



PRINCE OF PEACE

Love God. Love People.

February 3-4, 2024

Genesis 45:5

speak
forgiveness

WORSHIP THIS WEEKEND:

**"All Hail the Power
of Jesus' Name"** 9:00 am

"Resurrection Power"

"Who You Say I Am" 5:30pm / 10:30am

"His Mercy is More"

Message: Paul Dean

"Letting Go"

**Go in peace
to love and serve.**

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Saturdays at 5:30pm | Sundays at 9:00am and 10:30am

Sing at Carnegie Hall with the POP Choir

Find information about the second annual Reconcile concert, including a trip to New York City, at popmn.org/nyc

JOIN US FOR FAMILY MINISTRY

Register for Camp Wapo

Priority registration ends February 15 at lakewapo.org
Find information at popmn.org/register/camp-wapo

JOIN US FOR MISSION

It's time for Feed My Starving Children!

February 5-10 | Hosanna Church, Lakeville
Scan the code to donate to FMSC

Visit popmn.org/fmsc to pick up another volunteer shift!



JOIN US IN GENEROSITY

Your gift supports mission and ministry. Thank you!



PRINCE
OF PEACE
Love God. Love People.

CONNECTION CARD

Please place this card in the offering bag or hand it in at the welcome desk as you leave.

PLEASE PRINT:

Name _____ Date _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Best Contact Phone _____ Birthdate _____

How did you hear about us? _____

(name of person who invited you, mailing, website, etc.)

☐ Guest

☐ Desire to Join

☐ Desire to Volunteer

☐ Contact Update

☐ Contact Me

*See reverse side for
Spiritual Care request*

forgiveness

"Forgiveness says you are given another chance to make a new beginning." – Desmond Tutu

The characters in today's story need some major forgiveness. A young man tricks his older brother, Esau, out of his birthright and spends his life on the run. A band of jealous brothers sell their younger brother, Joseph, into slavery for profit and revenge, and assume he's dead. A crowd stones a man named Stephen to death for talking about Jesus.

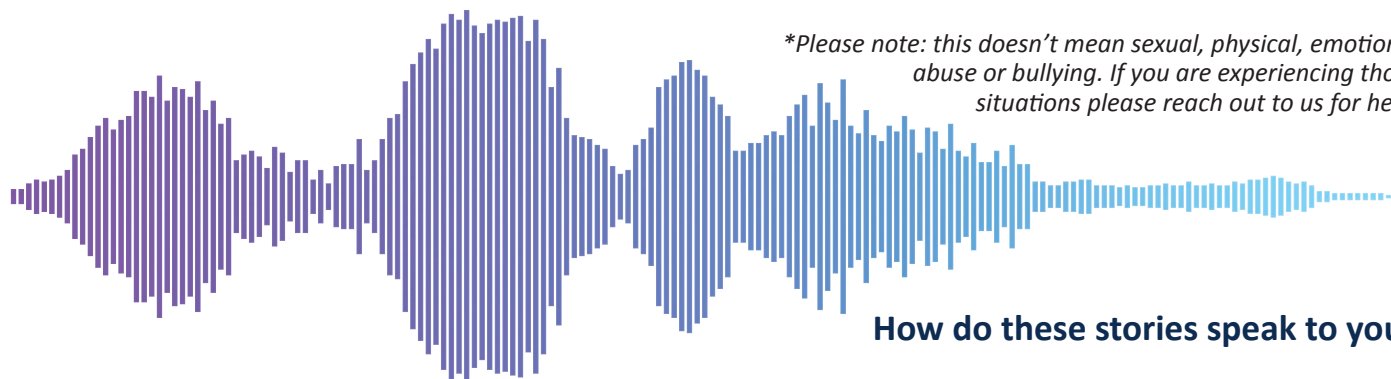
And somehow, face to face with the people who have redirected, ruined or actually taken their lives, Esau, Joseph and Stephen have the same reaction: forgiveness. How hard would that be?

Think of a time when you were deeply wronged by someone else.* How did that feel? How does it feel now? Are you still angry? Does that anger seem justified? Why, or why not?

Think about a time when you wronged someone else. How did that feel? How does it feel now? Is that person still angry? Does that anger seem justified? Why, or why not?

There's another story in the New Testament about a man in a garden at night with his friends, praying. He's in trouble with the authorities who come to arrest him in the garden. One of his friends comes to his defense, injuring a guard involved in the arrest. But there's an unexpected moment when the man chooses to heal the guard instead of allowing the violence to escalate. Yet he's arrested and eventually killed.

So, what is forgiveness for? Jesus, like Esau, Joseph and Stephen, chooses to absorb the violence (or jealousy, or anger, or irritation, or trickery) instead of throwing it back, taking the violence out of circulation. What does that take? Courage? Fortitude? Resolve? Strength? Compassion? Humility? Love? Is this extremely vulnerable path something that our culture celebrates? Why, or why not?



SPIRITUAL CARE REQUEST

Please place this card in the offering bag or hand it in at the welcome desk as you leave.

Prayer Request: Prayer Ministers will pray for your request(s) listed below.

IS THIS PRAYER REQUEST CONFIDENTIAL?

☐ Yes. Share with the prayer team only. ☐ No. First name can be shared on the congregational prayer list.

Name _____ Date _____

Email/Phone _____

I Would Like:

- ☐ To pray with someone over the phone or in person.
- ☐ Someone from the Spiritual Care Team to contact me.