meeting
			Pastor Tom office hours: 10:00am-2:00pm Pastor Kathryn – day off
		12:15pm	Men's Lunch – Celia's Mexican, Vivian Way, San Rafael
Thursday	Sept 15	7:00pm	Choir Practice
			Pastor Kathryn office hours: 10:30am-12:30pm Pastor Tom – day off
			October Newsletter Articles Due
		9:30am	Recovery International
		10:00am	MLCW Serve & Share
		1:00pm	Mill Street Dinner
		7:30pm	The Bookies Meet
Friday	Sept 16		Pastor Kathryn office hours: 10:30am-1:00pm Pastor Tom – day off
		9:30am	OA Meeting
		5:30pm	Alanon Meeting
		8:30pm	AA Meeting
		9:30am	Stewardship Ministry Team Meets
Saturday	Sept 17	9:00am	Worship Service
Sunday	Sept 18	10:00am	KOTK classes
		10:15am	Adult Education led by Ted Peters
		11:00am	Worship Service
		5:00pm	Confirmation Class

Announcements

+ **September 11th remembrances:**

- **A Day of Remembrance and Reflection**, at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1100 Las Gallinas Avenue, Terra Linda: 1:00 – 8:00 p.m. – indoor Chartes Labyrinth Walk is open featuring a Peace Walk with handbells at 6:00 p.m. From 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. the outdoor Fountain of Hope Labyrinth is open where a Candlelight Remembrance Walk will be held at 7:00 p.m.
- **A Contemplative Service for Peace**, sponsored by the Marin Interfaith Council, this afternoon from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the Community Congregational Church, 145 Rock Hill Drive in Tiburon. The service will include silence, music, and sacred texts from the world's religions.
- **A Service of Music and Prayer in Remembrance of 9/11**, at 5:00 p.m. this evening hosted by Holy Innocents Episcopal Church, 2 Tamalpais Drive, Corte Madera.

+ **Our adult class** led by PLTS Professor Ted Peters began this morning. The first in a three-part session on *Sin: Understanding Myself as a Sinner and Embracing It*, it will continue on the following two Sundays, September 18 & 25. Copies of an article co-authored by Ted Peters, *What Is Sin?* for the November issue of *The Lutheran* magazine are on the table in the narthex. Those interested in more in-depth reading, the book, *Sin – Radical Evil in Soul and Society* authored by Ted Peters is recommended. It is available from amazon.com.

+ The **Time & Talent Fair** originally scheduled for today has been **rescheduled to Sunday, October 2nd**. Come that day and see what all the committee/ministry teams at church are planning or involved in. You can learn a lot about our church this way.

+ **Fabric (Sewing) Kits for Lutheran World Relief:** This year, the fall LWR project that the women are undertaking is the collection of Fabric Kits. As always, the help of the entire congregation is being asked for. You may shop for the fabric/thread that is needed to make each kit, or you may donate money and the MLC professional shoppers will be happy to purchase the necessary supplies for the kits. See the insert found in the narthex for the requirements – these need to be followed exactly to maximize their usefulness. All the kits we collect will be delivered to the LWR Ingathering in Antioch on October 8th.

+ **The Bookies** – the Marin Lutheran book club – resumes their monthly meetings this Thursday evening, September 15th at 7:30 p.m. Please see Mette Wong or Ray Gergus for meeting location.

+ **2nd mile giving** for September is the ELCA Disaster Fund. Though vital all year, it follows in the wake of Hurricane Irene, and the fires in Texas when increased funding is needed to help with the recovery efforts of these disasters. Please make checks payable to MLC and note “2nd mile” or “ELCA Disaster” in the memo line.

+ **National Youth Gathering Planning Meeting:** Friday, September 16th at 7:30 p.m. at the pastors’ home. This is for ALL those who are currently in 8th grade through seniors in high school. For more information, please see the email that was sent to you.

+ **Pictorial Directory:** It is time to put together a new pictorial directory for our congregation. Lifetouch will be doing this for us. They will be here three days in October – 20, 21 & 22 to take our pictures. We ask that you sign up for a portrait sitting time. You may do this by visiting our web site www.marinlutheran.com. On the home page is a link to Lifetouch’s on line scheduling. **A sign-up sheet is also available this morning in the narthex where you can sign up for an appointment.**

+ **Remember these People in Prayer:** Anker & Lee Andersen, Emmy Anderson, Clint Bell, Margot Gergus, Dorothy Walters, Jean Wallman, Shirley & Dick Morrow (Susan’s parents), Don & Neva Conrad (Michele Jacobs’ parents), Sebastian (Cathie Schinski’s friend), Ilton da Costa, Jr., serving in Afghanistan.

Marin Lutheran Church

OFFICE HOURS

Phone

FAX

E-mail

Monday – Friday, 10:00am – 2:00pm

(415) 924-3782

(415) 924-3785

marinlutheran@sbcglobal.net

WEB SITE

www.marinlutheran.org

EMAILS

Pastor Tom Gable

Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson

PastorTomGable@gmail.com

PastorKathryn@msn.com

Worship Attendance

Last Sunday

9:00am – 37; 11:00am – 25

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Forgive—
How
Often?