**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Prospect Heights, IL**

**13th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday, August 30, 2020**

**AS WE GATHER**

Some voices in our world today claim that good needs evil in order to help what is right truly express itself. The Bible takes a different view, giving us God’s perspective on good and evil. That which is truly virtuous doesn’t depend on evil. No, quite the opposite, that which is good—God and His love in Jesus Christ—actively dispels evil at the cross. By His resurrection from death’s grave, Jesus crushes evil and guarantees that it has no power over those who trust in Him. Remaining in Christ’s love, we respond to the evil in our world, even the evil that comes directly at us through the wrongdoings of our enemies, with the goodness of forgiveness. Instead of retaliating against evil ourselves, we allow our good and gracious God to respond to it, and overcome it, in our loving Savior.

**HYMN** **“Crown Him with Many Crowns”** *LSB 525*

1 Crown Him with many crowns,  
 The Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark how the heav’nly anthem drowns  
 All music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
 Of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless king  
 Through all eternity.

2 Crown Him the virgin’s Son,  
 The God incarnate born,  
Whose arm those crimson trophies won  
 Which now His brow adorn:  
Fruit of the mystic rose,  
 Yet of that rose the stem,  
The root whence mercy ever flows,  
 The babe of Bethlehem.

3 Crown Him the Lord of love.  
 Behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above,  
 In beauty glorified.  
No angels in the sky  
 Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bend their wond’ring eyes  
 At mysteries so bright.

4 Crown Him the Lord of life,  
 Who triumphed o’er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife  
 For those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing,  
 Who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring  
 And lives that death may die.

5 Crown Him the Lord of heav’n,  
 Enthroned in worlds above,  
Crown Him the king to whom is giv’n  
 The wondrous name of Love.  
Crown Him with many crowns  
 As thrones before Him fall;  
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,  
 For He is king of all.

Public domain

**INVOCATION**

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** *1 John 1:8–9*

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Leader: Let us therefore come before His throne of grace with humble and sincere hearts to lay our burdens down.

*Silent prayer for personal confession*

Leader: Gracious Lord,

**People: we come before You, laying the burden of our sin at the foot of Your cross. We openly acknowledge our failure to follow Your plans for our lives. We have stumbled and fallen in our service to You. We have placed our agenda ahead of Yours. We have been shallow in our love toward You and toward those You have placed in our path. We cry out for mercy, trusting in Your promise to forgive us through the love of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: Amen.**

**INTROIT** *Psalm 37:5–7; antiphon: v. 4*

Leader: Delight yourself in the Lord,

**People: and He will give you the desires of your heart.**

Leader: Commit your way to the Lord;

**People: trust in Him, and He will act.**

Leader: He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,

**People: and your justice as the noonday.**

Leader: Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him;

**People: fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!**  
  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Leader: Delight yourself in the Lord,

**People: and He will give you the desires of your heart.**

**SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray, Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the evil of sin and death at the cross for our redemption. Enable us to stand in the goodness of our Savior so that we are not overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Jeremiah 15:15–21*

15O LORD, you know;

remember me and visit me,

and take vengeance for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance take me not away;

know that for your sake I bear reproach.

16Your words were found, and I ate them,

and your words became to me a joy

and the delight of my heart,

for I am called by your name,

O LORD, God of hosts.

17I did not sit in the company of revelers,

nor did I rejoice;

I sat alone, because your hand was upon me,

for you had filled me with indignation.

18Why is my pain unceasing,

my wound incurable,

refusing to be healed?

Will you be to me like a deceitful brook,

like waters that fail?

19Therefore thus says the LORD:

“If you return, I will restore you,

and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,

you shall be as my mouth.

They shall turn to you,

but you shall not turn to them.

20And I will make you to this people

a fortified wall of bronze;

they will fight against you,

but they shall not prevail over you,

for I am with you

to save you and deliver you,

declares the LORD.

21I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,

and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *Romans 12:9–21* (With genuine love, overcome evil with good.)

9Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. 10Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. 11Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. 13Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

14Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. 17Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. 18If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” 20To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” 21Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 16:21–28*

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

21From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. 22And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.” 23But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

24Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. 26For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? 27For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. 28Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** **“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”** *LSB 575*

1 My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim  
But wholly lean on Jesus’ name. Refrain

ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev’ry high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain

3 His oath, His covenant and blood  
Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev’ry earthly prop gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain

4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone,  
Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain

Public domain

**SERMON**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed**

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Knowing the will of God that all would come to the knowledge of Your Son and find salvation in Christ, let us pray on behalf of our parish community and for all people according to their needs.

For our faith and faithfulness, especially for those persecuted for the cause of Christ; and For our strength in time of trial and for us to persevere in grace in the day of trouble, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church, Jerusalem on high, our mother in Christ until Christ is fully formed in us;

For the pastors who serve us, that they may be faithful stewards of God’s mysteries; and For those at home and abroad, who bring the message of salvation to those who have not heard, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For Donald, our president; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, our governor; and all legislators and civil servants; For those who must render judgment and impose punishment upon lawbreakers; and For those who work for peace among the nations, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For favorable weather and for those who tend the soil and harvest its fruits;

For business and industry, service workers and artisans;

For generosity toward those in need; and

For the unemployed and underemployed, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those married, that they would live in fidelity to their vows and promises;

For parents as they teach their children to know and love the Lord;

For single adults, that they may find fulfillment in their service to others; and

For our lives together showing the love of Christ one to another, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to take up the cross and follow the Lord wherever He leads;

For courage in the face of challenge and adversity; and

For compassion and harmony in our life together, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For holy lives of faith;

For faith to receive the Lord’s gift of His flesh and blood in the Holy Sacrament; and

For this holy assembly, that we may present ourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, You have forgiven our sins and delivered us from death through our Lord, Jesus Christ. Continue to pour out Your mercy upon us, and grant to us all good things needful to this body and life and keep from us all things harmful. From You, through You and to You are all things, O Lord, holy Father, mighty God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom with the Holy Spirit, You are one Lord, one God, now and forevermore. **Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9–13*

**People:** **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.**

**BENEDICTION** *Romans 12:21*

Leader: Do not be overcome by evil,

**People: but overcome evil with good.**

Leader: Go forth with the blessing of your good and gracious God:

Leader: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN** “Christ Be My Leader” *LSB* 861

1 Christ be my Leader by night as by day;  
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.  
Gladly I follow, my future His care,  
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

2 Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,  
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.  
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,  
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

3 Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;  
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.  
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain  
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

© 1964, renewed 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission.